UPDATES AND INFORMATION

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
April 2-4, 2014; Orlando FL

One of the industry's leading conferences, the SGA Management Conference is attended by executives from a wide range of functions. General sessions on the hot topics of the day, plus joint sessions on issues of common interest, and focused roundtable sessions make this a valuable opportunity for education, sharing of best practices, and networking with your peers in the industry.

This Conference Features 11 Roundtables Including:

- Distribution Operations
- Engineering Management
- Midstream Operations
- Transmission Operations
SHAPING THE DISCUSSION - 2014
The leadership of SGA’s various Section Managing Committees have identified key topics for discussion in 2014. These topics provide a roadmap for SGA for the upcoming year. Access their working notes here.

Distribution Operations & Engineering
- Customer growth, retention and sustainability
- Working together to ensure we are working seamlessly to grow our business, and customer numbers and loyalty.
- How can operations and engineering become enablers of growing and retaining customers?
- Contractor selection and management
- Emergency response planning

Transmission and Midstream Operations & Engineering
- Safety culture innovations in the gas industry
- Cyber Security - engaging with IT

Engineering Management
- Traceable, verifiable, & complete pipeline records, integrity verification process (IVP)
- Horizontal Directional Drills (HDD) (best practices, design content, effectively managing frac'ed bore fluids)

NATIONAL MUTUAL ASSISTANCE MOCK DRILL
January 21-24, 2014
Make plans to participate in a Mutual assistance mock drill SGA, AGA, MEA (Midwest Energy Association) and NGA (Northeast Gas Association) are partnering to deliver in late January. The drill will consist of a series of communications and conference calls designed to mirror the impacts and responses created by a natural disaster. Goals for the drill are to:
- Test effectiveness of existing aid agreements in place throughout the industry, both at the regional level and the national level;
- Test companies in their ability to respond quickly with commitments to provide resources to companies needing aid;
- Give member companies a chance to simulate steps they would take internally to activate an internal emergency mutual aid process;
- Identify actions needed to enhance industry forms or other resources used to convey what is needed by companies in emergency situations; and
- Identify circumstances which might warrant AGA having to reach out to governmental agencies for support (FEMA, DHS, etc.)

For more information contact Kent Hobart

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING & CONSTRUCTION
February 17 - 19, 2014; Hyatt Regency - Austin, TX
The SGA Technical Conference on Environmental Permitting & Construction is designed to provide professionals in the pipeline design and construction industry a better understanding of the requirements associated with permitting complex projects and ensuring they are constructed per the federal, state, and local regulatory requirements.
NEW WORKSHOP - NEGOTIATING & PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

In conjunction with the Technical Conference on Environmental Permitting & Construction

February 19, 2014; Austin, TX

In mastering regulatory processes, environmental professionals working in the energy industry need to work cooperatively with stakeholders, engage in complex multi-party negotiations, respond to the public, manage project teams, work effectively inside their organizations, and build and repair relationships. This half-day training will develop more effective strategic communication, negotiation, and critical thinking skills. Learn more about this workshop by visiting the web page.

SPRING GAS CONFERENCE AND EXPO

March 17-19, 2014 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center; Columbia, SC

Registration will open soon for the 2014 conference co-sponsored for the first time with APGA and the Carolina Public Gas Association. The conference features multiple classroom and hands on sessions designed for field, engineering and supervisory level professionals. Sessions scheduled for this year include:

- Intro to DOT 192
- Pipeline Inspection
- Basic and Advanced Service Tech
- Measurement and Controls
- Welding Inspection
- Regulating Devices (OQ)
- Leak Investigation (OQ)
- Excavation Safety
- Safe Driving
- Valve Maintenance
- Valve Applications
- Cathodic Protection
- Leak Classification
- Large Volume Metering
- Environmental Workshop
- HDD
- Mapping & GIS
- Distribution System Design
- Introduction to the Natural Gas Industry

For more information contact Kent Hobart

EVERYTHING DIM WORKSHOP

March 18-19, 2014 Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center; Columbia, SC

Registration will open soon for this 1 and ½ day workshop featuring subject matter expert presentations and the opportunity for open roundtable between workshop attendees. Topics on the agenda include:

- Panel Discussion with PHMSA and State Regulators
- Risk Formulas and Modeling
- Data Collection
- Material Traceability

For more information contact Kent Hobart
OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING SPRING WEB CONFERENCE SERIES
This series of web conferences is intended to promote discussion, learning and knowledge about issues and potential improvements to integrity management of the nation's natural gas pipeline infrastructure.

- Regulatory Update (March 31)
- Construction Quality (April 7)
- Management Systems (April 14)
- Technology Development (April 21)

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DURING PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION-NEW
This workshop takes the learner through the pipeline construction and inspection process—from a general overview of the environmental inspection program to re-vegetation activities after construction is complete. Attendees will gain an overall understanding of elements of a pipeline construction project and how the job of an environmental inspector fits within the overall inspection team.

Due to member interest, this workshop is being offered several dates and locations in 2014. See event calendar below for details.

EVENT CALENDAR

TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP
January 14-17, 2014; CenterPoint Energy - Houston, TX

CONTROL ROOM MANAGEMENT FATIGUE WORKSHOP
January 21-22, 2014; CenterPoint Energy - Houston, TX

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING & CONSTRUCTION
February 17-19, 2014; Hyatt Regency - Austin, TX

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
February 19-21, 2014; Hyatt Lost Pines - Bastrop (Austin), TX

SPRING GAS CONFERENCE AND EXPO
March 17-19, 2014; Marriot Columbia - Columbia, SC

TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP
March 17-20, 2014; Columbia Convention Center - Columbia, SC

EVERYTHING DISTRIBUTION INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
March 17-19, 2014; Marriot Columbia - Columbia, SC

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DURING PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION
March 19-21, 2014; Embassy Suites - New Orleans, LA
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DURING PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION
March 24-26, 2014; Holiday Inn - Kansas City, MO

OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING SPRING WEB CONFERENCE SERIES
March 31 to April 21, 2014; Virtual

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
April 2-4, 2014; Disney's Yacht and Beach Club - Lake Buena Vista (Orlando), FL

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
May 14 - 16, 2014; Intercontinental Hotel New Orleans - New Orleans, LA

Many of our workshops are available to bring to your location. Some of our workshops are scheduled based on demand. Check out our full list of onsite workshops to indicate your interests. Or contact Member Services

SGA DISTANCE LEARNING NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT AND A LOOK AHEAD
Click Here to access this report to members.

GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL

Click Here for a GMRC update.

BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

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

- Amanda Morgan Joins the SGA Team
- Greg Rizzo takes the Gavel as SGA Chairman of the Board
- SGA Year End Report to Members
- Texas Pipeline Awareness Alliance Annual Meeting
- Congratulations to Veronica Garza on her promotion to Director

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