



Mike Vislay of EnviroSight, Randolph, N.J., is the manufacturer of a sewer camera, right, that looks like a little car. The camera is mounted at the front of the 14½-inch body that allows the camera to be maneuvered within sewer or water lines. Mountain Council of Governments and six area governmental entities shared in its cost and will share in its use in sewer lines. 103/06

M-COG, members see new sewer camera work

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Area municipalities will have an easier time finding out if there are cracks in their sewer pipes thanks to a new piece of equipment the Mountain Council of Governments (M-COG) championed the purchase of.

Local municipal officials saw a demonstration earlier this week of the new sewer camera M-COG and six governmental agencies jointly purchased.

Mike Vislay, of Envirosight, Randolph, N.J., the manufacturer of the camera, said when it is demonstrated at trade shows it is popular with young boys – because it looks like a little car.

The camera itself is mounted at the front of this little car that moves around in pipes thanks to four wheels that have tires made from rubber or other materials. Spacers are also provided for the wheels, to help alter the width of the vehicle, if necessary.

Vislay said that this vehicle is one of the advantages the camera unit provides.

“It is 14½ inches in total

length,” Vislay said of the vehicle. “It is fully steerable. It is lightweight, which makes it easy to use.”

The camera can be driven in, or lowered into a sewer line. Once it's inside, it can provide pictures of what sewer lines look like.

The City of Hazleton is one of the municipalities that invested in the camera.

The City Engineer's Office has put together a van to house the camera, as well as the computer equipment that goes along with it.

“The van houses the computer software for data base management,” Alan Wufsus of the City Engineer's Office said.

Wufsus said the camera will be used for a maintenance program for city sewer lines.

“Our goal is preventive maintenance,” Wufsus said. “We will use the camera to survey storm and sanitary line maintenance. We will determine what needs to be repaired in the near future.”

Another goal of the city's program is to identify and eliminate where sanitary sewers are connected to storm sewers.