



DIRT

Damage Information Reporting Tool

Damages Happen. DIRT Helps Prevent Them from Happening Again.

Damage prevention is a shared responsibility. So is data reporting. CGA's Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) launched in 2003, and since then, CGA stakeholders have anonymously and securely submitted information about more than half a million incidents into this database.

The CGA Data Reporting & Evaluation Committee analyzes that data with consultants annually and issues the DIRT Analysis and Recommendations Report to help stakeholders identify the root cause of submitted incidents, the type of equipment used when they occurred and type of work performed, along with other important data.

The number of DIRT submitters and submissions continues to grow, but until it reaches 100 percent, some portion of the national data reporting story will go untold. Submitting to DIRT is the best way to make sure your voice is heard.

Here are some of the reasons why the hundreds of current DIRT users choose to submit:

- Submitting to DIRT has led to improvements in their internal damage reports.
- DIRT data helps their organization set benchmarks and develop appropriate damage prevention messages.

- DIRT Analysis and Recommendations Reports have played a role in producing new Best Practices for safe digging.
- DIRT submission is encouraged by associations, including the American Gas Association and the North American Telecommunications Damage Prevention Council.

To learn more about the CGA DIRT program, visit www.cga-dirt.com. There, you can find the following tools to get you started:

- A security white paper to give you peace of mind about who can access the database.
- A confidentiality memo to provide assurance that your data will remain anonymous.
- A damage report form to help you get a sense of the information you'll need to submit.

In addition to these tools, the CGA staff is able to help you establish a DIRT account.

"BGE has submitted to DIRT for several years, and as a result is able to better track its results against the region and the country. Our involvement in DIRT has also allowed our damage prevention group to enhance its customer outreach and successfully promote 811. And most importantly, the time commitment for submitting is minimal."

– Tom Baldwin, Supervisor – Damage Prevention, BGE

Have other questions about DIRT? Email dirt@commongroundalliance.com.