PROBLEM
Miami-Dade’s Department of Transportation and Public Works needed to restore capacity to a 110-foot section of 60-inch stormwater pipe which was experiencing reduced capacity due to a buildup of sand.

SOLUTION
To prepare for the cleaning, an inspection was performed using USST’s pipe profiling sonar unit on their combined Sonar/CCTV truck with PACP Certified operator to give the crew visibility to conditions inside 60-inch pipe. The inspection was performed through an access point in the right of way requiring a Maintenance of Traffic permit; one lane of traffic was closed in order to access the upstream manhole.

USST’s unique Combination® truck with extended boom, downhole pump, and jeter were utilized to travel the 110-foot length of pipe. The crew accessed the pipe from the outfall in the Miami River and cleaned towards the upstream manhole, removing sand while under surcharged conditions.

RESULTS
32-tons of sand were removed from the pipes, restoring approximately 30% of its capacity and without having to drain it down or resort to confined space entry. The Miami-Dade project was completely quickly, safely, and on schedule.