



Gold Shovel
ASSOCIATION

Gold Shovel Program Overview & Updates

MISS DIG/MITA Annual Conference
January 2022

Prevent. Empower. Protect.



Gold Shovel Program Summary

- *Gold Shovel Standard is committed to protecting the integrity of underground utility infrastructure*
- *Started in 2015, and now has 1,600+ members and 40+ industry executives serving in various roles (Board, committees)*

- *Two main functions:*

1

CERTIFY
Damage Prevention
Programs

2

TRACK/MEASURE
Damage Prevention
Performance



Excavation Safety is a Shared Responsibility



Gold Shovel Standard Program Journey

- *Excavator-specific certification and metrics*
 - *Metrics developed, released and being integrated into operations over the last several years*
- *Facility Owner and Locate-and-Mark certification and metrics*
 - *Under collaborative committee development for several years*
 - *Committee recommendations recently approved by GSA Board of Directors*
 - *Certification and metrics now available and being publicly introduced*



Initial Certification – Members Agree to:

- *Leadership and management commitment*
- *Annual and new employee training for all workers on jobs with excavation*
- *Report all incidents, incident investigation with root cause analysis (RCA) and corrective action procedure (CAP) for at fault damages*
- *Policy to adhere to applicable Common Ground Alliance (CGA) Best Practices*
- *Policy to use GSS-certified subcontractors for excavation*



Gold Shovel Benefits for Contractors

- *ShovelSafe Account & Technology*
 - *Storage of Incident/Damage Data*
 - *Management Tool*
 - *Policy and Procedural Documents depot*





Home



Monthly Update



Report an Incident



Incidents



Incident Map



DPH



Reports



Sharing



Active Organizations

Oropala Services (Org ID: 155)

✓ Welcome to ShovelSafe

Every Gold Shovel Standard subscription includes our proprietary ShovelSafe™ software. The ShovelSafe software is specialized safety software, tailored for damage prevention, to support your safety management system (DP-SMS). The proprietary ShovelSafe technology allows users to track damages, assess particular crews, gauge performance for individual clients, and compare performance history against industry averages based on location, type of client or individual task. Securely store and analyze your company's damage prevention performance using ShovelSafe. View trends, hotspots and compare your company's performance to industry averages.



Gold Shovel Benefits for Contractors

- *ShovelSafe Account & Technology*
 - *Storage of Incident/Damage Data*
 - *Management Tool*
 - *Policy and Procedural Documents depository*
- *Positive Reputation*
- *Whole Picture Damage Prevention*
- *Cost Savings*
- *Portable Program*
- *Efficiency*
- *Proven Performance*



Results in the Field

PEOPLES GAS
NATURAL GAS DELIVERY

Facility Operator Results

↓ 66%

66% reduction in 1st party damages

Xcel Energy

Facility Operator Results

↓ 42%

42% reduction in 1st & 2nd party damages



Facility Operator Results

↓ 38%

38% reduction in 3rd party damages in Sacramento

LEO
CONSTRUCTION CO.

Excavator Results

↓ 34%

34% reduction YOY

↓ 64%

In vetting the Gold Shovel program, NiSource found that (on average) Gold Shovel certified contractors had a damage rate 64% less than their other blanket contractors*.

* "Blanket contractor" is a 2nd party contractor that works on NiSource's behalf with ongoing ("blanket") contracts - usually 3 years in length - to replace and repair pipe, etc. DPIK = damages per 1,000 tickets.



TESTIMONIALS

“Being a member of GSS has helped us establish procedures that will lead to a reduction in damages and the metrics provided will allow us to measure ourselves for continuous improvement in excavation safety.”

Kevin Miller
Miller Pipeline





For me, Gold Shovel Standard certification has been a badge of honor.

“I’m a 43-year veteran of the field, and I developed a strong passion for safety in the 1970s. The union asked me to take control of safety and I take the responsibility very seriously.

“I have seen an immediate positive impact thanks to our GSS certification. There has been a significant decline in underground damage. GSS has proven to be a very effective program. It’s win-win for everyone. A win for employees, a win for customers and a win for the public.

“As GSS spread across the country, and more people sign-on, it’s a movement that will continue to improve workplace and public safety.

“Our safety management program was accepted with just minor tweak. We started training just after redelivering our certification. And our training was well accepted! Employees loved the form on personal responsibility. There has been a significant reduction in damages – all of our incidents have been due to improper locates. We now are only impacted largely by stuff that is beyond our control.

“In my 40+ years in the business, I can point at successes and I can point at failures, and Gold Shovel Standard is a success.”

Dan Morales

SPE Utility

“Gold Shovel Standard isn’t just about having another certification. It’s not about having a certification because a Client may say we must have it. The safety of our employees, the public, and damage prevention are of the utmost importance to us. The GSS application process has helped us to refine our training process for our employees.”

Keith Cottle

Davey Resource Group



What Next?

“Year of the EXCAVATOR”

Visit www.goldshovelstandard.org

Click “Register” in upper right hand corner

Requesting org field, enter: “MISS DIG – MITA”

-when you enter this, and get certified within 45 days, a benefit of being a MITA member is that MISS DIG 811 will reimburse your membership dues for 12 months in order to get you going!



Gold Shovel Membership

Contractor:

1-9 total employees	-\$900/yr
10-19 employees -	\$1500/yr
20-49 employees -	\$1800/yr
50+ employees -	\$2400/yr





Gold Shovel
STANDARD

Thank you.

Prevent. Empower. Protect.

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Reserved

