Operations and Engineering Newsletter - June 2013

UPDATES AND INFORMATION

SGA OPERATING CONFERENCE

This Conference features breakouts and 16 roundtables (click here to see roundtable highlights). Customize your Conference experience with Eventmobi.com (available in the next few weeks). Over 100 product and service providers are already registered to exhibit. Contact: Gary Hines

BEST PRACTICE ROUNDTABLE: DAMAGE PREVENTION

- July 24 (afternoon) and 25 (morning)
- Houston TX (following the Operating Conference)
- Chairs: Marc Worth, PSNC Energy and Doug Moreland, Florida Public Utilities Co.
- Thought leaders include: Jim Marean, GTI - Cross Bore Avoidance Best Practices
- The agenda for this meeting is still under development. Topics under consideration:
  - Regulatory expectations for public awareness
  - Call before you dig and Common Ground Alliance - best practices
- Registration for this roundtable will be open soon.
- SGA contact: Kent Hobart
CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE
The Distribution Construction O & M Committee hosted this event May 29th. The participation was limited to 10 companies to provide for maximum participation. Interest in this roundtable was so strong a second session has been scheduled for June 13. Visit the event web page to review the roundtable topics and register for the June 13th session. Click here to learn more about SGA Virtual Roundtables. Contact: Kent Hobart

ACCELERATED REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
This 6 session web conference series concludes June 6 with a focus on DIMP and lessons learned. This final session will examine how accelerated replacement programs can be a valuable part of your Distribution Integrity Management Plan and what successful operators are doing to leverage their programs for maximum benefit.

Sessions are recorded and can be accessed in the Network library. Contact: Kent Hobart

TRANSMISSION OPERATIONS & ENGINEERING SECTION
To learn more about this Section, click here to access a copy of the Power Point slide deck presented to the Executive Council earlier this year.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS
This award recognizes companies who have made significant impacts in protecting the environment by supporting environmental programs on the job or in the community. This award program also provides a forum for sharing of innovative environmental practices. Through utilization of innovative environmental practices, SGA member companies reduce waste, save money, and contribute to the industry's environmental protection efforts, as well as benefit the health and welfare of the nation. 2013 Award Recipients:

- Partnership Award: Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.
- Stewardship Award: R.C. Goodwin & Associates
- Technology/Conservation Award: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Division 9

PHMSA - PUBLIC AWARENESS WORKSHOP
PHMSA Pipeline Safety Public Awareness Workshop - Jun 19-20, 2013 - Hyatt Regency N. Dallas, 701 East Campbell Road, Richardson, Texas 75801

The Texas Pipeline Awareness Alliance Managing Committee plans to meet June 18, 2013 just prior to this PHMSA workshop. TPAA is a multi-media solution to the public awareness compliance requirement. Those interested in the TPAA program are welcome to attend. Contact Randy Randolph.

SGA MUTUAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
American Gas Association, Northeast Gas Association, Midwest Energy Association, and SGA continue to coordinate Mutual Assistance agreements for the purpose of facilitating reciprocity.

To view a copy of the SGA Procedures and Guidelines, click here.

Monitor the SGA Mutual Assistance Workshop web page for updates to scheduling the 2014 meeting. Contact Gary Hines

WELCOME TO CONNECT@SGA
SGA is pleased to introduce Connect@SGA. This is a social media tool for our members to use to connect with each other and allow SGA to serve its membership in new and exciting ways. Our goal is to extend the collaborative aspects of SGA by extending the social interaction and networking that happens at our conferences, workshops and roundtables beyond the events themselves. Click here to learn more.
SOCIAL MEDIA AT SGA

- Like us on Facebook where we include announcements about upcoming events and summaries (and often pictures) of past events.
- Follow us on Twitter where we share information about our industry.
- Watch us on YouTube where you can find brief videos from industry events.
- See the SGA staff on LinkedIn.

METHANE GAS DISCOVERY SURVEY - RESULTS

- 18 companies participated.
- Survey questions were outlined in the May Operations & Engineering Newsletter.
- Best practices shared:
  - If an immediate hazard exists, gas service is discontinued until issue is resolved. We monitor 24/7 (if hazard exists) until lab results are received and outside party takes over responsibility. We treat each situation as a gas leak until proven otherwise.
  - When we find it is not natural gas, we stay on the scene until we determine what it is. If it is something other than natural gas, we turn it over to the fire department, EPA, county sewer service. We offer mutual assistance to any local agency to try and assist in determining how to best correct the situation. Depending on the situation, we may return several days in a row to assist.

Companies submitting data will receive the full summary report. Contact: Kent Hobart.

TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP

We have 2 workshops scheduled (see "Event Calendar" below). Register early as this workshop often fills up (maximum class size = 20).

An Advanced Transmission Pipeline Design workshop is under development and may be offered late this year or early 2014.
Contact: Gary Hines.

EVENT CALENDAR

ACCELERATED REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS - WEB SERIES
March 28th - June 6th, 2013

ADVANCED IN-LINE INSPECTION WORKSHOP
June 4-6, 2013; Dublin, OH

ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY & HEALTH, AND TRAINING CONFERENCE
June 4-6, 2013; St. Louis, MO

OFFSHORE GAS OPERATIONS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITS
June 12-14, 2013; Lake Charles, LA

CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE
June 13, 2013 - Online

OPERATING CONFERENCE
July 22-24, 2013; Houston, TX
**TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP**  
August 26-29; Plano, TX

**TRAINING WEEK II**  
September 17-19, 2013; CenterPoint Tower - Houston, TX

**DOT COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP - TRANSMISSION & MIDSTREAM PIPELINES**  
September 25-27, 2013; Williams Tower - Houston, TX (Galleria Area)

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 NETWORK**

**WHAT IS THE SGA NETWORK**

We get that a lot so we recently added quick read information about the Network to the [SGA homepage](#):

- Welcome message from Natalie, the Network Managing Director
- Member options
  - There are two options - Members and Member+Plus
  - This document shows what is included in each subscription category
- The 2013 calendar of virtual events scheduled
- Network News - the monthly “themed” newsletter for the Network
- Navigating the Network website - a quick start guide
- There are over 300 videos in the Network library. The list of Topics helps the user navigate to the topic or competency they are looking for.
- Supervisor Mapping Tools
  - Maps these topics to specific areas of responsibility for supervisors.
  - If you have people reporting to you - you are a supervisor.
- A catalogue of the many industry specific topics covered in a virtual event by the Network
- Year End Report to members

**NETWORK NEWS - JUNE ISSUE**

Visit our [Communications Center](#) to access the June issue, full of ideas on ways to use the Network in your organization, as well as information about upcoming events. Featured articles:

1. June Broadcast Information
2. Recommended Reading
3. SGA Network and Mapping Updates
4. Member Benefit Information

**GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL**

**COMBUSTION CHARACTERISTICS**  
June 18-21, 2013 - Williams Tower - Houston TX

**FACTORS IN COMPRESSOR STATION DESIGN WORKSHOP**  
June 19 - 21, 2013 - Williams Tower - Houston TX
NEW FOUNDATION DESIGN AND ANALYSIS & EXISTING FOUNDATION REPAIR, UPGRAADING AND REGROUTING
June 20-21, 2013 - Williams Tower -- Houston TX

BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

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

- 2013 SGA Construction Inspection Virtual Roundtable
- SGA Marketplace
- SGA Understands the Value of Hands-On Training
- Thanks Atmos!
- SGA DOT Compliance Program Subscription

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

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