

Early Contractor Involvement: Rethinking and Recalibrating Delivery Methods for Subsurface Projects

January 2025

For more than half a century, the underground design and construction industry has been challenged to develop and successfully implement approaches to improve delivery and risk allocation, and minimization of disputes, on major subsurface projects. In the last two decades, intensified efforts to address those challenges have concentrated and resulted in increased utilization of delivery methods alternate to the long-dominant and pervasive traditional design-bid-build ("DBB") method. Design-Build ("DB") has emerged as the preferred delivery method for many project sponsors of major subsurface projects.