



HK Pipelines

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Meeting Minnesota's Highway Challenge

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David Jass, Vice President

Hydro-Klean recently completed a large project for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Our first assignment was

to locate all the existing storm-sewer structures along Highway 169. This stretch of highway had been improved several times, and the maps needed to be brought up to date. For this part of the project, Hydro-Klean teamed up with Howard R. Green in the St. Paul office.

The HK survey crew had several goals during this initial phase of activity. First, we had to find any new structures that had been installed during recent construction. Second, we had to determine if any of the structures that had been removed during the same construction were still on the maps. The survey crew spent several days taking GPS locations and figuring out which structures no longer existed. The maps were updated with the new information and delivered to MnDOT, which then gave every structure a unique identification number.

Night-Time Video Inspection

We now moved on to the next segment of the project—video inspection. Our video crew's main goal was to conduct a visual examination of all structures, lines and manholes that we had found in the previous phase of our work and that were now on the updated map.

We also needed to document various types of information for MnDOT about each structure and submit this information on CD.

Traffic flows on Highway #169 are as high as 4,800 vehicles per hour, so we had to work at night, which posed significant challenges for the video-inspection crew. One of the biggest challenges was avoiding bird-sized mosquitoes.

Tons of Debris Removed

After nearly four weeks of video inspection that included miles of pipe and hundreds of manhole reports, Hydro-Klean received MnDOT's approval to clean the lines. Certain lines turned out to be so dirty that the video inspection could not be finished. Once again, we had to work at night. We also had to

use a water truck to haul water to the jet/vac machine. The cleaning process removed tons of debris from the storm lines on the highway.

Well-Deserved Thanks

During the eight weeks that Hydro-Klean worked on this project, a total of twelve employees participated. Their tremendous teamwork, as well as their willingness to work out-of-town in less than perfect conditions, made this undertaking a great success. The job required extra effort not only from the people on-site, but also from the people back at Hydro-Klean. As the project administrator, I would like to thank each and every Hydro-Klean employee for the quality of his or her contribution. Thank you!



HK Jet/Vacuuming and Video Inspection Crews