



A GEOTECH CASE STUDY

Stabilizing Solution in our 'Wheelhouse'

A Pair of Paved Inverts Repaired in Cleveland, Ohio

Two corrugated steel plate arched pipes were deteriorating in a culvert under Snow Road in Cleveland, Ohio near West 130th Street. The deterioration threatened the integrity of the roadway and engineers for Cuyahoga County looked to Geotech Services, Inc. for solutions to repair and stabilize the paved inverts.

"We were cautious as we began to clear the debris from the culverts," said Charlie Burgess, superintendent for Geotech Services and the lead on the project. "We were conscious of weakening the structure of both culverts and wanted to be certain that the integrity of the inverts could be maintained throughout the course of the project." The bottom of both inverts were, indeed, rusted and deteriorating so it was imperative to move quickly but carefully through the reinforcement process. "We did all the necessary shoring and testing to assure maximum safety. No worries there. But we also wanted to be able to move quickly and with confidence on this project. Everything went smoothly. Like clockwork," said Burgess.

The inverts were dammed off and water diverted into the adjacent pipe while work was done on the first culvert. Rust was ground away and mesh was laid and welded on the bottom of the inverts from end to end. Concrete was slowly and systematically pumped and finished as the Geotech crew worked the entire length of the 148 foot and 152 foot inverts.

continued

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**



TRENCHES



INDUSTRY



WELCOME



continued from cover

"This (reinforcing the inverts) was a good alternative to replacing the pipes. We were able to significantly increase the life of the existing pipes at a fraction of the cost of total replacement," said Burgess. "Our track record on these types of projects has been excellent and the county knew this was an ideal job for Geotech," he said.

In all, the job took 12 working days – start to finish. What's more, there was no interruption to traffic since the pipes didn't have to be removed; a significant advantage given that Snow Road is a major thoroughfare in Cleveland.

"I think we've developed a reputation in the industry for fast, efficient and cost-effective repairs such as these," says Geotech Services President Ray Tartabini. "Not everyone will take on a project like this. But it's right in our wheelhouse and county and state engineers know it."



DIGGING DEEP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we begin another year, I feel it is important and appropriate to offer our thanks to all those we worked with and for in 2012. We are, indeed, fortunate to have tremendous employees, fantastic partners and loyal clients.

There's no question that the business environment has been tenuous throughout the world. But we're certainly proud to say that persistence, hard work and a team approach have helped us stay the course, work our plan and remain strong.

On behalf of all of us at Geotech Services, Inc. I would like to express our gratitude to all who support us and wish each of you a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,
Ray Tartabini

Ray Tartabini, President
GEOTECH SERVICES, INC.

DEEP



IN THE TRENCHES

Meet Charlie Burgess, Superintendent

It started off as a summer job...something to earn some money before heading off to college. But it's safe to say that Charlie Burgess found a career and company that fits him like the saddle of a Suzuki LTZ 450 quad. He's a 17 year veteran of Geotech Services and he has definitely settled into an assignment that suits him perfectly.

Charlie currently serves as superintendent for the company. He helps with the scheduling of projects and assures that each job has the equipment, materials and personnel needed for the assignment. Burgess visits prospective work sites to evaluate the access crews will have, identify any obstacles and help formulate a plan of attack for the bid – or the execution of the work.

"I love the variety of this work. Every day is different and unique. It ranges from culvert lining to laying new pipe, slip lining, concrete restoration and erosion control. No two days are alike. It makes it interesting," says Burgess.

Charlie attended Springfield High School in Akron, Ohio, graduating in 1995 before attending Akron University in the

construction technology program. Paul Stubbs recruited him to join Geotech Services and the rest, as they say, is history. "I just fell in love with the work and it's a great company with a good group of guys. I had a chance to work in the front office and, of course, in the field – so I got to know the company from different angles," says Burgess.

It's fair to say, when something feels good to Charlie, he stays with it. Seventeen years with one company is a testimony to that. He also moved back into the home in which he grew up in Tallmadge, Ohio. "I bought the home from my mom and live there with my dog, Jake (a 7 year old black labrador/chow mix)." When asked about recreational activities away from work, Charlie laughed, "I work long hours and I'm not complaining. I love what I do, but I don't take much time off." When he does take a break, you can find him four-wheeling in his back yard or in West Virginia where he has some property. He's also an avid hunter and camper.

"I like being outside," says Charlie, which makes sense given the career path he's chosen.



The National Association of County Engineers (NACE) is a non-profit, non-partisan professional association in our 7th decade, representing nearly 2,000 county engineers, road managers, and related professionals in the US and Canada. In the US,



Brian Roberts
Executive Director
National Association of
County Engineers

local roads account for about 75% of our highways and roads, or 2.93 million miles. Counties manage 1.74 million miles of those roads and also own 231,000 bridges and operate one-third of the transit systems.

Among other duties, NACE members are responsible for directly purchasing products and services, plus they make recommendations to their peers in other

counties. They lead the RFP process, including the selection of winning bids. NACE Corporate Members recognize the tremendous sales opportunities at the county level, while NACE

County Engineers value the products and expertise that their Corporate Members provide. NACE recently conducted a survey to estimate the "buying power" of its members. The following results were determined:

NACE County Engineers' Expenditures:

Annual Transportation Budget	\$11.2 billion
Annual Equipment Purchasing	\$772 million
Annual Equipment Repair and Maintenance Budget	\$736 million
Annual Road Construction Budget	\$3.5 billion
Annual Road Maintenance Budget	\$3.5 billion
Annual Signage/Traffic Control Budget	\$195 million
Annual Consultant Engineering Budget	\$257 million
Equipment Fleet	> \$350,000

To learn more about NACE, visit www.countyengineers.org. The Annual Technical & Management Conference/Trade Show will be held April 21-25, 2013 in Des Moines, Iowa.

On the Road

Geotech Services will be attending and exhibiting at a variety of industry conferences and trade shows in 2013. Look for us and stop by to say hello!



35th Annual Kentucky Transportation Conference
January 10-11, 2013 Lexington, KY

Fifteenth Annual Pennsylvania Concrete Conference
February 20-22, 2013 Harrisburg, PA



One More Thing...

Geotech goes Social

Look for Geotech Services on Facebook (www.facebook.com/GeotechServicesInc), YouTube (www.youtube.com/GeotechServices) and Twitter (@GeotechSvcslnc)! Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook, "Subscribe" on YouTube and "Follow" us on Twitter.

