



a fresh approach

Balfour Beatty Utilities begins live mains inspections in Yorkshire

Balfour Beatty Utilities and Yorkshire Water began using new camera inspection equipment during the first week of August, providing live images of water mains from below ground, without the need for excavation.

The equipment has been developed by BBU's Innovation & Development team, along with JD7, a company who specialise in generating camera equipment for industrial processes.

The system includes a small camera, attached to a nylon control cable which can be inserted into a fire hydrant to inspect water mains and determine their internal condition.



The camera provides a live image for teams working above ground, allowing them to determine whether the main is suitable for lining, without the need for excavation.

Representatives from Laing O'Rourke and Yorkshire Water attended a demonstration to see the benefits of the new equipment for themselves. Ian Johnson, Lead Solutions Manager for Yorkshire Water said: "I think this is an great piece of kit. It will provide an excellent contribution to Yorkshire Water's objective to work without excavations."

The team is now developing an ultra-sonic head for the camera which can process further data regarding the structural integrity of the main and detect the accurate location of leaks.