



**HIGHWAY AUTHORITIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

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## **HAUC(UK) Code of Conduct**

The Highway Authorities Utilities Committee (HAUC(UK)) recognises the need to promote self regulation and actively works together representing street authorities, highways and roads agencies, utilities, contractors and other key stakeholders to manage and reduce disruption and inconvenience these works may cause to road users, businesses and residents within the UK.

HAUC(UK) promotes active participation at co-ordination meetings focussing on discussing advance planning, joint working and collaborative practices and in particular the following:

### **Network Management Duty**

HAUC(UK) endorses the aims and objectives of the Traffic Management Act 2004 and in particular the Network Management Duty and will strive to work towards achieving those aims in conjunction with Traffic Managers.

### **Permitting**

HAUC(UK) in accepting the principles of Network Management Duty, offers to assist prospective permit authorities and their respective Traffic Managers to develop their proposed permit schemes and help guide them towards maximising benefits to the community as a whole. It offers to work with system developers to help the community deliver efficient and practical software solutions using knowledge gained across the UK.

### **Advance Planning**

Utilities and authorities will continue to share long term plans for asset upgrades and major maintenance projects to promote greater opportunities for trench sharing, site sharing and accommodating authority planning as part of their commitment to encouraging enhanced co-ordination between all parties.

### **Use of Minimum-Dig Technology**

HAUC(UK) will continue to promote the use of minimum-dig technology where commercially viable, practical, and safe to use, in order to reduce the size, environmental impact and duration of works.

### **Plating**

To ensure a rapid return of carriageways and footways back into use for road users and pedestrians during traffic-sensitive times HAUC(UK) will encourage its members to consider the option of plating over or applying bridging

techniques to utility excavations at sites where it is safe and practical to do so, and where it does not unduly extend the duration of the works or adversely affect the highway structure.

### **Working Outside Peak Hours**

On the busiest roads, utilities and authorities will strive to work at the times of the day that minimise disruption to traffic and reduce excessive traffic delay and inconvenience to the road user. As part of the planning process, where commercially viable, and following discussions with environmental and highway departments and affected stakeholders, the options of evening, weekend and 24 hour working at key locations will be considered where highlighted environmental concerns can be overcome, where disturbance to residents can be kept to a minimum, and where it is safe to do so for the workforce.

### **Communications**

HAUC(UK) will actively encourage all works promoters to consider communications strategies appropriate to the works and customer needs. Where safe and practical to do so we will continue to encourage the use of work site information boards at all sites giving contact details, and provide additional unique information boards specific to long term (major works) projects displaying updates on progress and estimated completion dates.

### **Inspection**

HAUC(UK) will continue to promote improvement in inspection and compliance processes along with performance monitoring and will encourage prompt rectification of non-compliance. We will work together to minimise the effects of essential maintenance works on both the highway infrastructure and its availability to the highway user

### **First Time Reinstatements**

To ensure work sites are returned to public use at the earliest opportunity and help reduce any possible delays and disruption, HAUC(UK) promotes the use of first time permanent reinstatements wherever possible.

### **Good Practice Guide**

HAUC(UK), is committed to both elicit and share good practice to help raise awareness and drive performance improvement. We will continue to share examples of good practice on our web site and at events around the country, and adopt the highest standards that emerge from this awareness.

HAUC(UK) will regularly review its Code of Conduct to ensure that it continues to reflect good practice.

**Jerry McConkey & Mark Ostheimer**  
**Joint Chairs of HAUC(UK)**

**January 2011**