

### Program Overview

The Utility Safety Partners (USP) wants to recognize excavators in Alberta that represent the fundamental principles of safety, advocacy and participation that make up USP's core values. Each year, USP will award the title of Excavator of the Year to one deserving recipient.

You may nominate a peer or industry colleague, an organization or you may self-nominate to be considered for the Excavator of the Year. Review the criteria below and if this sounds like you or someone you know, complete and submit the Nomination Form that follows. Nominations are open between October 15<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Criteria and Qualifications

#### Minimum Requirements

- Placed a minimum of 25 locate requests in the application year
- Be a USP Safety Partner Member in good standing (as an individual or as part of a member company)

#### Additional criteria

In addition to the minimum requirements, consideration will be given to the following:

- Internal Safety Culture and Safety Program
- Ground Disturbance and other safety training
- Engagement with the excavation and damage prevention community

#### USP Programs and Participation

- Registration in and use of the Alberta DIRT (Damage Information Reporting Tool)
- Participation on USP Committees
- Participation in industry events and webinars
- Facilitating or sponsoring public awareness programs or community events
- Social media presence and engagement with USP channels
- Promoting the Click Before You Dig process through advertising, fleet vehicle stickers, promotional items, etc.
- Building positive relationships within the digging and damage prevention community

If you or someone you know deserves to be recognized for their work in damage prevention, complete the nomination form below and submit it to [info@utilitysafety.ca](mailto:info@utilitysafety.ca) with the subject line "Excavator of the Year".



# USP Excavator of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Category:

Large Company (>500 locates/yr)	
Mid-sized Company (101-499 locate requests/yr)	
Small Company (<100 locate requests/yr)	

Individual	
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Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: Self Nomation  Other (name): \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION A – SAFETY CULTURE

Criteria	Nominee information
Does the excavator have an established, documented Safety Program?	
Do all employees follow the Safety Program or demonstrate commitment to its values?	
Do employees receive specific safety training for the use of equipment?	
Are employees required to complete USP certified Ground Disturbance 101 or 201 training? Other certifications?	
Is the company safety program reviewed and updated at specific intervals?	
Do employees attend safety planning meetings onsite?	
Do supervisors regularly audit workers for safe excavation practices on site?	
How is a safety culture communicated within the company?	
Has a safety culture had an impact on reducing accidents/damages?	

Tell us what makes the nominee’s safety culture / program stand out in their field	
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## SECTION B – DAMAGES and DAMAGE REPORTING

Criteria	Nominee Information
Has the nominee registered with Alberta’s Private Virtual Damage Information Tool (DIRT)?	
Has the nominee ever reported damages into DIRT?	
Has the nominee been found at fault for any utility damage in the application year? If so, how many?	
Has the nominee been responsible for implementing changes after a damage to prevent a recurrence?	
Is the nominee familiar with the Annual DIRT Report? Is it communicated to employees?	

Additional Comments (tell us about actions the nominee may have taken to prevent or reduce utility damages related to ground disturbance)

## SECTION C – USP PARTNERSHIP and SUPPORT

Criteria	Nominee Information
Is the nominee a member in good standing with USP?	
Does the nominee place locate requests through USP’s online portal prior to every excavation?	



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Has the nominee (or its employees) attended a USP Webinar on how to place online locate requests?	
Does the nominee participate in USP or other damage prevention committees?	
Does the nominee subscribe to the USP Newsletter?	
Does the nominee have a social media presence that promotes safety?	
Does the nominee follow and/or engage with USP on any social media channels?	
Has the nominee attended a USP event, USP sponsored event or other industry event?	
How does the nominee support or promote the Click Before You Dig call to action?	
Describe the nominee's relationship with the excavating community.	
Describe the nominee's relationship with other industry stakeholders.	
What other ways does the nominee promote and/or enhance damage prevention in Alberta?	

In your own words, tell us why this nominee should be considered for USP Excavator of the Year.

**Thank you for your submission for USP Excavator of the Year. Email this form to [info@utilityafety.ca](mailto:info@utilityafety.ca)**

Nominations will be reviewed by a Selection Committee and only the top 3 candidates will be contacted further. Recognition recipients are announced prior to the start of DigSafe Month.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_