

GENERAL NASSCO INFO

NASSCO is a non-profit trade association that exists for the benefit of its members. The members benefit directly through:

- Networking/Marketing Opportunities at organized meetings
- Development of Industry Standards
- Participation in Government Granted Programs
- Development of Critical Industry Information Disseminated through Periodicals, Reports, Books and Other Means.
- Participation in the Shaping of National Regulations
- Sponsorship and Participation in Numerous Industry Trade Shows and Seminars.
- Access to Dated Marketing Information.

As a NASSCO member you will have information when you need it to make decisions critical to the planning process involving your company. You will be involved in developing relevant standards and promotional information that will directly affect you and your company's future in the Underground Infrastructure Industry. This is your chance to make a difference for you, your company and your industry! Join NASSCO online at www.nassco.org or call us today at 410-486-3500.

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NASSCO



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NASSCO's PACP

PIPELINE ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM®



*An industry standard for the
collection of TV inspection data,
certification of operators, and
sharing of information*

Tel: 410-486-3500

THE NEED FOR TV INSPECTION STANDARDS

TV Inspection is an essential tool in evaluating the condition of sanitary sewers, however no standards for the collection of TV inspection data exists in the United States. The lack of standards presents many problems for utilities including inconsistent interpretation of conditions, inadequate training of personnel, and difficulty in the integration of data from different sources.

NASSCO has recognized the need for standardization in the way we evaluate sewer pipelines and has initiated the Pipeline Assessment and Certification Program (PACP^a). The PACP^a will establish standards for the assessment of information obtained from TV inspection, provide training and certification of operators, and establish standards for the way data is exchanged and mapped.

Summary of PACP

Development of Standard Codes:

NASSCO was assisted by the Water Research Centre (WRc) Swindon, England in developing PACP as a US standard.

Training and Certification of Users: Attendees who successfully complete the course will obtain a PACP certification number that will be part of the TV inspection history.

Standard PACP Data Format: The establishment of a neutral data interchange format will allow data from different applications to be exchanged and appended without the use of proprietary conversion scripts.

Certification of Software Vendors: NASSCO certification of software will assure the Owner that the software properly utilizes the PACP codes and the software has the ability to export descriptive data to the Standard PACP Data Format.

Manhole Assessment and Certification Program (MACP): The same need exists for standardization of manhole condition assessment and NASSCO has established the MACP that utilizes many of the standard practices of PACP to describe conditions found in manholes

The Importance of Standards

Other industries much larger than ours have recognized the benefits of standardization far outweigh any competitive advantage offered by a proprietary approach. Standardization will greatly improve productivity, allow the integration of TV data from many sources, and reduce the subjective nature of describing features and defects that often exists today. The lack of standards in the United States has made the understanding of how pipes

deteriorate and why they deteriorate problematic.

Sorely missing in the wastewater collection system industry is the ability to benchmark sewer pipe condition. If different coding systems are used within a particular utility it is quite possible that comparing the condition of adjoining sewer segments would be impractical because you cannot compare apples with oranges. However, if we adopt standard codes and data management practices, we can not only benchmark sewer pipe conditions within a utility, we can also compare sewer pipe conditions from one time frame to another and from utility to another.

The PACP database will also provide a source for development of preventive maintenance work activities and recurrence intervals based on the amount of debris, roots, or grease found during inspection. Decision matrices can also be created that help to select possible types of renewal based on the PACP data. More reliable and more consistent data will result in more favorable construction prices to Owners by reducing the amount of unknowns contractors will anticipate. The comprehensive PACP database will also prove useful during implementation of new initiatives such as C-MOM and GASB34.

If you would like to be added to an advanced information list, please email all pertinent information to director@nassco.org