

# 2005 Case Histories two thousand-five

## Construction Disaster Averted With APL & Nu Flow

As the First Methodist Church of Garden City, Mich., eagerly anticipated the new addition to its building, especially the elevator to allow unobstructed access to its Fellowship Hall for the members and friends unable to navigate the stairs, an issue developed with a 6-inch combined storm-sanitary line that had been unknowingly broken during the excavating of the elevator footings. The collapsed pipe was not identified until the construction company had completed the roughing in of the new addition, which was directly over the broken sanitary line. The break in the sanitary pipe subsequently shut down the use of the building's kitchen and basement bathrooms. The diagnostic work by American Pipe Lining — Great Lakes (APL-GL), based in Livonia, Mich., revealed that the broken pipe was collapsed approximately 17 feet from a cleanout access located in the basement men's bathroom. The extent of the collapse (length and/or number of breaks) could not be determined by CCTV. APL-GL offered an exploratory procedure to the contractor, not to



exceed a set price to determine whether the pipe could be repaired.

After excavating an access pit in the men's bathroom, APL-GL, using a low-pressure jetter, Vactron, CCTV and fabricated tools, was able to clear the collapsed clay pipe and infiltrated dirt. The removal of the collapsed pipe revealed a 30-inch void in the sanitary line. APL-GL determined the pipe could be repaired.

Nu Flow's CIPP (cured in place pipe) technology and tools allowed APL-GL to repair the break by using a 4-ft.-long stint of NuFlex CIPP to span the void. Using a push rod and CCTV, the stint was maneuvered into place where it was inflated and cured. After successfully repairing the break, the entire combined sanitary-storm pipe was then restored with a 66-ft. liner, renewing the pipe from the cleanout to the city sewer. The church now has its kitchen, bathrooms and storm sewer back online, and the construction company avoided any demolition of the completed new construction to repair the break. The total APL-GL working time was five days.

**Circle 349**