Abstract

Everyday GIS and GPS for Utility Field Forces
Track: Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater
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Technologies have existed for years that allow pinpointing locations with GPS systems and mapping them on GIS systems. However, the costs and bulk associated with incorporating and maintaining GPS and GIS technologies on a day-to-day basis in utility operations can be prohibitively high. Only by isolating and utilizing the most critical technical features while simultaneously foregoing non-critical ones can these technologies make their way into mainstream utility field force operations. This paper highlights one particular case study illustrating the application of intense focus on benefits and expulsion of non-beneficial technical features. This case study concerns the implementation of handheld GPS units attached to small mobile data collection devices for the San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater District (SDMWWD). GIS is used to plot, view, and interact with data captured from these field devices.

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