

Kick-off Forum of the Development of Test/Survey Methods and Specifications for Underground Utility Survey



Underground pipe burst? Pipe leak? How often are these problems heard in the spiderweb underground in Hong Kong? In first half 2018, there are 13 cases reported in public media, those not appeared in public media are estimated to be at least 30 times more.

Funded by ITF General Support Scheme and Sum Kee Construction Ltd, as well as support by 4 Government departments and MTR, Ir Dr. Wallace Lai from Department of Land Surveying and Geo-Informatics (LSGI) hosted a public kick-off forum on 31 August 2018, announcing the start of a two-year project for establishing a set of utility survey specification for accreditation. The \$1.37M project is entitled 'Development of Specifications and Standards for Underground Utility (UU) Survey based on Nondestructive Testing, Surveying, Imaging and Diagnostic (NDTSID) Approaches'. The forum attracted 78 participants from 29 units including Government, utility stakeholders, service providers, and commercial lab. The project represents an effort of knowledge transfer from basic/applied research to practical use in Hong Kong and elsewhere. LSGI will take the lead in this project and will conduct rounds of consultation, reaching consensus of the specifications for procurement by the Government and various utility stakeholders. By the end of the project, six NDTSID approaches will become accreditable by Hong Kong Accreditation Services under the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS) of the Government, the first attempt and showcase to the world. It is believed that the deliverables will benchmark the expected and practically viable standards of the NDTSID technologies in underground utility sector.

