

Removal Of Jammed Power - Telephone Utility Cables

Jammed Cable Removal technology is a method developed for the removal of underground cables that have been abandoned in place by power or telephone utilities. This removal method is different from previous removal practices in that it utilizes site-specific rigging, special bio-degradable lubrication, tuned and controlled vibration frequencies, and controlled pulling tensions.

Utilities are faced with an ever increasing need for underground space to maintain their service reliability and to add capacity. Many of these utilities have faulted cables that are jammed in underground ducts, and for a variety of reasons, they have been unable to successfully remove the affected cables and have abandoned them. Existing underground conduits are among the most valuable segments of a utility's system, and failure to capitalize on the re-use of this existing infrastructure results in the need for costly replacement facilities. In addition to the dollars involved in replacement projects, consideration must be given to costs for items such as permits, street closings, trenching, soil removal, potential hazardous waste disposal, shoring, soil compaction, and replacement of existing surface material. The Jammed Cable Removal technology can eliminate these costs, as well as the negative social aspects of pedestrian and vehicular traffic interruptions. The use of this technology provides a method for utilities to recover valuable use of their previously installed infrastructure, and assists them in their efforts to remove lead products and resolve concerns regarding possible ground water contamination.

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