

Talk No. 13 – Buried Services

Reason for Talk

Services may not be where you first thought have you checked-scanned?.

Main Points

General

- ◆ Location of their exact position
- ◆ Electrocutation
- ◆ Fire
- ◆ Explosion
- ◆ Damage to services

On Site Safety

- ◆ Ensure that all information on existing underground services has been obtained from the main contractor, with the exception of the above, prior to works commencing on site.
- ◆ Always assume that there are live services present on site, even if existing drawings / information indicates that none are present.
- ◆ Do not assume that buried services are always given their recommended cover, cables may often be just at the surface.
- ◆ Treat all services found as Live.
- ◆ Ensure that all services are physically located and marked by means of location equipment (i.e. a CAT scanner).
- ◆ Where practicable hand-held power tools (i.e. Kango Hammers) should not be used to break the paved surface, within 0.5m of the indicated line of a service, this may be reduced if the service has been positively identified in terms of both line and depth.
- ◆ Where excavating near the indicated line of a service carefully hand dig trial holes until the line of the service has been established.
- ◆ When the excavator bucket is digging other personnel should keep well clear of the bucket (N.B. near electrical cables). Should a cable be struck the driver should stay in the cab, but should he have to leave the cab he should jump down, not climb down otherwise he may be electrocuted.
- ◆ Where a gas leak/electrical strike is suspected the following action should be taken:-
- ◆ Remove all people from the immediate vicinity; if a service connection to a building has been damaged warn the occupants, and any adjoining building, to leave the building until it is safe to return.
- ◆ Inform Bord Gais of the leak or ESB of any cable strike.
- ◆ Prohibit smoking and extinguish all naked flames and other sources of ignition, within at least 5m of the leak.

Questions

Presenter should request any questions from the audience

MAIN POINT FROM THIS SESSION

CHECK BEFORE YOU DIG



