

Talk No. 39			UNDERGROUND SERVICES
Start time		End	Duration

# 1. Introduction:

- 1.1 There continue to be several fatalities every year as a result of contact with

# 2. Main Points:

- 2.1 Ensure that as much as possible is carried out to identify underground services (existing plans, service authorities etc).
- 2.2 Clearly mark potential underground services.
- 2.3 Employ safe digging techniques where underground services are suspected.

# 3. Points to remember

- 3.1 Ensure all employees are aware of the steps to be taken in event of discovering possible services.
- 3.2 Remember that gas is highly explosive. If any gas leak is suspected, leave the area immediately and emergency services. (Do not smoke in vicinity!)
- 3.3 Beware that modern services are often smaller diameter plastic pipes — do not confuse with older metal pipes.
- 3.4 Follow gas company advice when filling.
- 3.5 Beware when working with high pressure water — remember that water at high pressure can cause serious injuries, and that a burst water pipe can fill an excavation quickly. Stop the water services immediately if water pipes are damaged.
- 3.6 Ladders should be properly secured to excavations containing water pipes.
- 3.7 Don't leave lengths of pipe lying on exposed pipes and don't drop tools/equipment onto pipes.
- 3.8 Be especially aware of asbestos as they carry specific health hazards — evacuate the area and contact the water company.
- 3.9 If you have to work in confined spaces wear PPE to protect against sewage and wash hands after working or smoking.

- 3.10 If you are in a storm flood without warning, evacuate as it could be raining, evacuate as it could
- 3.11 Remember buried signs
- . Black or red: Elevated
  - . Blue: Water
  - . Yellow: Gas
  - . Grey or white: Tele
  - . Green: Ca

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ATTENDANCE SHEET

Talk No. 39	UNDERGROUND SERVICES
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All operatives listed and signed below for Box Talk.

Date .....

NAME