

1995 NOVA AWARD WINNER

Live Line System Removes Sediment from Large Pipe

The Live Line system cleans sediment out of large underground pipe, such as sanitary and storm sewers and industrial waste conduits. A self-propelled cleaning unit, called the Hydro-Hog, is inserted into the pipe from above at a manhole. It uses a 250 gal/min. water jet, sprayed at 2500 psi, to move debris to a temporary bulkhead and hydraulic pump that have been inserted near the manhole entrance. Hydro-Hog jets disturb the solids and then helps them flow downstream to the pump. The pump pulls approximately 48,000 gal/hr of waste debris through a truck-mounted cleaning system, which separates up to 15 tons of solids. This solid waste material is transferred by conveyor to trucks for transport to a waste disposal site. The cleaned sewer water is returned to the system to be used again. Therefore, sewer cleaning requires no external water supply. The Live Line process restores the complete system flow to its original design capacity. Operation of the Live Line system requires one person to operate the hose reel and the cleaning head back and forth and a second person to run the separation equipment. Neither person needs to go into the manhole or pipe during cleaning. The sewer can continue to operate without interruption throughout the cleaning process. The Live Line system was invented by Don Derlein in Albuquerque, and it has been successfully used in Dallas, Houston, Yuma, Chattanooga, Trenton, Orlando, and Miami. The Live Line System is owned and operated by Pipeline Services, Inc. of Dallas, phone 214-387-1598.

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