

Model 100 Plastic Pipe Tool

Non-Technical Description

The Model 100 Plastic Pipe Tool is a wireless device designed to allow municipal water companies to locate underground plastic water pipes and to listen for water leaks in these pipes. The device consists of a seismic sensor that measures ground movement around the pipe being located. The sensor, associated electronics and a battery are contained in a plastic pole that contains a spike on one end and a handle-grip and push-button switch on the opposite end. The ground is probed with the spike and sensor data is collected and transmitted via wireless means to a wireless receiver that is either worn or hand-held. This sensor data is presented in digital form on a bar-graph display in the receiver and the same sensor signal in audible form is provided to the user on headphones connected to the receiver. The user determines the location of a plastic pipe or leak in the pipe by measuring the signal strength while listening to the characteristic signal that is transmitted from the pipe.