

2025

# Hydrovac Industry Leaders



A Hydrovac News Publication.



*about*

# Hydrovac News

**Hydrovac News is the leading industry platform dedicated to driving the nationwide shift toward safer, non-destructive excavation through hydrovac technology. As a family-owned business with roots in hydro excavation dating to the early 1990s, we provide essential news, insights, educational resources, and updates curated by experienced professionals.**

Founded by Troy Fimrite, a seasoned advocate with over 34 years experience, Hydrovac News is a platform dedicated to utilizing media and technology as a pathway to educate, support, and drive change that prevents utility strikes, reduces billions in annual damages, and promotes best-in-class safety practices. We serve contractors, utilities, regulators, and industry stakeholders with timely information on innovations, regulations, equipment, and real-world applications.

For the 2025 Industry Leaders recognition, an independent judging panel led by founder Troy Fimrite conducted the rigorous selection process. With an overwhelming number of exceptional nominees, the panel faced challenging decisions in selecting these outstanding leaders. We extend gratitude to all nominees whose contributions continue to elevate hydrovac excellence across North America.



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## **Industry Leaders**

In the dynamic hydrovac industry, true leadership shines through innovation, safety commitment, operational excellence, and dedication to progress. Selected for their significant contributions, proven success, and positive impact, these Industry Leaders set the highest standards in non-destructive digging, damage prevention, and technological advancement. This showcase celebrates their achievements and inspires ongoing excellence in the hydrovac community.

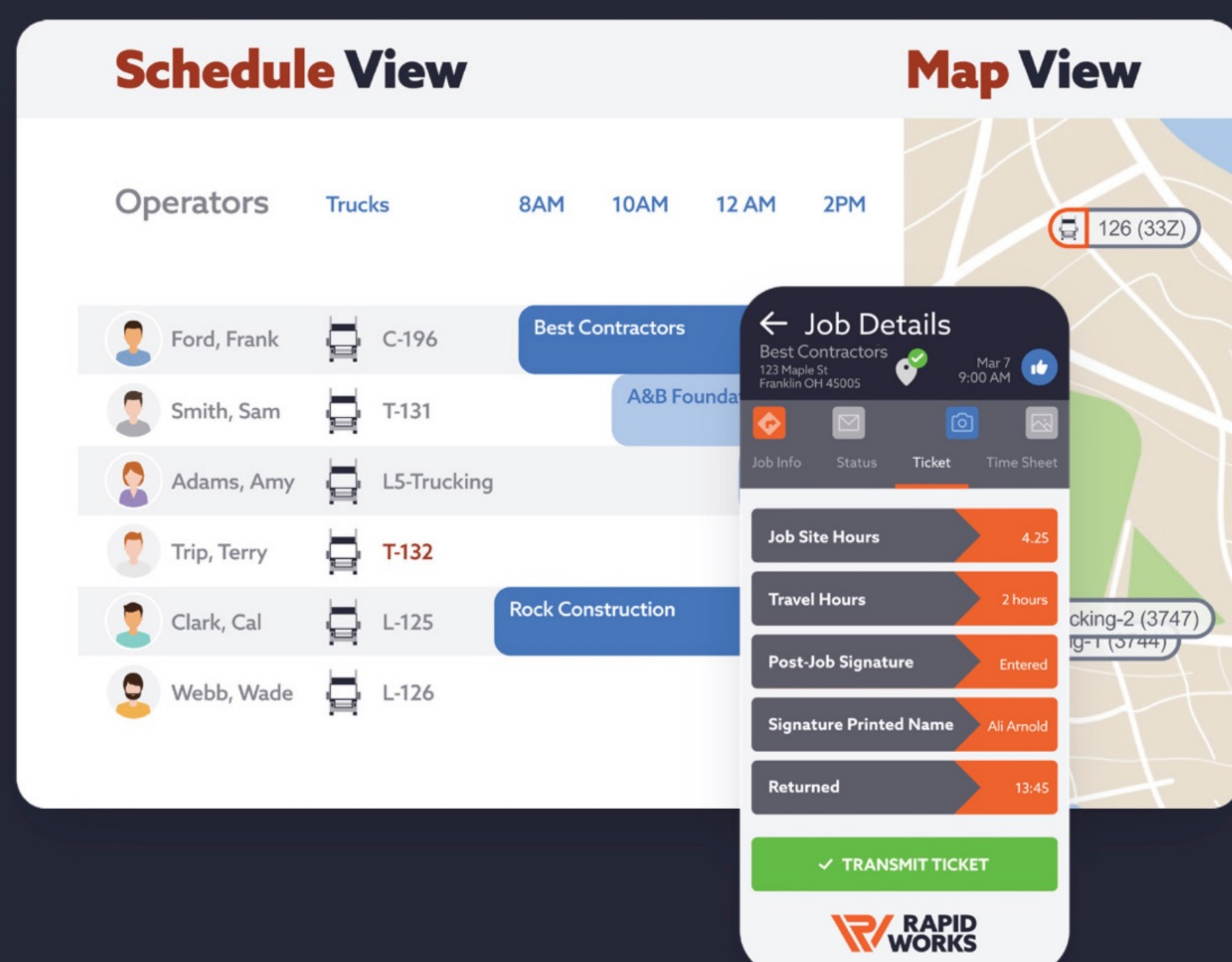




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**Hal Pieger**

VP, Hydro X USA

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## Kristy Black

Owner, Black Hydrovac

### About Kristy

Kristy built her business with a clear mission: Raise the standard for utility protection and create growth opportunities for people. Recognizing the growing need for hydro excavation, she saw the business opportunity to both meet a need in the market and allow her to build a people-focused company. Kristy is deeply invested in her team's growth, regularly championing safety initiatives and team-building efforts. Her leadership, care for her staff, and commitment to industry excellence make her a deserving 2025 Hydrovac Industry Leader.



### About Black Hydrovac

Black Hydrovac is a relationship-driven vacuum excavation company elevating utility protection across the Mid-Atlantic region. Primarily focused on mission-critical construction clients, Black Hydrovac built its reputation on understanding the needs of demanding projects that have zero tolerance for utility disruption. Black Hydrovac thrives by delivering safety, precision, and customer service excellence.

Black Hydrovac delivers non-destructive hydro and air excavation with precision; protecting critical underground infrastructure in high-risk environments. With a top quality fleet and skilled team, they are redefining industry standards and building long-term client trust through reliability and innovation.

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## Terry Romanow

President, Hydrodig

### About Terry

Terry Romanow is a founding leader in the hydro-excavation industry and co-founder of Hydrodig, established in Bentley, Alberta in 1998. Under his leadership, Hydrodig has grown into a premium provider with established operations across Western Canada and with service capabilities from Ontario to British Columbia. Terry led the company's U.S. expansion in 2009, establishing its Denver, Colorado headquarters and creating the largest Hydrodig fleet in North America. He continues to drive innovation, operational excellence, and long-term industry advancement.



### About Hydrodig

Hydrodig is one of North America's leading providers of hydrovac excavation services, using high-pressure water and powerful vacuum systems for safe, non-destructive exposure of underground infrastructure. The innovative compact 4×4 hydrovac units offer small-truck maneuverability with big-truck performance, ideal for challenging sites and year-round operations. Operating through a network of independent owner-operators, serving industries including construction, utilities, petroleum, and transportation from 32 field offices across Canada and Colorado. The USA Hydrodig hydrovac divisions compliment additional various in-house Cathodic Protection Services. Hydrodig is committed to excellence, safety, ethical practices, environmental respect, and customer success on every project.

<https://www.hydrodig.com>



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## Gary Jolley

President/Owner, Bighorn Vac

### About Gary

With 20 years of hands-on experience in the Hydrovac industry, Gary has mastered every aspect of the business, from daily operations to equipment maintenance. He adds value through practical insight, working late nights repairing trucks, and ensuring his crews are fully supported on every job site. These efforts have grown his company into the largest Hydrovac operation in eastern Montana. His dedication, leadership, and commitment to excellence inspired his son Nash, to nominate him for this Hydrovac Industry Leader award.



### About Bighorn Vac

Bighorn Vac is a premier hydro excavation company with nearly 20 years of experience, delivering safe, non-destructive digging services across the Bakken region from bases in Sidney, Montana, and Tioga, North Dakota. Using advanced Hydrovac trucks for pressurized water and high-volume suction, they perform potholing, slot trenching, line locating, frozen ground excavations, tank cleaning, culvert cleaning, piling holes, and spill cleanups up to 50 feet deep with minimal surface disruption. Committed to superior safety by reducing line strike risks and ensuring precise utility verification, Bighorn Vac provides exceptional customer service and top-quality results.

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## Steve D'Angelo

Vice President, Clearsite Industrial

### About Steve

Steve D'Angelo has been a pioneering force in the U.S. hydrovac industry since 2005, playing a key role in introducing the technology to U.S. markets. He has educated contractors and engineers, supported the development of safety protocols and helped advance safe, non-destructive excavation practices. As co-founder and Vice President of Clearsite Industrial, Steve has guided the company's growth to eight East Coast locations while shaping industry standards through consistent leadership and hands-on industry involvement.



### About Clearsite Industrial

Clearsite Industrial is a leading provider of safe, non-destructive hydrovac and vacuum excavation services, specializing in hydro and air excavation for precise digging with minimal disruption. Headquartered in Plainsboro, New Jersey, with service centers across the East Coast including Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Florida, we serve industries such as utilities, construction, transportation, rail, oil and gas, water and sewer. With roots in over 30 years of innovation and a strong commitment to safety, we deliver efficient, high-quality solutions through experienced operators and a modern fleet.

<https://clearsiteind.com>



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## Leslie & Cody Bahr

Leslie - President

Cody - Director of Operations

Bahr Hydroexcavation LLC

### About Leslie & Cody

Acquiring their first truck in 2019 this husband and wife team worked side by side to build their brand. Cody was the operator and Leslie, his swamper. The couple worked diligently and built the largest WBE hydroexcavation company in the Midwest. Cody and Leslie's fleet now consists of 15 Tornado Hydroexcavators, and over 50 employees. Their success is credited to the hard work, responsiveness, and level of integrity they instill in all of their employees.

Their company motto: "Raising the Bahr in Hydroexcavation".



### About Bahr Hydroexcavation LLC

Bahr Hydroexcavation LLC is a trusted provider of hydroexcavation and underground exploratory services throughout the Midwest, utilizing high-pressure water and powerful vacuum systems to safely expose utilities without causing damage. Specializing in non-destructive digging for pipes, cables, and infrastructure, the company also offers efficient flood water removal services with rapid response capabilities, coring, restoration, and GPS Services. Operating 24/7 with state-of-the-art equipment, Bahr Hydroexcavation LLC prioritizes safety, delivering precise, minimally invasive solutions that protect critical underground assets and ensure reliable results for clients.

<https://bahrhydro.com>



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## Mike Schmidt

In Service Trainer/Support  
Tornado Infrastructure Equipment

### About Mike

Mike began his hydrovac career as an Operator with Badger Daylighting, holding nearly every operational role, including five years as Operations Manager. In 2006, he launched his own hydrovac business, building on broad experience across operations, service, sales, and leadership.

For the past eight years, Mike has served as a Product Specialist with Tornado Infrastructure Equipment, supporting training, service, and after-sales support. Actively involved in safety, training, and industry advancement initiatives, he remains committed to the continued growth of the hydrovac community.



### About Tornado Infrastructure Equipment

Tornado Infrastructure Equipment is a leading manufacturer of advanced hydrovac trucks engineered specifically for safe, non-destructive excavation in infrastructure projects. Their lineup — including the compact F2 Urban, agile F3 City, high-capacity F4 Rural, and robust F5 Remote — optimizes maneuverability, payload, and performance across diverse job sites. With comprehensive parts and service support, plus ongoing U.S. expansion initiatives, the company is committed to equipping the hydrovac industry with reliable, cutting-edge equipment that enhances safety and productivity worldwide.

<https://www.tornadotrucks.com>



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## Joe Russom

General Manager, The Superior Hydrovac

### About Joe

Joe's work ethic is exceptional. As General Manager of Superior Hydrovac, he consistently exceeds expectations—answering late-night questions, working after hours and weekends to meet bid deadlines, and stepping into the field whenever needed. A proud U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Joe is deeply committed to giving back, leading the "Superior Cause" truck initiative to support nonprofit organizations serving veterans and civilians. His steady guidance, hands-on leadership, and unwavering support ensure challenges are met and his dedication never goes unnoticed.



### About The Superior Hydrovac

Superior Hydrovac is a full-service, turn-key hydro excavation company dedicated to providing world-class hydrovac services across a diverse range of industries, with comprehensive hydrovac excavation services throughout the Midwest and Southern States. With a highly trained workforce, a fleet of state-of-the-art hydrovac trucks, and the most advanced tools and technology in our field, we offer an unmatched level of expertise and capabilities. From project assessment and planning to execution and cleanup, Superior Hydrovac is specially equipped to handle every aspect of your excavation project. We are continually finding solutions to fit our customer's needs.

<https://www.thesuperiorhydrovac.com>



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## Travis Taylor

Founder/COO, Alpha Hydrovac

### About Travis

Travis has been a respected leader in the hydrovac industry for 12 years and is the co-founder of Alpha Hydrovac, established in 2025 alongside his wife, Amy. Known among his peers for his integrity, vision, and building strong teams through leadership, he emphasizes safety and actively supports both employees and customers. Travis serves on the Missouri Common Ground Alliance Executive Leadership Team, and founded the VacEx Rodeo in 2024 to highlight hydrovac capabilities and promote its increased use nationwide.



### About Alpha Hydrovac

Alpha Hydrovac was founded in January 2025 by a husband-and-wife team determined to build a hydrovac company that values people and performance above profit. After years in the industry, we saw a gap: companies overlooking customer appreciation, undervaluing employees, and lacking integrity. We set out to create a workplace worth bragging about, rooted in Christ-centered values and respect. Our mission extends beyond business: blessing our team, serving clients with excellence, and giving back to our community. Through active involvement with the Common Ground Alliance and safety advocacy, we aim to revolutionize industry standards for performance and accountability.

[www.alphahydrovac.com](http://www.alphahydrovac.com)



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## Allen Jones

President, NG Companies

### About Allen

Allen Jones leads operations for NG Companies, overseeing all service lines including hydrovac, line jetting, video pipe inspection, and CIPP sectional repairs. Allen exemplifies true teamwork and leadership, consistently willing to step in and perform any task necessary to ensure our clients' needs are met with the highest level of service and reliability. His years of experience and dedication to the Hydro Excavation industry reflect the leadership, integrity, and operational excellence that make him deserving of this leadership award.



### About NG Companies

NG Companies is a nationwide provider of subsurface utility solutions focused on damage prevention, offering non-destructive services including hydrovac excavation, utility locating, video pipe inspection, and hydro jetting. Leveraging advanced technologies like high-pressure water and 360° CCTV, they accurately detect, map, clear, and restore underground utilities with minimal risk. With operations in Texas, Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, Idaho, and Colorado, NG serves industrial, commercial, energy, healthcare, and public infrastructure sectors, emphasizing safety, innovation, and efficiency.

<https://ngcompanies.com>



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## Walter Sheese

Managing Partner  
Allwaste Industrial Services LLC

### About Walter

As owner of Allwaste Industrial Services, Walter guides a company known for precision hydro-excavation, focusing on safety and quality service. He exemplifies leadership through integrity, innovation, and hands-on expertise. His commitment to safety, training, and operational excellence has elevated standards within the Hydrovac industry. Walter leads by example, building strong teams, investing in technology, and setting a benchmark for professionalism and reliability across every project.



### About Allwaste Industrial Services LLC

Allwaste Industrial Services is a specialized provider of safe, non-destructive excavation and industrial cleaning solutions, with expertise in hydro-excavation, hydro-probing, air excavation, and jet rodding. Trusted by leaders in the petroleum and chemical industries, the company delivers precise services for projects in refineries, near underground utilities, and around drilling rigs, minimizing risks to infrastructure and personnel. With a strong emphasis on safety and tailored client solutions, Allwaste Industrial ensures reliable, efficient outcomes for complex industrial environments.

<https://www.allwasteindustrial.com>



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## Nick Azevedo

Integrator, Legacy Utility Group

### About Nick

Nicholas Azevedo as integrator, is the operational leader who translates the Visionary's big ideas into reality, acting as the "glue" that holds the leadership team together, drives accountability, manages day-to-day operations, and resolves issues to ensure the company executes its plan and achieves its goals. He advances the Hydrovac industry through streamlined processes, disciplined budgets, and controls that raise safety, efficiency, and performance. With 20+ years in underground utility work, he drives continuous improvement, develops teams, and delivers cost-disciplined, high-quality service that strengthens industry standards.



### About Legacy Utility Group

Legacy Utility Group is a dynamic, forward-thinking parent company dedicated to the growth, innovation, and expansion of premier utility service providers, including Nor-Cal Pipeline Services, Jaeger Vacuum Excavation (JVAC), Guardian Traffic Solutions, and Energy Construction Solutions. By combining expertise in safe excavation, pipeline services, and traffic solutions, the group delivers superior efficiency, reliability, and customer service in underground utility projects. With a strong emphasis on safety, precision, and technological advancement, Legacy Utility Group protects critical infrastructure while driving long-term industry progress and community safety.

<https://legacyutilitygroup.com>



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# **Congratulations to all Hydrovac Industry Leaders of 2025**

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