



Utilities “Tackle” Transport Minister’s Concerns at Street Works Workshop

21st September – Following a meeting between Transport Minister Sadiq Khan MP and the National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG), representatives from leading utilities and contractors attended a workshop this month to look for ways to improve the quality of street works.

The workshop was arranged by NJUG, the UK trade association representing utilities and their contractors on street works issues, and sponsored by Enzen Global, experts in process re-engineering and providing advice to the Utility and Highway sector on street works. Opened by Patricia Hayes, Director of Road and Vehicle Safety and Standards at the Department for Transport, the event was held at Chelsea Football Club on 8th September, and attended by over sixty Utility and Contractor delegates, representing over forty organisations.

Using a ‘creative problem solving’ technique, delegates examined every aspect of the street works process, from initiation to completion, looking for ways to improve the efficiency of works, and reduce the amount of time the road is occupied. Current shortcomings with utility works were also identified, as well as ways through which utilities can combat these in order to deliver a compliant, high quality, and safe works process. Photos from the day can be found by clicking [here](#)¹.

Results from the day showed that different companies were excelling and failing in different areas, and there was no single set of solutions that would make a sweeping change across the sector. It was agreed that all outputs would be shared so that each company could form an improvement plan to present to their CEO.

NJUG and Enzen are jointly summarising the outputs to present back to the Minister, DfT, devolved governments and CEOs of utility companies and contractors.

Among the outputs were a large number of good practice examples already underway in certain organisations, which need to become more widespread if the industry is to improve as a whole. A follow up workshop is now being organised to focus on the top six initiatives highlighted, where presentations will be delivered offering delegates more information and advice on how they can adopt such practices within their own businesses.

Commenting on the workshop, Les Guest, CEO of NJUG said, “The utility sector is committed to improving standards and implementing the NJUG *Vision for Street Works* and this forum was intended to enhance and demonstrate this. The workshop also served to promote practical ways we can improve street works and understand what works well to deliver safe and high quality utility services.”

¹ <http://www.njug.org.uk/category/11/pageid/81/>



Shashi Seshadri, on behalf of Enzen Global Ltd, added “We were delighted to sponsor such a successful workshop and support the industry in its efforts to improve street works practices. Only by working together as one can coordinated improvements across the board be implemented. Enzen looks forward to continuing to assist industry partners in turning the outcomes from the day into reality”.

For more information or for the full results of the workshop please contact NJUG on 020 7340 8737 or go to www.njug.org.uk.

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Notes to Editors

The National Joint Utility Group (NJUG)

For further information about the National Joint Utilities Group please go to www.njug.org.uk. To arrange an interview please contact the NJUG press office at pressoffice@njug.org.uk or telephone 020 7340 8737.

NJUG is the only UK industry association representing utilities and their contractors on street works issues. The organisation’s focus is on promoting best practice, safety, quality and co-ordination of works as well as representing utilities in discussions with Government and other stakeholders on street work issues.

NJUG is also the utility arm of the Highway Authorities and Utilities Committee representing street works in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales known as HAUC (UK). Please see <http://www.hauc-uk.org.uk/> for further information.

Our full members include the Energy Networks Association (representing electricity and gas companies), Water UK (representing all water and wastewater companies), National Grid, Openreach, and Virgin Media. Our Associate Members are Clancy Docwra, Skanska Utilities, Balfour Beatty, Morrison, Morgan Est, NACAP, PJ Keary, First Intervention, Carillion, Enterprise, Laing O’Rourke and AMEC. Including members through trade associations, NJUG represents thirty-seven utility companies and twelve utility contractors

Enzen Global

Enzen Global Limited is a specialist organisation in the area of **Street Works & Traffic Management** working closely in a neutral manner with **Utilities & Highway Authorities** to help support a practical, pragmatic & effective implementation of various aspects of the Traffic Management Act (TMA).

Our Clients include Gas, Electricity, Water & Multi Utility Companies across UK. Our Highway Authority Clients include 15+ (County, Metropolitan Borough & City) Councils across UK. We work in close association with DfT, NJUG, Joint Authority Group (JAG), EtoN Developer Groups, etc in promoting a collaborative ethos & tangible performance improvement and sustenance across all stakeholders to better comply with street works regulation & practically realise the objectives of Traffic Management Act 2004.

For further information about Enzen please go to <http://www.enzenglobal.com>