

## **CPGA LOCATOR TRAINING CLASS OUTLINE**

### **I. How EM Locators work**

- A. Energizing a conductor
  - 1. Conduction (Metal to metal)
  - 2. Induction (Nonmetal to metal)
- B. Receiving the transmitters energy
  - 1. Peak
  - 2. Null
- C. Energy wants to leave the conductor equally in all directions
- D. Energy will always follow the path of least resistance
- E. Different frequencies can & will do different things
- F. Locate results cannot be changed with the receiver

### **II. How To Use An EM Locator: Energy (Current/Signal)**

- A. Energy leaving the transmitter must return to the transmitter
- B. Assessing the energy level (current/signal)
  - 1. Strong (Good)
  - 2. OK
  - 3. Weak (Bad)
- C. 4 factors influencing energy (current/signal)
  - 1. Far end grounds
  - 2. Insulation
  - 3. Earth
  - 4. Frequency

### **III. How To Use An EM Locator: Receiver & Transmitter**

- A. Receiver - 5 ways to determine the shape of the electromagnetic field produced by the energy leaving the conductor
  - 1. Peak vs Null
  - 2. Digital depth validation
  - 3. Peak method
  - 4. Null method
  - 5. Triangulation
- B. Transmitter – 4 ways to change locate results

1. Change grounding system
2. Change frequency
3. Move transmitter
4. Conductive vs Inductive

#### **IV. Current Shape Endpoint**

- A. Transmitter converts DC into AC
- B. Frequency determines how many times the energy (current/signal) alternates per second
- C. AC produces an electromagnetic field
- D. Receiving antennas detect the electromagnetic field
- E. Peak & Null are determined by the position of an antenna
- F. 2 Stacked antennas determine digital depth
- G. Type of utility being located can only be verified by following the field to a logical termination point