IN THIS ISSUE

Updates and Information

Event Calendar
SGA Network
Gas Machinery Research Council
SGA Blog

Quick Links

Newsletter Archive
More On Us
Contact Us
My SGA

UPDATED AND INFORMATION

GAS MACHINERY CONFERENCE
The Gas Machinery Conference is scheduled for October 6-9 in Albuquerque. This unique event will attract over 1,000 attendees and feature technical papers, short courses, and technology updates from industry thought leaders. Click here to see who has registered to exhibit.

TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP

- This workshop continues to sell out and SGA continues to offer a minimum of 3 public offerings each year (Charlotte, Dallas, Houston).
- This workshop is available to be delivered at your location. You can choose to fill the class with your own employees (up to 20), or allow SGA to advertise the workshop to fill with other SGA member companies (to help offset the cost).
- The Advanced Pipeline Design Workshop is currently being developed. This advanced version will include topics like: HDD Planning and stress calculations; Pipeline Stress calculations; Pipeline Supports and Anchors; Tie-in Planning (use of stopples & hot taps). More in future newsletters.
- Contact: Gary Hines
SAFETY AND HEALTH INTEREST GROUP UPDATE - ZIP GAUGE

OSHA regulations require employers to provide a workplace free from recognized hazards. The ZipGauge is designed to measure the OSHA maximum allowable excavation slope angle in trenching operations. SGA members were first exposed to the prototype at an SGA roundtable over 5 years ago. SGA is working with ZipGauge on a special member price schedule for the new Zip Gauge. More soon. Contact: Kent Hobart.

GAS MEASUREMENT TRAINING COUNCIL

Update from the July GMTC Board Meeting:

- Materials Available
  - Catalog of web-based, instructor led, and skill builder modules
    - This new document provides course summaries and objectives.
    - Available to members only and companies interested in evaluating membership
  - "Five Reasons to Join GMTC"
  - Website
    - We are in the process of updating the GMTC website
  - Read about GMTC in the recent AGA magazine
- Upcoming meetings (opportunities to learn innovative ways to implement the GMTC materials)
  - User Group Webinar
    - October 10, 2013; 1:30 to 2:30 CDT
    - Purpose: to share progress of implementation of the training with member companies and to learn smart practices
    - Companies interested in joining GMTC are welcome to listen in on this webinar
  - Annual meeting
    - January 2014 (exact date TBD)
- Chairman's Commentary: Coming out of our Board meeting I feel good about the organization. We are growing by attracting peer companies interested in participating in a robust measurement training program. We are strong financially matching revenues with expenses and having a healthy reserve. Our Curriculum & Implementation Committee is engaged and working to keep the content updated. We continue to support our two community college partners, Barton Community College and Salt Lake Community College, with both colleges graduating skilled technicians that are available to work in the natural gas industry. Letton Hall is involved in many aspects of our business including curriculum review and working with our community college partners. Please contact on me if I can answer questions. John Hand, Spectra Energy.
LNG OPERATIONS INTEREST GROUP - REGULATORY COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP

Sponsors
- Northeast Gas Association
- Southern Gas Association

How to Participate
There is no fee for this webinar but you must REGISTER HERE to participate.

Presenter
This webinar is scheduled for one hour. Our guest speaker is Charlie Helm, a specialist in the areas of Control Room Management and LNG for Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Mr. Helm works in training and qualifications for PHMSA and was an inspector for a number of years.

Mr. Helm will offer a regulatory update, and will focus on questions asked in advance and during the webinar (text chat).

Please submit questions by August 20th to Nadine Fred

Sample of Questions Already Submitted

Atmospheric Corrosion Inspections

- What are the expectations on removing insulation to inspect piping for atmospheric corrosion?
- Can this be done on a spot basis rather than complete insulation systems?
- Can these inspections be done when insulation is removed for other maintenance activities?

LNG OPERATIONS INTEREST GROUP - COMPENSATION SURVEY - NEW

SGA is soliciting for interest in a compensation survey for the 3 levels of specialist/operator outlined in this document. This survey would be company confidential. Only the compensation ranges would be included, not the responding company.

Please let us know by August 23 if you are interested. Respond to Nadine Fred

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS AWARD PROGRAM - SAFETY AWARENESS

2013 was the first year for the Integrated Communications Award which focuses on SGA member company communication programs that improve corporate effectiveness and awareness. The ICAP recognizes innovative and effective external and internal communications programs. Click here to read about the 2013 award winners.

OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP - NEW WORKSHOP

- Situation Analysis
  - How to organize work
  - How to set priority
- Problem Analysis
  - How to identify a problem
  - How to describe a problem
  - How to diagnose a problem for root cause
- Decision Making
  - How to set and classify objectives
  - How to evaluate alternatives
  - How to do risk analysis
- Building and Protecting Plans
  - How to build a plan
  - How to protect a plan
  - How to refine a plan

Please let Member Services know if your company would be interested in this workshop. This workshop would be a partnership with Erickson and Company.
HOW TO CONDUCT SKILL PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS WORKSHOP

After completing the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Prepare for and perform an evaluation
- Observe the performance of technical tasks consistently and objectively
- Appropriately use questions to aid in evaluation of competence
- Recognize and avoid barriers to effective observation and evaluation
- Evaluate acceptable task competence
- Document an evaluation

This workshop can be brought to your location. Contact Gary Hines for details.

GIS PROFESSIONALS

Through the recent efforts of increasing records management needs for our members, the SGA is looking to see what companies are interested in creating a collaborative network of records management professionals specifically in the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) efforts for their companies. Please contact Gary Hines if interested in learning more about upcoming opportunities in this space for future collaboration efforts.

OPERATING CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

We feel good about the recent Operating Conference (July 22-24; Houston). SGA would like to thank our 50+ volunteers who helped develop and facilitate the 8 breakout and 16 roundtable sessions. Additionally we’d like to thank the Conference sponsors and all the product and service providers who exhibited:

- Gas Breaker / UMAC
- Itron
- Miller Pipeline
- Troy Construction
- Enertech
- Cameron
- PolyPipe by Duraline
- Paradigm
- Laney Directional Drilling Co.
- Norton McMurray Manufacturing

The following volunteers received their Service Awards at this Conference:

- John Hatton, Access Midstream, Midstream Operations Committee
- Ken Griffin, PSNC Energy, Distribution Construction O&M Committee
- Randy (Norman) Keys, Anadarko Petroleum, Right-of-Way Committee
- Shawn Miller, Dominion, Transmission Integrity Management Committee
- Stacy Holub, CenterPoint Energy, Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Committee
- Terry Grimley, Southwest Research Institute, Transmission Measurement Committee
- Beth Minear, Columbia Gas Transmission, Legal Committee
- William Gardner, Mobile Gas, Distribution Regulatory Compliance Committee
- Bradley Ballard, ONEOK, NGV Operations Committee
- Dan Lattin, The Williams Companies, Project Management Committee
- Chris Bradbury, Kinder Morgan, Pipeline Construction O & M Committee
- Ed Ostrovich, Atmos Energy, Distribution Engineering Committee
- Elliott Decker, Freeport LNG Development, LNG Operations Committee
- Zach Evans, Columbia Gas Transmission, Underground Storage Committee
- Thomas Baker, CenterPoint Energy, Gas Control Committee

Mark your calendars for next year's event: July 28-30, 2014; New Orleans (Hyatt)
INFO SHARE SURVEY: LEGACY CROSS BORE INSPECTION PROGRAMS

Questions:
- Does your company have a formal inspection program to find legacy crossbores on your distribution system?
- Do you have plans to start a program in the next 2-3 years?
- How many years will it take to complete your inspection program?
- Have you asked your commission for rate relief to recover the costs of your crossbore inspection program?
- Were you successful in gaining relief?
- What is your estimated cost per mile of sewer main for the inspections? If you have separate estimates for mains and laterals, please differentiate.
- Are you currently or do you plan to inspect storm sewers as part of your cross bore program?

Take the Survey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/crossboresinfoshare](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/crossboresinfoshare)
Respondents will receive the survey results. Contact: Kent Hobart

INFO SHARE SURVEY: FIELD OPERATIONS

This survey was promoted in the July Newsletter with 43 companies responding. Companies submitting data received the survey results. Contact: Kent Hobart.

SOCIAL MEDIA AT SGA

- Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) where we include announcements about upcoming events and summaries (and often pictures) of past events.
- Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com) where we share information about our industry
- Watch us on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) where you can find brief videos from industry events
- See the SGA staff on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com)

EVENT CALENDAR

TRANSMISSION PIPELINE DESIGN WORKSHOP - sold out
August 26-29, 2013 - Plano (Dallas), TX
Note: we are working to schedule this workshop in the first quarter of 2014 in Houston.

FALL TRAINING WEEK
September 17-19, 2013; CenterPoint Tower - Houston, TX
Courses
- [How Natural Gas Is Bought and Sold](#)
- [Introduction to Regulated Nat.Gas Accounting](#)
- [Introduction to the Natural Gas Industry](#)
- [Project Planning & Management Workshop](#)
- [The Ratemaking Process](#)
DOT COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP - TRANSMISSION & MIDSTREAM PIPELINES
September 25-27, 2013; Williams Tower - Houston, TX (Galleria Area)

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING & CONSTRUCTION
February 17-19, 2013; Hyatt Regency - Austin, TX

MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
April 2-4, 2013; Disney's Yacht and Beach Club - Lake Buena Vista (Orlando), FL

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

NETWORK NEWS - AUGUST ISSUE
Visit our communications center to access the August issue, full of ideas on ways to use the Network in your organization, as well as information about upcoming events. Featured articles:
1. August Broadcast Information
2. Recommended Reading
3. SGA Network and Committee Updates
4. Learning Trends

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION: INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO KEEP YOUR SAFETY PROGRAM FRESH AND ALIVE
Richard Hawk is an entertaining keynote speaker with powerful, life-changing messages. He gives safety leaders fun and powerful techniques to liven-up their safety program and that is the main goal of this workshop. This event is archived in the SGA Network Library.

WEBINARS CONDUCTED LIVE FROM THE SGA OPERATING CONFERENCE
Webinars were conducted from the following roundtables:

- Distribution Regulatory Compliance
- NGV Operations
- Public Awareness and Damage Prevention
- Distribution Engineering
- Gas Control

To access these events contact: Farlene Powell

GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL

The GMRC Project Supervisory Committee met in August to review on-going and identify new research projects. Below is a project summary:

- Tunable Side Branch Absorber - ACI
  - Tested at SwRI with good results
  - Executed royalty agreement
  - Developing into commercial product
- High Speed Package Guidelines - ACI
Excellent collaboration and input across GMRC members
Document complete and approved by PSC
GMC short course and developing 3-day training class
Interest by API to adopt into API 11P or API 618

- Performance Augmentation (PAN) - ACI & Optimum
  Pulsation Control using designed comp discharge piping
  Executed royalty agreement
  Williams Station 85
  Design is progressing to meet tight schedule
  Preliminary results are good
- Engineering Data in Chock Selection - Atmos & Beta
  Completed testing of various chock systems
  Present results at GMC
- Solutions to Mechanical Vibration - Beta
  Vibration Absorber & Damper Link looks promising
  In development for commercial application
- Predicting HP Cost of Recip Compressor Manifolds - TransCanada & Beta
  Verification modeling is on-going, tracking with field data
- KSU Machinery Work - KSU
  Quantifying PTFE wear characteristics to minimize lube oil carryover
- Very positive feedback on joint PSC/PRCI Comp & Pump committee session
- Developing 2014 Proposed projects

GAS MACHINERY CONFERENCE
October 6-9 2013; Albuquerque Convention Center - Albuquerque, NM

INTRODUCTION TO GAS TURBINES AND CENTRIFUGAL GAS COMPRESSORS
October 21-22, 2013; Sheraton Station Square Hotel - Pittsburgh, PA

ENGINE EMISSIONS STACK TESTING AND ANALYZER WORKSHOP
November 5-7, 2013; Renaissance Hotel - Oklahoma City OK

BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

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

- Executive Newsletter
- Celebrating our Operating Conference Volunteers
- First Airplane Powered by Natural Gas
- Crossbore Awareness
- Expedited Replacement Programs from a Regulatory Perspective

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