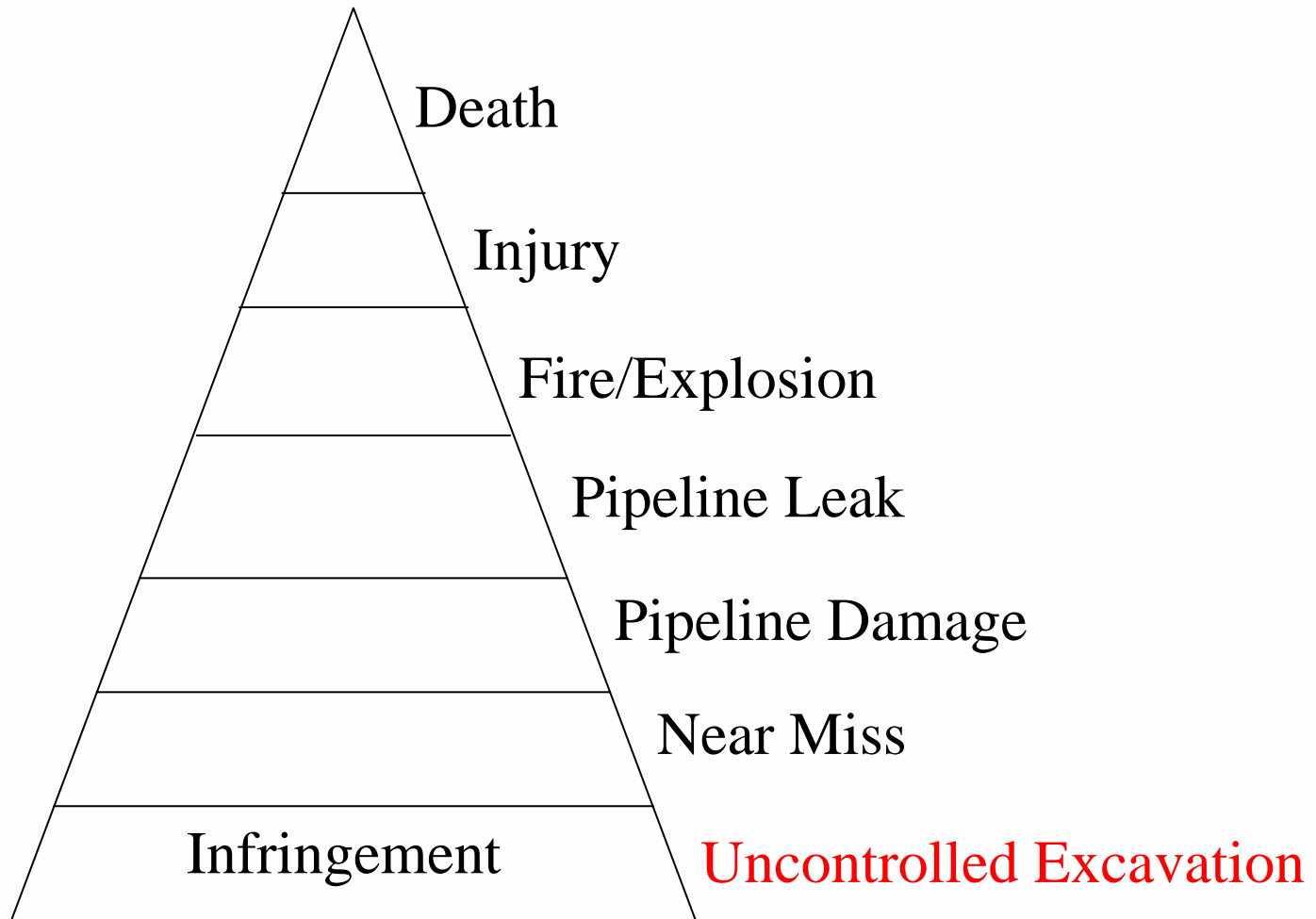


The UKOPA Infringement Database - An Introduction

Infringement – what is it?

- Un-notified and/or uncontrolled excavation close to a buried pipeline
- Such excavation may damage a pipeline leading to risk of, or actually resulting in failure
- UKOPA members monitor, record and investigate infringements
 - in support of their own safety management systems
 - in support of the UKOPA database

Targeting underlying causes



Infringements – what does happen



Infringements – what might happen



Infringements – what might happen



Infringement Database - Purpose

- In the past, UKOPA members have investigated their infringements individually
- The resulting improvement processes have lacked co-ordination and national coherence
- The UKOPA database will share infringement details and trends, allowing the Association to develop effective improvement plans
- Effectively a 'national register' of infringements and those who infringe

Infringement Database

- The record for each infringement includes:
 - Date
 - Location
 - Category
 - Third Party Type
 - Third Party Name
 - Activity Type
- And for more recent records:
- If activity was pre-notified to pipeline operator

Infringement Categorisation

- The UKOPA database categorises infringements on the basis of two factors
 - Actual damage or potential risk of damage to pipelines
 - Location of excavation in relation to pipelines

Infringement Categorisation

- Actual damage or potential risk of damage to pipeline

Infringement Category	Infringement Type	Infringement Description
A	Pipeline Damage or Leak	Includes damage to wrap or protective sleeve
B	Serious Potential for Damage	Methods or equipment used could have resulted in significant damage had excavation taken place at pipeline
C	Limited Potential for Damage	Methods or equipment would not have resulted in serious damage

Infringement Categorisation

- Location of excavation in relation to pipeline

Location Category	Location Description
1	Within the pipeline wayleave or easement. Typically, this is the zone within which the pipeline operator has legal rights, including a requirement by the landowner to notify planned work (although may be different for non-Pipelines Act lines laid by Statutory Undertakers).
2	Within the pipeline operators zone of interest, but outside the pipeline wayleave or easement. It is the area within which the operator would have reasonably expected a competent third party to have given notification in the prevailing circumstances.

Infringements – where are they occurring?

- Locations where infringements may take place provides important information
 - main areas of pipeline vulnerability
 - areas where marking is critical
 - areas where excavator vigilance is particularly important

Infringements – who is responsible?

- We are interested in which types of third parties are infringing
- Are there any patterns?
- What does it tell us about the weakness of the sub-contracting ‘chain’?
 - Who is responsible for checks and searches in each case?
 - What does it tell us about the ‘pipeline awareness’ of those actually doing the digging?

Infringements – Any serial offenders?

- We are interested in identifying and working with anyone who has, or has the potential to infringe
- Those third parties who have made multiple infringements are a particular concern
- What does this tell us about our shared awareness and controls – are the messages from first infringement getting lost?

Targeting underlying causes

