**2013 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report**

**CFDA Number: 20.720**

**Award Number:** *DTPH56-13-G-PHPS15*

**Project Title:** *Dig Safe System State Damage Prevention Grant*

**Date Submitted:** *March 28, 2014*

**Submitted by:** *Robert S Finelli*

**Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement**

*Under this grant agreement, the DSSI will:*

* *Laws and regulations of the damage prevention process*
* *Foster and promote the use of improving technologies.*

**Workscope**

*Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 U.S.C. §60134(b) through the actions it has specified in its Application.*

* ***Element 7 (Enforcement):*** *Enforcement of State damage prevention laws and regulations for all aspects of the damage prevention process, including public education, and the use of civil penalties for violations assessable by the appropriate State authority.*
* ***Element 8 (Technology):*** *A process for fostering and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground pipeline locating capability, and gathering and analyzing information about the accuracy and effectiveness of locating programs.*

**Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.**”)

***Element 7***

*As of March 31, 2014 the development, testing and installation of the RSS Feed has been completed 100%. This web based software now allows the 5 state enforcement agencies complete password protected access to all excavation requests in the Dig Safe database.*

***Element 8***

*This part of the grant was for the creation of an E-Ticket entry program for Smartphones. At this time the development of this software is currently underway with the testing and implementation scheduled for April and the product is due to be introduced to the excavating community in May or June.*

**Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)**

*The RSS Feed program is currently being used by 17 regulatory staff members located in our 5 state territory of MA, ME, NH, RI and VT. This program allows the regulators instant access to the Dig Safe ticket database from their office, in the field or from home. Prior to the development of this program the regulators would either call or email Dig Safe staff members who would then have to take time away from their jobs to research and forward database information to them. Since this program has been implemented the staff at Dig Safe has received zero phone calls from the regulators to do ticket research. This has definitely increased our staff’s efficiency and the feedback from the regulators has been all positive. This tool has made the task of ticket research for enforcement of the Dig Safe laws in all 5 New England states more efficient and timely.*

**Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met. “)**

*There are no issues, problems or challenges to report at this time.*

**Mid-term Financial Status Report**

*Attached is Form 425(SF-425)*

*Breakdown of costs to date are as follows:*

*Personnel - $1,500*

*Travel - $3,500*

*Contractual -$25,700*

*Total - $30,700*

**Plans for Next Period (Remainder of Grant)**

*We are currently in the developing and testing phase of the Smart phone App portion of the grant. This part of the grant will be completed well prior to the end of the grant period.*

**Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA**

*No actions requested at this time.*