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Press Release

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UNDERGROUND LINE STRIKES: STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

LINE ALERT™ Panel Delivers Safer and Consistent Pipeline and Underground Facility Excavation Process

Winnipeg, Canada – March 1, 2007 - Although statistics show that line strikes have been reduced significantly in recent years, just one line strike is too many. KeiBerg Inc., an excavation safety company based in Manitoba Canada, has developed LINE ALERT™, a 'low tech' solution for safely guiding excavator operators near underground utilities. Keith Barry, the inventor, shares his perspective: "I've been in this industry for more than 25 years and I've seen what happens on digs when things go wrong. It can be devastating. We had to do something to help prevent these kinds of accidents."

The Office of Pipeline Safety web site indicates that "the leading cause of gas distribution system incidents has been external force damage during excavation work near pipelines". With located pipelines and underground utilities that need to be exposed, a major challenge that still exists today is the physical excavation of the line. A consistent and reliable process that provides accurate measurement of the depth remaining to the buried line is very much needed.

LINE ALERT™ provides this process. By simply potholing the located line, inserting a LINE ALERT™ panel over the line and backfilling the pothole, a process is created that provides a real-time measured guidance system to the excavator operator and support crew as they begin the task of exposing the line. The panel is designed to shear off as the excavator bucket passes, leaving behind a highly visible colored reference as to the range of depth and an actual measurement in inches remaining to the buried line. LINE ALERT™ is a highly effective solution for improving safety when exposing located lines and is designed to work consistently and reliably in field conditions. It comes complete with a complementary online training and certification course.

Many positive initiatives in the excavation industry are responsible for improved safety conditions, including the formation of the Common Ground Alliance and implementation of their Best Practices and 811 initiatives, investment in one call centers, and major advancements in locating technologies. However, even with these improvements, line strikes continue causing service interruptions, personal injuries and, in the worse case scenario, fatalities.

KeiBerg was founded on the belief that the excavation and construction industry needs a safer way of dealing with line crossings as our gas, oil, fiber optic, utilities and other underground networks expand to meet the needs of an increasing population all over the world. LINE ALERT™ was developed to provide a safer way of managing the increasing amount of line crossings and the inherent dangers and costs that are associated with them. For more information, please visit www.line-alert-panel.com.

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