



Optimised Radar to Find Every Utility in the Street

Deliverable D9a Maintenance and rehabilitation planning improvements

S.MURGIER
GDF Suez

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The European ORFEUS (Optimised Radar to Find Every Utility in the Street) Project is designed to develop a new generation of Ground Probing Radar as a way of improving the detection and location of subsurface structures.

As a network gas utility, GDF Suez can be impacted by using Ground Probing Radar (GPR) systems in several ways. For many years, network incidents in France were caused by a lack of knowledge of the existing underground.

In a significant number of these incidents, the relevant codes of practice were not followed. To solve this recurrent problem, the French authorities are considering requiring contractors to carry out a systematic underground investigation before commencing street works. If this does become a requirement, then GPR may be the only efficient “multi-purpose” system available.

Other European countries, such as the UK and Germany, also regard an accurate knowledge of the location of buried plant prior to excavation as being an essential pre-requisite. This document presents the different scenarios that can be envisaged in the near future as being available to utility companies operating GPR.

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