DOE SECTION MANAGING COMMITTEE

The Distribution Operations Engineering Section Managing Committee left a productive annual planning meeting in Fort Worth last July committed to evaluating the Activity Plans for four of their direct reporting Interest Groups (Distribution Engineering, Distribution Integrity Management, Distribution Regulatory Compliance and Distribution Construction Operations & Maintenance). Committee Activity Plans ensure that each Committee is focused on industry and job critical issues. Activities include development of roundtable topics and agendas, workshops, best practices and lessons learned sharing and joint industry projects. Many committees have already started, or will soon begin planning for the upcoming Environmental Technical, Offshore, Environmental - Safety & Health - Training, and Operating conferences. Make sure to check these web pages often to find agendas and additional conference information for these conferences and other events.

Distribution Engineering
Distribution Operations’ focus the past few years has primarily been on DIM. The SGA DIM Committee will continue to focus on plan implementation and compliance issues. The new focus for the Distribution Engineering Interest Group for 2013 will be:

"Innovative applications of technologies and resources to design solutions which enhance safe and efficient natural gas system operations; improve customer service; and expand the natural gas market."

This new focus should encourage distribution engineers to seek new ways to be more proactive in organizations and collaborative in the industry to provide innovative solutions to operating and system challenges. Industry collaboration and innovation to develop the design criteria for the cost effective installation and operation of "vertical mains" for high rise structures was used as an example of a successful application of technology by distribution engineers to expand market and meet customer service needs.

Please provide your thoughts and feedback to either Randy Randolph or Kent Hobart. Also, please let us know if you would like to volunteer an individual for the Distribution Engineering Interest Group Committee. It is an outstanding opportunity to participate in shaping the future direction of the DE Interest Group.

Committee Chair: Doug Staebler, Washington Gas
SGA contact: Randy Randolph
TOE SECTION MANAGING COMMITTEE

The Transmission Operations & Engineering Section Managing Committee met September 12th in Houston hearing from many of the committees that report to them and the Distribution Operations & Engineering Section Managing Committee. There is a lot of work underway with these committees to continue to promote the sharing of information among the member companies. Some of the discussion out of this meeting included the following:

- A “matrix” cross reference is under development to see where different Interest Groups and Committees may overlap in topical areas of discussion, but more importantly to find those areas where no one is covering topics important to the industry. Some early indications of areas that may need some attention are corrosion Control & mitigation, gas processing, compression, and records management.
- 2012 was the first year for Midstream Operations personnel to roundtable and discuss issues unique to them in the industry. The Midstream Committee continues to meet and discuss how to strengthen this space due to so much activity in this space currently.
- Cyber-Security continues to be an area where operators and service providers want to openly discuss issues, challenges and more importantly smart practices for ensuring assets are secure from cyber-attacks.
- A few committees are focused on learning and doing more in the space of construction inspection safety and work quality.
- There continues to be focus on the INGAA Pipeline Safety Improvement efforts implementation of these strategies issues will continue to be looked at between member companies, SGA and INGAA. Content will be developed for a 2013 web series similar to what has been performed in the Spring 2012 Integrity Management Continuous Improvement (IMCI) Web Conference Series.
- The industry will continue to focus on ways to efficiently spend time with emergency responders and ensuring they have the best information about pipelines and how the industry can partner with these emergency officials during a pipeline incident.

Many committees have already started, or will soon begin planning for the upcoming Environmental Technical, Offshore, Environmental - Safety & Health - Training, and Operating conferences. Make sure to check these web pages often to find agendas and additional conference information for these conferences and other events.

Committee Chair: Larry Hjalmarson, Williams
SGA contact: Gary Hines

NGV OPERATIONS INTEREST GROUP

The purpose of the NGV Operations Interest Group is to focus on natural gas fleet operations. Areas of focus include dedicated vs. duel fuel, outsourcing, and integration with traditional fleet, tank design, CNG operations/maintenance, service life, operating costs, and cylinder/tank inspectors. The Interest Group hosted two meetings this year (April-Dallas; September-Tulsa). Based on the strong participation and interest, the Group plans to host their next roundtable as part of the Operating Conference (July 23-25, 2013; Houston).

SGA contact: Randy Randolph.

MIDSTREAM INTEREST GROUP

The Midstream Interest Group Committee met at JW Energy's offices in October. This Interest Group will sponsor two roundtables in 2013:

- Midstream Operating Executives, April 3-5, 2013 in New Orleans, LA (part of Management Conference)
- Midstream Roundtable, July 23-25, 2013 in Houston, TX (preliminary topics: corrosion, processing).

Committee Chair: Peter Kowalczik, JW Energy / SGA Contact: Fraser Farmer
SPRING GAS CONFERENCE AND EXPO

This technical conference (Spring Gas Conference & Expo - March 11-13, 2013; Charlotte NC) features multiple workshops for distribution operating professionals. Preliminary topics include:

- Valve School and Advanced VS
- Basic Cathodic Protection and Advanced CP
- Recognize and React to Abnormal Operating Conditions
- Emergency Management
- Service Tech Basic and Advance
- AC Mitigation
- Incident Investigation
- Safety Roundtable
- Marketing Seminar
- Accounting Roundtable
- Leadership Development
- Leak Management
- Distribution Design
- Transmission Pipeline Design
- Measurement
- Practical Employee Relations

Registration open mid-December.
Conference Chair: Tucker Bullock, PSNC Energy / SGA Contact: Kent Hobart

DISTRIBUTION INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT INTEREST GROUP

The DIM Committee plans to host a workshop (March 12-13, 2013; part of the Spring Gas Conference & Expo; Charlotte) and a roundtable (July 22-24; part of the Operating Conference; Houston). Preliminary topics for the workshop include:

- Regulator's forecast of how DIM will evolve
- Public awareness & damage prevention
- GIS / data integrity (reliable, verifiable, traceability)
- New construction - “how integrity begins with you…”
- Leak management as a part of the DIM rule
- Materials management and cross pollination of contractors, materials issues and material evaluation programs
- Cross Bore programs, data housing and assessments
- Measuring program effectiveness

TAKE OUR SURVEY

Help shape the discussion for this workshop by helping us prioritize topics. Click here to take our DIM Survey.

The Committee is also developing a survey to gather feedback on the following:

- Mitigation plans
- Accelerated actions
- Risk models and risk ranking
- Measuring the effectiveness of your program
- Updating GIS data from exposed pipe, how is it being applied
- GPS standards, collection, use (on what items...ie: leaks, construction)
- Leak Management programs and/or data
- Sub-threat identification
Consequence complexity...what factors are you using for consequence factors?
Data modeling
As-built standards
How do you measure the cost of DIM? Dollar/mile?

Workshop Chairman: Jared O'Neil, Lexington Utilities / SGA contact: Kent Hobart

PRACTICAL EMPLOYEE RELATIONS
This workshop will be offered as part of the Spring Gas Conference & Expo (March 11-13; Charlotte NC). Competencies addressed in this workshop:

- Staffing
- Informing
- Monitoring
- Supporting Others
- Motivating and Inspiring
- Clarifying Roles and Objectives
- Managing Conflict
- Monitoring and Controlling Resources

SGA Contact: Veronica Garza

LNG 17
Click here to access the latest LNG 17 event, coming to Houston next April 16-19. In 2013, LNG 17 will be the largest gas-only event held in the US, and, it will be the largest gas industry event held in the US since 1988! The early bird deadline for registration is rapidly approaching - just two weeks away now! SGA is a member of the National LNG 17 Advisory Committee.

SGA contact: Mike Grubb

IN-LINE INSPECTION PROGRAM
Mark your calendars for the following workshops:

- ILI Introductory Workshop - May 7-9, 2013 - Tulsa, OK
- ILI Advanced Workshop - June 4-6, 2013 - Columbus, OH
- SGA Contact: Fraser Farmer

NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY FEATURED ON JIM KRAMER'S "MAD MONEY"
On October 18, Aubrey McClendon, CEO at Chesapeake Energy, was interviewed by Jim Kramer about the future of natural gas. Link to the program

CODES & STANDARDS INTEREST GROUP
This Interest Group hosts quarterly conference calls for the purpose of facilitating discussion around current codes and standards issues and challenges. The 2013 schedule is as follows:

- January 17 @ 1:30 CT
- April 18 @ 1:30 CT
GAS MEASUREMENT TRAINING COUNCIL

The GMTC is planning to host a workshop (or series of 2 two-day workshops), January 14-18, 2013 in Dallas.

Preliminary topics:

- Print reading - P&ID, electrical, schematics, ladder diagrams.
- Analog, digital, and pulse signals.
- Meter selection.
- RTDs, pressure transmitters
- Identify features of the Bristol and Fisher-ROC models of gas flow computers.
- List elements of accurate orifice measurement.
- Calculating flow using differential pressure.
- Describe the operation of turbine meters.
- Identify the components of turbine meter runs, and accessories.
- List elements of correct turbine meter maintenance.
- Summarize steps of turbine meter troubleshooting.
- Define terms used for ultrasonic flow meters.
- Detail how ultrasonic signals are used to measure flow.
- List features of common ultrasonic flow meters.
- Outline maintenance and inspection requirements for ultrasonic meters.
- Orifice meters in the differential pressure section.
- Sampling and chromatography
- Fluid properties

Monitor the Council's website for updates / SGA contact: Fraser Farmer

PREPARING FOR HURRICANE SANDY

SGA is coordinating with Northeast Gas Association and American Gas Association to offer mutual assistance to impacted utilities in the Northeast. NGA organized a call with the three associations on Sunday October 28th. Communications were distributed to key contacts with SGA member companies providing information on how to respond if there is a mutual assistance request on October 28th. More information will be distributed and/or mutual assistance calls will be organized as the storm develops.

You might also want to visit our October 29 Blog post: “Tips for Preparing for a Natural Disaster.”

SGA contact: Gary Hines

ADVANCED REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS

Webinar Series

A series of 7 webinars covering this increasingly popular area of focus was outlined in the September issue of this newsletter. Plans are moving forward to host that event in early 2013.

Accelerated/Advanced Replacement Program Workshop

Several SGA Committees are working on developing a one-half day workshop on this topic at the SGA Operating Conference (July 22-24, 2013; Houston).

SGA contact: Kent Hobart
EVENTS CALENDAR

**Utility Best Practices Webinar Series** - On-going

**Introduction to the Natural Gas Industry**
This course is offered several times a year. Most recent course was held October 23-25, 2012 in the Dallas/Ft Worth area, where the class toured the Atmos Energy's "mini gas city" and Chesapeake Midstream's facility in Ft. Worth.

**Transmission Pipeline Design Workshop** **SOLD OUT**
November 6-9, 2012 - Houston, TX (Williams' offices)

**DOT Compliance Workshop - Transmission & Midstream Pipelines**
November 14-16, 2012 - JW Energy's Offices in Addition, TX (suburb of Dallas)

**Technical Conference for Environmental Permitting & Construction**
February 4-6, 2013 - Houston, TX

**Supply Chain Management Conference**
February 20-22, 2013 - Marriott Sawgrass

**SGA Management Conference**
April 3-5, 2013 - New Orleans, LA

**SGA Operating Conference**
July 22-24, 2013 - Houston, TX

SGA NETWORK

NETWORK NEWS - OCTOBER ISSUE

Click here to access the October issue,

The Network Newsletter is full of ideas on ways to use the Network in your organization, as well as information about upcoming events.

GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL

The Gas Machinery Conference was once again a big success attracting over 1,200 attendees to Austin, October 1-3.

Click on the links below to learn more about this event:

- Interesting Facts about the Conference
- GMRC Chairman's Message - Craig Linn, Williams
- Thank you to our Sponsors
- GMC a Big Success!
- Jim Hutton Receives Edward N. Henderson Award
- Conference Photos
BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

The SGA Blog is a great way to keep up with everything going on at Southern Gas Association.

- Wrap up to the Customer Field Services Delivery Roundtable (August; Clearwater, FL)
- Flood Planning & Operations Best Practices Workshop (November 13-14; Rutherford, NJ)
- PHMSA Strategic Plan; 2012 to 2016

You can now follow our blog with our RSS newsfeed and have blog posts delivered directly to your email or browser RSS Feed. Simply [click here](#) to create a new RSS feed in your RSS reader!

If you are reading this Newsletter from a hard copy, you may view online from the [SGA website](#) (Communications-Newsletter Archive)

It is our hope that this Newsletter will serve to not only keep you up-to-date on the upcoming events, but will provide relevant information from past events that you might not have been able to participate in.

Sincerely,

Mike Grubb, President & CEO
Southern Gas Association