We recorded the "Embracing Technology" video series at CenterPoint Energy's offices in Houston.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

UPDATED CALENDAR

Click here to access an updated Learning & Development Program calendar.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

"Natural Gas Ambassador: Natural Gas Vehicle"

Target Audience: All Employees
Presenter: Chris Lallier, CenterPoint Energy
Live Webinar: Thursday, June 19 @ 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. CST
Click here to register.
NGV Ambassadors - spokespersons for the deployment of NGVs and positive promoters of NG transportation fuel adoption practices by SGA members

To be a respected ambassador requires a high level of knowledge with firsthand experience of the represented subject matter. Often times, our most enjoyable firsthand experiences happen person-to-person or in concert with a community. By definition, ambassadors are highly regarded as personal representatives of their company's mission and vision or objectives/strategies (i.e. NGVs and CNG stations)

Topics:
- NGV Update
- Safety
- Vehicle reliability & performance
- Fueling a vehicle
- Station availability & range anxiety
- Potential savings and utilization rates

"Embracing Technology: Managing Information Over-Load"
(Part 1 of a 3 part series)

Target Audience: All Employees
Presenter: Dr. Melanie Brown, IT Manager, CenterPoint Energy
Available: Starting July 1

Program Overview:
How can we embrace ALL the many technological advances in our world? In this 3 part video series, learn strategies for success including:
- Selecting Your Key Information Areas
- Clearing Information Clutter & Emails
- Create a System For Incoming Information

"Using Technology to Network"
(Part 2 of a 3 part series)

Target Audience: All Employees
Presenter: Ally Nevarez, Learning & Development Specialist, CenterPoint Energy
Available: Starting August 1

Program Overview:
Even if you are not a born networker, networking is an important skill that can easily be learned and refined throughout your career. Developing and maintaining a strong network of connections will not only serve you well and help you along your career path, but over time will allow you to assist others along their path. In this video you will learn:
- What Networking is and is not
- Why Networking is so important
- Who should be in your network
- Strategies for developing and maintaining a network
- Networking online

"Using Social Media to Create Your Personal Brand"
(Part 3 of the series)

Available: Starting August 15

Special thanks to CenterPoint Energy, SGA Network's production partner, on this video series.

Related Videos You May Want to Check Out on the SGA Network Library:

- Business Etiquette: Technology
- Technology Etiquette - Making Technology Work for You

"How to be Successful in a Behavior Interview"

Target Audience: All Employees

Presenter: Roger Hulse, HR Consultant, Senior-Training, ONE Gas

Available: Starting July 10
Program Overview:

Interviewing successfully is probably the most crucial element in advancing or securing a new career. You must demonstrate in a job interview your values, traits, skills and experiences that make you the perfect match for the opportunity.

Whether you are interviewing for a new company or for an internal position with your current employer, you should plan to answer both traditional and behavior interview questions.

In this video program, learn tips and techniques on how to be successful in a behavior interview. Topics include:

- Interview preparation tips
- What is a behavior interview?
- Three mock interview scenarios showcasing the good, the bad and the ugly!

Special thanks to Memphis Light Gas & Water and ONE Gas, SGA Network's production partners, on this video series.

"How to Plan and Facilitate an Effective Meeting"

This webinar was conducted in early 2013 and included a lively discussion with participants; plenty of good ideas shared. We encourage you to access this recorded session in the library to learn best practices in planning and facilitating an effective meeting. [Click here].

Then join us live on July 15 (9:30 to 10 CT) for a webinar focused on meeting facilitation. More details in next month's Network News.

MARKETING & CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

"UTILITY BEST PRACTICES WEBINAR SERIES"

Co-sponsored with APGA

The Residential Sales & Marketing Committee hosts regularly scheduled best practices webinars. The program features entries from the SGA Marketing Excellence Awards along with other topics of interest in the marketing and sales arena, customized for the natural gas industry. These one-hour sessions include Q & A and are archived for later viewing. Members also benefit by receiving one credit of Professional Development Hours (PDH). In 2012, SGA partnered with APGA on the program and the webinars are now offered to APGA membership.

There is no charge for participating in this series.

Upcoming Webinars in this Series:

- June 13 - Fort Meade Natural Gas Acquisition - Aleida Socarras, Florida Public Utilities - [Registration]
- July 17 - Energy Efficiency Portfolios - Meike Hengelfelt, CenterPoint Energy - [Registration]
- August 21 - The One in Energy New Home Program - Steve Dudley, Oklahoma Natural Gas - [Registration]
OPERATIONS AND ENGINEERING PROGRAM

ON THE DRAWING BOARD:

- Pipeline Movement - Webinar
- Repurposing Pipelines - Webinar
- Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure and Integrity Verification - Webinar

Help shape what these webinars will include by contacting Fraser Farmer.

GENERAL INFORMATION

2015 NETWORK PLANNING MEETING
YOU'RE INVITED! - September 4-5 marks the date of the annual SGA Learning & Development Committee Meeting. This year, CenterPoint Energy is hosting the meeting at their Houston office.

The purpose of the committee is to provide SGA member companies with multiple, resource-efficient, opportunities for learning and development initiatives through a variety of delivery channels. The committee is also available as partners and a resource to other SGA Committees (including various technical training committees) to respond to member companies learning and development needs.

This is an exciting meeting that brings industry professionals together to share and learn from each other! Participants are presented with the opportunity to develop programs that will help push the industry forward and enhance employee skills and knowledge.

The following is an outline of the meeting:

- Learn about other companies' programs, successes and challenges
- Review the current year's activities and programs
- Outline the activity plan for 2015
- Kick off planning for the 2015 SGA Network programming (virtual or distance learning)
- Networking & Dinner

Currently, 18 companies are represented on the Learning & Development Committee and most attend the meeting whether it's in person or virtually. If you would like to participate in the annual meeting please contact Veronica Garza.

Click here to learn more about the Learning & Development Committee - contact Veronica Garza to join.

Attend and help shape the programs for 2015!

UPDATED NETWORK USER GUIDE - NOW AVAILABLE!
Click here to access a copy of the updated Network User Guide. This Guide is designed to help you unlock the power and take full advantage of what the SGA Network has to offer. Make this available to all users in your company!

A WORD ABOUT PROGRAM SCHEDULING
There are times we need to shift the "first available" date for programs back. The Network always strives to bring you a quality product and sometimes editing, speakers and other changes cause delays. We are also partnering with some of our members to produce some great content - your peers discussing best practices and lessons learned, and sometimes delays are caused by things out of our control.
We post “first available” dates in the Network News to help our members plan for viewing previously recorded events. Those events remain archived on our website and are available 24/7 anytime starting with when we load them.

SGA CAMPUS UPDATE

COMING SOON!

Transforming Learning from Passive to Active

If you are reading this Newsletter from a hard copy, you may view online from the SGAwebsite. (Communications - Newsletter)

Like SGA on Facebook  Follow SGA on Twitter