

March 14, 2013



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PHMSA State One-Call Exemption Forum

Panel #1: Damage Data - Sources

Jemmie Wang



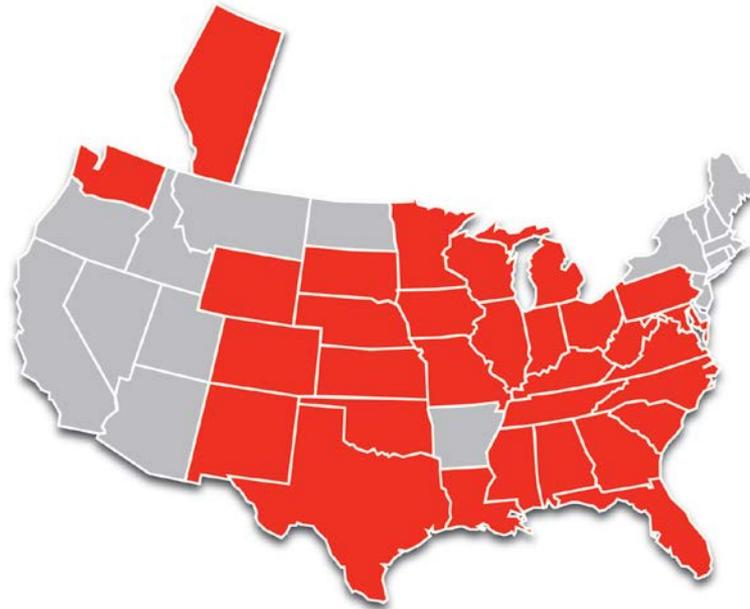


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Introduction to USIC

- Largest contract locating company in the US
- More than 4,200 Locators in 31 states and one Canadian province
- Approximately 100,000 damage investigations a year





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100,000 Damage Investigations

- Submitted to CGA's DIRT
- Highest DQI (data quality index) of any stakeholder
 - Possess narrative of damage – may be necessary for data-mining
- Used by USIC in court of law, if necessary
- Corresponding to ~17M One Call tickets

Key Point

USIC has critical mass of quality damage investigations



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Challenge #1 – Data Points per State

- 100,000 over 31 states and one province averages to ~3,000 per
- Of 3,000, ~750 are “no notification made”
- Have to data mine and analyze 750 at state level
 - How many of the 750 are because of exemptions?

Key Point

May have to bucket states to have sufficient data points



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Challenge #2 – Bucketing Damages

- May need sophisticated data mining of narrative and other free text
- TN: “...not including ... the digging of holes for fence posts on private property in any area that is not located within a recorded easement of an operator or that is not located within one hundred feet (100’) of the edge of the pavement of a street or highway.”
 - How to attribute a damage with no notification made to such an exemption?

Key Point

Analysis may have to be very sophisticated and complex



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Tentative Possible Conclusions

- **Narrative and other free text from damage investigations may be needed**
 - Simple radio box check-offs may be insufficient given the permutations of exemptions
 - Some general exemptions – e.g., “farmer” – may require less ocean boiling
- **Some exemptions may require analysis of GIS data – TN example**
- **Some exemptions may require details not available in damage investigations – e.g., depth**
- **Just because damage falls into Exemption X does not necessarily mean if Exemption X were gone a ticket would have been called in**

Key Point

Scale of analysis itself may be larger than DIRT itself