Southern Gas Association
Operations & Engineering
August 2012

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SURVEY OF THE MONTH

SGA's Transmission Technical Training Committee is considering scheduling the Department of Transportation – Part 192 Workshop Q-3 2011 in Dallas or Houston, TX. Are you interested in this workshop for yourself or fellow employees?

Yes
No

This workshop will be offered on an on-demand basis. Click here to complete the survey.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

2012 Operating Conference & Exhibits
The Southern Gas Association hosted the 2012 Operating Conference & Exhibits at the Omni Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas July 23 - 25, 2012. The 2012 conference attracted over 750 attendees and featured 15 roundtables, eight breakout session including a field tour of the Chesapeake Barnett Shale Facility, more than 120 exhibitors, countless networking opportunities, and a business mixer at the Red Sox vs. Rangers game. Conference attendees enjoyed customizing their conference experience using SGA's new mobile conference website. Click here to view conference photos, including service award recipients, the business mixer at the ballpark, roundtables, and more. Look forward to a video with conference highlights soon. Mark your calendars now for the July 22-24, 2013 Operating Conference with Exhibits in Houston, Texas.
AGA/SGA Transmission Best Practices Program – MAOP Records Verification Roundtable
The MAOP Records Verification Roundtable, held in conjunction with the SGA Operating Conference, had record attendance with over 110 attendees. MAOP validation for transmission pipelines is one of the provisions included in the 2011 Pipeline Safety Reauthorization and was most recently covered by PHMSA in an Advisory Bulletin issued on May 7, 2012. The first day of the workshop was open to pipeline operators and service providers and the second day was closed to pipeline operators only. The roundtable opened with a regulatory overview of the Pipeline Safety Act of 2011 focusing on the requirement for operators to confirm MAOP records for transmission lines in Class 3 and 4 and Class 1 and 2 HCAs. The roundtable also featured presentations by Spectra Energy, Atmos Energy, Kinder Morgan and Pacific Gas & Electric detailing their company’s approaches and procedures in conducting a records review. Additionally, RCP, a professional engineering consulting firm that provides regulatory expertise to the energy industry, discussed challenges involved with developing and implementing a sustainable MAOP validation process including staffing, training, source document review, document control, quality control, document grading, and the MAOP calculator. AGA and SGA staff would like to extend our gratitude to the speakers for their presentations. The second day operators discussed their company’s strategies for locating records, how GIS is incorporated in their MAOP records verification and validation process, and communicating with federal and state regulators since the MAOP advisory bulletin was issued by PHMSA. AGA and SGA thank our members who were able to send representatives to the roundtable to contribute to this important, ongoing topic. Contacts: Nneka Assing, AGA or Gary Hines, SGA

Accelerated Replacement Projects
Laclede Gas hosted an SGA Accelerated Main Replacement Workshop on July 19 at their offices in St. Louis. The 19 attendees included representatives from 10 different companies.

Gary Hebbeler, General Manager of Gas Operations, Duke Energy, provided the workshop attendees with a comprehensive overview of Duke’s accelerated bare steel and cast iron main replacement program in Kentucky and Ohio. Duke has completed a 10 year program in Kentucky and is within a few years of completing a 15 year program in Ohio. At completion Duke will have replaced over 1,400 miles of main. Gary’s presentation is available on the Accelerated Replacement Programs web page.

Gary’s presentation was followed by an active roundtable discussion covering topics relating to Accelerated Replacement Projects including: project planning and engineering, construction management, community relations, cross bore prevention, contractor relationships and regulatory treatment.

An interest group is forming to identify and develop topics for a series of upcoming webinars and workshops focused in this area. If you are interested in being part of the interest group or would like additional information, email Kent Hobart.

Gas Measurement Training Council – UPDATE
Project Overview
In 2009, twelve companies organized under the Southern Gas Association, partnered with the Letton-Hall Group (LHG) to develop the first version of an industry-sanctioned gas measurement training program for the natural gas industry. The vision was to develop a training program to address the needs of the industry. The program would:

- Be owned and sanctioned by an industry committee, providing industry-wide acceptance and a valued credential for measurement technicians
- Be industry-supported providing a sustainable, current program lasting many years into the future
- Be serious, challenging and rewarding
- Address tasks performed by measurement technicians
- Provide a means to assess aptitude
- Develop a workforce with a common skill set throughout the industry
- Facilitate systematic career progression
- Use state of the art training methods, incorporating program flexibility and modularity

The project was managed as a Joint Industry Project. To date, sixteen natural gas operating companies have contributed funds, content and expertise to the project.
**Deliverables**

**Original Scope**

1. Curriculum for the training program
2. 26 3/4 hours of Computer/Web-Based Training, provided in a rapid e-learning format
3. 536 hours of Instructor-Led Training, including slides, instructor guides and student guides
4. 16 hands-on lab activities, known as “Skill Builders” (90.5-181 hours)
5. A Knowledge Assessment Tool
6. Three Day “Train-the-Trainer” workshop

**Not in the Original Scope**

1. Industry Overview Web Quest (2-4 hours)
2. Content Management System

**Training Facilities**

An opportunity to participate in a grant proposal was brought to the group's attention by Northern Natural Gas. The educational grant was offered through the U.S. Dept. of Labor (DoL) and funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The group agreed to partner with the State of Kansas and Barton Community College, located in Great Bend, Kansas, to submit a grant application. The application would request approximately $1,000,000 to develop one mobile and one stationary training facility. LHG would design and fabrication the facilities. The facilities would be based at Barton College. Barton College would license the content and provide JIP members preferential access to the mobile training facility. As of the date of this memo, both facilities are nearing completion and expected to be commissioned soon.

While working on the Kansas proposal, JIP members in Utah approached Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) about applying for the same grant. SLCC was awarded funds to develop one mobile training facility similar to the Barton College facility. As of the date of this memo, procurement of parts and equipment for the facility is underway.

These additional assets came as a direct result of the JIP organization and commitment to creating the measurement technician training program.

**Conclusions**

As of the date of this memo (July 2012), all deliverables have been met, fabrication of the Barton College facilities is nearing completion and preparations to offer the first courses is complete. Procurement for the Salt Lake Community College facility is underway along with preparations for course offerings there. Other potential licensees have expressed interest in the program, and JIP members have begun to integrate the content into their in-house training programs.

The JIP has converted to a standing organization, known as the Gas Measurement Training Council (GMTC). The GMTC will oversee the licensing, distribution and revision of the program into the future. The look and delivery of the program in future years will likely be much different than it is today, but the industry support and ongoing maintenance will ensure that it remains current and relevant. The program, as originally envisioned, is taking shape and operating company commitment remains strong.

**Going Forward**

The GMTC is organized and managed by an eight member Board, made elected from and by the sixteen participating companies.

- The Board hosted the first user group meeting in April 2012 where participating members could share best practices and lessons learned around the implementation of the training materials. The meeting was a success and will be scheduled annually.
- The Board is building a website to help promote and educate stakeholders about this project.
- Plans are to build a short 3-5 day workshop using the GMTC materials to give members a chance to experience the training in a public a format.
PHMSA Advisory Bulletin
PHMSA issued an advisory bulletin to alert all pipeline owners and operators of the circumstances of the Canadian National Railway Company freight train derailment that occurred in Cherry Valley, Illinois on June 19, 2009, and remind owners and operators of the importance of assuring that pipeline facilities have not been damaged either during a railroad accident or other event occurring in the right-of-way. Further, the advisory bulletin reminds pipeline owners and operators of the importance of providing pertinent information to rail operators and emergency response officials during an incident. This information should include the presence, depth and location of the pipelines so that the movement of heavy equipment and debris on the right-of-way does not damage or rupture the pipeline or otherwise pose a hazard to people working in, and around, the accident location. The advisory also encourages pipeline owners and operators to inform rail operators and emergency response officials of the benefits of using the 811 "Call Before You Dig" program to identify and notify underground utilities that an incident has occurred in the vicinity of their buried facilities. Contact David Appelbaum for more information.

SGA & INGAA Transmission Integrity Management Survey
SGA & INGAA are collaborating on this survey to study Integrity Management practices as they are presently performed by transmission line operators. The survey captures data around risk management models; risk ranking and identifying and prioritizing P&M measures; updating HCAs; interactive threats; API 1163 compliance; tool validation; in-line inspection; corrosion rate; immediate and scheduled defects. The final report is being developed based on the responses. Contact: Fraser Farmer.

Codes & Standards Interest Group
This group provides a forum for codes & standards professionals to share ideas and exchange information. Mark your calendars for this Codes & Standards Interest Group’s quarterly conference calls (1-866-613-5223; Access code = 750-3421):

- October 15 (1:30 to 2:30 CT)

Contact Reggie Johnson or Nadine Fred for more information.

LNG-17
In 2013, LNG 17 will be the largest global gas event in the world, and it will be the largest gas industry event in the United States since 1988. Some 5,000 attendees are expected for LNG 17, and the 200,000 square foot record setting exhibition will attract thousands more. SGA is a member of the LNG 17 National Advisory Committee. For more information about LNG 17 contact Jay Copan, AGA.

SGA Blog
The SGA Blog is a great way to stay up-to-date on the latest industry information. Click here to visit the SGA blog.

EVENT CALENDAR

Natural Gas Fall Workshop
September 10 - 13, 2012
Athens, AL - Leak City
More information

Technical Workshops

- Leak Investigation
- Locating & Damage Prevention
- Plastic Fusion
- Tapping & Stopping
- Corrosion Control (Basic)
- Corrosion Control (Advanced)
- Steel & Plastic Main Repair
- Valves
- Regulating Devices
- Dispatcher Training - Natural Gas Dispatching (Your role in emergency response)
- Odorization
- Service Tech I & II

**Leadership Development Workshops**

- Generations in the Workplace: Chaos or Collaboration
- Team Building: Peer Coaching for Success

**Fall Leadership Conference**
September 17 - 19, 2012
Clearwater, FL - Hyatt Regency
More information

**2012 Roundtables**

- Accounting & Finance
- Gas Forecasters
- Gas Supply Marketing
- LDC Rates, Regulatory, and Legislative Affairs
- Pipeline Rates, Regulatory, and Legislative Affairs

**Introduction to In-Line Inspection: Safely Managing the Lifecycles of Pipelines**
This workshop has been re-scheduled for May 2013
More information

This workshop provides operations and maintenance engineers in pipeline companies with the knowledge to establish and manage an intelligent pigging program that contributes optimum value toward improved pipeline integrity. Registrations are limited to 30 people, to optimize interaction between instructors and attendees.

**NGV Operations Roundtable**
September 20 - 21, 2012
Tulsa, OK
More information

This roundtable is a forum to discuss natural gas fleet operations. Areas of focus include dedicated vs. duel fueled, outsourcing, integration with traditional fleet, tank design, CNG operations/maintenance, service life, operating costs, and cylinder/tank inspectors. Contact Randy Randolph for more information.

**Transmission Pipeline Design Workshop - 2 SEATS LEFT!**
November 6 - 9, 2012
Houston, TX - Williams Tower
More information

This 3.5-day workshop takes you through the pipeline design process—from pipe sizing measurements to post-construction record keeping—working with a team to design a pipeline under real-life conditions and circumstances. Attendees will gain an
overall understanding of all elements of gas pipeline design—from initial pipe sizing through route selection and the detailed design of pipeline components. There are only two seats left in this workshop. If you plan to attend, please register today.

The Transmission Technical Training Committee is considering hosting this popular workshop in Charlotte NC, March 11-14, 2013, in conjunction with the Spring Gas Conference & Expo. Please let Erica Yingling know if your company is interested.

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**SGA NETWORK**

The SGA Network produces a video and a webinar each month, on topics relevant to natural gas professionals. Topics are developed by the Network Programming Committee made up of a cross functional team from our member companies.

**SGA Network Newsletter – NEW**

Read the August addition of the SGA Network Newsletter to learn about the August programs focused on Industry Updates. Much of the video included in this program were captured at the SGA Operating Conference. Newsletter highlights include:

- Operating Conference Update
- "What Do World Class Innovators Do that Others Don’t Do?"
- Message from Mike Grubb (This article provides an update to the upgrades being implemented at the Network)
- Applications For the Network from Questar Gas

**Perspective on Innovation and Leadership From Your Peers**

The SGA Network shot some video featuring several supervisors and managers from Atmos, Piedmont and SCANA, sharing their perspectives on innovation and leadership. The 11 minute video is now available on the SGA homepage.

**SGA Network Awards**

The following were recognized at the August 2012 Network Awards Dinner:

Elaine Parrish received the Vision Award. This award is presented to an individual exhibiting an innovative use of technology for distance learning and communication. Elaine’s contributions to the SGA Network over the years have been instrumental in our success. She developed the SGA Network website making it easier to access and more user friendly. She developed a competencies based platform and has tied programs together to reinforce learning events. Elaine produced our first virtual event, developed the SGA on-line division, and initiated a robust Learning Management System. Her expertise in coaching and training also enabled her to develop our Leadership Development Certification.

Our Champion Award went to Judy Cook of PSNC Energy. This award is made to an individual who has exhibited outstanding support and contributed substantially through activities, expertise and promotion linked to the success of the SGA Network. PSNC Energy has been a member of the SGA Net-work since its inception, 20 years ago. Through the years Judy has served on many SGA committees. Her commitment to training and learning development has contributed to the production of over 300 distance learning events. She continues to provide the SGA Network with valuable insight on the needs of the industry. Judy also has shown PSNC Energy how to best use the SGA Network to fulfill employee development internally and she shares her innovative experiences with other SGA members. Judy Cook is a Champion for the SGA Network.
GAS MACHINERY RESEARCH COUNCIL TRAINING

GMRC is a subsidiary of SGA. View all GMRC events.

Gas Machinery Conference
September 30 - October 3, 2012
Austin, TX
More information

Engine Emissions Stack Testing and Analyzer Workshop
October 30 - November 1, 2012
Renaissance Hotel - Oklahoma City OK
More information

Factors in Compressor Station Design
October 31 - November 2, 2012
Oklahoma City, OK 77002
More information

BLOG HIGHLIGHTS

The SGA Blog is a great way to keep up with everything that's going on at SGA.

- PHMSA Indicates Single Quality Record Acceptable for Verifying Pipeline MAOP
- SGA Online Membership Directory
- Arthur Corbin Visits SGA
- Erica Yingling Joins SGA Staff
- SGA Safety & Health Committee Booth at Operating Conference