The Fall Leadership Conference provides timely information on important issues of the day for natural gas professionals in gas demand forecasting, gas supply marketing, legislative affairs, and rates & regulatory affairs. Manager, director, and vice president level professionals attend this conference. October 23-25; San Antonio. Roundtables include:

- Gas Forecasters Forum
- Gas Supply Marketing Forum
- Rates, Regulatory, and Legislative Affairs Roundtable

Contact: Jane Butler
FALL TRAINING WEEK
Training Week is a collection of several workshops designed to help you on-board new employees, or teach new skills to employees growing in your organization. September 17-19; Houston. Contact: Veronica Garza
Classes:

- Introduction to the Natural Gas Industry
- Introduction to Regulated Natural Gas Accounting
- How Natural Gas is Bought and Sold
- The Ratemaking Process

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE FOR ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS
Join SGA, ESC and several utility companies, as we partner as an industry to build stronger relationships with architects, engineers, builders and key customers. On November 5, 2013, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. CST we will air a live webcast to deliver an update on the natural gas industry, the benefits of implementing natural gas into commercial projects, as well as other hot topics, peaking the interest of architects, engineers, builders or decision makers. Contact: Veronica Garza

SAFETY & 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 ZipGauge. More soon. Contact Kent Hobart.

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; Piedmont Natural Gas and new SGA member, PG&E.

NEW REVENUE PROTECTION INTEREST GROUP FORMING
Would your company like to share ideas and best practices with other SGA members in an interest group focused on Revenue Protection or minimizing the theft of gas service? If your company is interested in being part of this new group, please contact Kent Hobart.

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.

RETAILER OUTREACH INITIATIVE
As our industry progresses and battles challenges, we look to one another for ideas and partnerships. One of the challenges marketing and sales professionals combat is establishing partnerships with major corporate retailers such as Home Depot and Lowes. To push the effort forward, representatives of several utilities have joined forces, creating a Task Force with a mission to create strong retailer outreach programs in order to retain and grow natural gas burner tips in the residential customer’s home.

The SGA Retailer Outreach Task Force will accomplish this by:
• Sharing retailer program best practices, including training, signage and event planning, in order to launch and/or grow existing retailer programs.
• Sharing national retailer corporate contacts in order to strengthen and grow our respective retailer outreach programs.
• Using our collective industry voice to secure additional retailer gas appliance inventory in major retailers and encourage retailers to provide in-kind gas appliance rebates at in-store or holiday events.

On October 7-9, the majority of the group (9 companies) will represent the natural gas industry at the Energy Star Products Partner Meeting in New Orleans. Not only is the task force sponsoring the meeting at a high level; they're also meeting with reps from Best Buy Corporate and potentially Sears and Home Depot Corporate.

If you would like more information on the Retailer Outreach Task Force or if you would like to join, please contact Chair, Kelly Chase, CenterPoint or SGA liaison, Veronica Garza.

CONNECT@SGA
Some of the discussions conducted in July and August:

• RP 1162
• Pressure Testing Service Lines 192.725
• AGL Resources Continuing with Pipeline Replacement Programs
• Info-Share Survey: Field Operations
• Cross Bore Prevention
• DIPRA
• Welding Inspection Certification
• Temperature used in HDB for high density plastic

Learn more about how to Connect!

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL TRAINING WEEK
September 17-19, 2013 - Houston, TX

DOT COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP-TRANSMISSION & MIDSTREAM PIPELINE
September 25-27, 2013 - Houston, TX

FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
October 23-25, 2013 - San Antonio, TX
UTILITY BEST PRACTICE WEBINAR SERIES
These monthly webinars feature topics of interest in the marketing and sales arena, customized for the natural gas industry. View the 2013 Calendar

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 - SEPTEMBER ISSUE
Visit our Communications Center to access the September issue, full of ideas on ways to use the Network in your organization, as well as information about upcoming events. Featured articles:

1. September Broadcast Information
2. Recommended Reading
3. SGA Network and Committee Updates
4. Learning Trends

GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL

GMRC PROJECT SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE
The GMRC Project Supervisory Committee met in August to review on-going and identify new research projects. Click here for a project summary.

GAS MACHINERY CONFERENCE
October 6-9, 2013 - Albuquerque, NM

INTRODUCTION TO GAS TURBINES AND CENTRIFUGAL COMPRESSORS
October 21-22; Pittsburgh PA
A two day seminar for Gas Turbine and Gas Compressor users who are interested in acquiring an understanding of basic gas turbine and gas compressor working principles.

ENGINE EMISSIONS STACK TESTING AND ANALYZER WORKSHOP
November 5-7, 2013 - Renaissance Hotel - Oklahoma City, OK
This popular workshop provides an understanding of the following critical issues: --- the processes and equipment for EPA stack testing methods and protocols; --- function and design of portable analyzer equipment; --- factors affecting accuracy and outcome of testing and other calculations; --- state and federal requirements for enhanced monitoring and record keeping and reporting requirements; --- evaluation of emissions reduction technology
BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

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

- SGA and APGA to Co-Sponsor the Annual Spring Gas Conference & Expo
- Accelerated Replacement Activity Building Momentum Nationwide
- SGA Service Award Recipients Honored at the Marketing & Customer Experience Conference
- Congratulations to the 2013 Integrated Communications Award Program Winner
- THANK YOU TO OUR MARKETING AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE CONFERENCE SPONSORS
- H.C. Abel's address at the 1926 SGA Annual Convention in New Orleans

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