

# Annual International Event Honors Locate Technicians

**L**ocate technicians are often a profession that does not receive proper recognition.

“Honoring these locate technicians in a profession that is often overlooked is the reason we do what we do,” said Claudette Campbell, executive director of Utilities Protection Center Inc. (UPC). “They provide the last line of defense in underground utility damage prevention that ultimately keeps America safe and connected.”

On August 2, 103 competitors arrived on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia to participate in the 7th Annual International Utility Locate Rodeo (Locate Rodeo). They arrived from 24 states and Canada and represented 41 different companies and stakeholders. Competitors were greeted by more than 115 volunteers from 20 different states and Canada representing 42 companies.

The Locate Rodeo is the preeminent event for utility locate technicians. The Locate Rodeo is designed to celebrate the art and science behind the craft of underground utility locating. It recognizes and serves as the cornerstone promoting high quality and achievable standards in the industry.

“Participation in the International Utility Locate Rodeo recognizes outstanding achievements in the locating industry,” said Matt Quinn, president of the National Utility Locate Contractors Association (NULCA) and president of ELM Locating & Utility Services. NULCA co-hosted this year’s event with UPC.

Competitors compete in one division: gas, power, telecom or water. Within this division, their skills are put to the test at three different event sites. The scores from all three event sites are used to determine the winner. Each competitor is allowed twelve minutes per event site. Time is used as a tie breaker. A bonus event, the Locate From Hell (LFH), is open to any competitor who feels he is up to



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the challenge. Decisions to participate in the LFH are voluntary.

The LFH differs from other divisions in several ways. First, there is only one event site. Second, the competitor only has 3 minutes of mean time for locating. Third, the competitor may not use his own equipment. They are required to select from one of the participating rodeo equipment manufacturer sponsors. This year’s LFH challenge was accepted by 90 competitors.

First place winners in any division win \$1,000. Second place earns \$500 and third is \$250. The total purse for the event is \$8,750. In addition to the Rodeo winnings, the Rodeo Equipment Manufacturer’s Challenge (REMC), makes it

possible for first place winners to add up to \$1,000 more to their first place winnings.

This year, Radiodetection sponsored all four divisions and the LFH. Winners in each division, who declared their use of RD equipment, could have added \$1,000 to their winnings. Joining Diamond sponsor Radiodetection were Gold Level sponsors-- 3M, McLaughlin, Metrotech, and RIDGID. Declaring use of a gold level sponsor’s equipment at the LFH could earn the first place winner an additional \$500.

For more information about the Locate Rodeo, or for information from previous years’ competition please visit [www.LocateRodeo.com](http://www.LocateRodeo.com). **UF**

## WATER



1st Place: Rachel Boyd, Heath Consultants, Chattanooga, TN *Center*  
 2nd Place: Eric West, West Locating, Inc., Hanahan, SC *Left*  
 3rd Place: Robert Dean, Gainesville Regional Utilities, Trenton, FL *Right*

Water Event 1 winner: Bruno Chavez, Utiliquet, Ventura, CA  
 Water Event 2 winner: Jason Griffin, One Vision Services, Kennesaw, GA  
 Water Event 3 winner: Brad Warren, JEA, Jacksonville, FL

## POWER



1st Place: Robert Maney, Windstream Comm., Baldwin, GA *Center*  
 2nd Place: Michael Regnier, ELM Locating, Bloomington, IL *Left*  
 3rd Place: Herman Wilson, Utiliquet, Brooklyn Park, MD *Right*

Power Event 1 winner: Herman Wilson, Utiliquet, Brooklyn Park, MD  
 Power Event 2 winner: David Gregory, Utiliquet, Jackson, MS  
 Power Event 3 winner: Richard Ragner, CLS, Seattle, WA

## TELECOM



1st Place: Tom Johnson, SM&P, Aubrey, TX *Center*  
 2nd Place: Richard Zuniga, Cobb Fendley & Associates, Houston, TX *Left*  
 3rd Place: Allen Childs, Jr., Accurate Utility Locating & Associates, FL *Right*

Telecom Event 1 winner: Richard Zuniga, Cobb Fendley & Associates, TX  
 Telecom Event 2 winner: Tim Snyder, SM&P Utility Resources, WI  
 Telecom Event 3 winner: Wally Wright, Level 3, Salt Lake City, UT

## GAS



1st Place: James Dorminey, Gainesville Regional Utilities, Starke FL *Center*  
 2nd Place: Phillip Randazzo, ELM Locating, Las Vegas, NV *Left*  
 3rd Place: Ray Powell, One Vision, Richmond, VA *Right*

Gas Event 1 winner: Ray Proctor, Atlanta Gas Light, Atlanta, GA  
 Gas Event 2 winner: Corey Downing, STS, Lawrenceville, GA  
 Gas Event 3 winner: Ray Powell, One Vision Services, Richmond VA



## LOCATE FROM H\$LL (Bonus Event)

1st Place: James Driscoll, Craig A. Smith & Associates *Center*  
 2nd Place: Derek Turnbull, Promark Telecom, Oshawa, Ontario *Left*  
 3rd Place: Jared McKeeth, ELM Locating, Ogden, UT *Right*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
 WINNERS!**

SEE MORE RODEO PICTURES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE





## Radiodetection launches the RD7000™ & RD8000™ cable and pipe locators

**RD7000 and RD8000 are powerful successors to the industry standard RD4000 family of cable and pipe locators.**

- **Centros™:** improves the accuracy and repeatability of measurements and delivers unprecedented responsiveness in the field.
- **iLOC™:** allows wireless transmitter control using the receiver.
- **SurveyCERT™:** RD8000 records locate data allowing technicians to store survey data and analyze it in real-time using a compatible PDA.
- **eCAL™:** ensures that the receivers are always measuring accurately by verifying their calibration using Radiodetection's application on a PC.
- All RD8000 and RD7000 family products are supplied with a 1-year warranty. Customers can extend this warranty on all RD7000 and RD8000 locators and transmitters to 3 years by registering online. Registration is free and entitles the user to free firmware upgrades.



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