

Distribution Construction, Operations and Measurement Round Table

Chairmen:

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Wednesday, July 23, and Thursday, July 24, 2008

Discussion Outline

1. Distribution O&M – Employee Staffing/Workforce Development

1. How are gas operators planning for replacements of knowledgeable staff (secession planning)
2. How are gas operators planning for replacements of knowledgeable staff (secession planning)
3. Crew sizes (Maintenance versus Emergency)
4. Staffing Models
5. Do you have a transition plan for this

2. DIMP – Distribution Integrity Management Program

1. EFV – Excess Flow Valves
2. Compression Couplings
3. Leak Survey

3. Distribution O&M – Safety

1. Incentives or Not
2. New Ideas or Technology
3. Programs

4. Distribution O&M – Welding

1. Retention of Welders
2. API – 1104
3. Welding procedures (how many companies utilize a Low-Hydrogen arc uphill process for in-service welding)
4. Oxy/Act

5. Distribution O&M – Inspection

1. Retention of Welders
2. Company Crews Inspected
3. Percent of jobs inspected
4. Activities requiring mandatory inspections
5. In House/Out of House Inspectors

6. Distribution O&M – Material Management

1. Emergency Stocking
2. Inventory Purchases by (or consignment to) construction contactor
3. Vendor Managed
4. In House

7. Distribution O&M - Work Flow Management

1. Technology (in-vehicle systems, handhelds, GPS, CAD units...)
2. Productivity Tracking
3. Technology (Software)
4. Performance Management
5. Benchmarks for scheduling (appointment windows)
6. Order Duplication

8. Distribution O&M - Damage Management

1. 3rd Party Prevention
2. Damage Prevention Technology
3. Working with one call-center on systems
4. Regulations
5. Special Causes Verification (operator qualifications)
6. Billing and Collection (possible outsourcing opportunities)

9. Distribution O&M – Market Changes

1. Customer Retention
2. Vertical Subdivisions
3. Reallocations of new business construction resources

10. Distribution O&M – Contracting

1. Lessons Learned
2. Opportunities
3. Locating
4. Hot tapping (total outsourcing) risk and rewards
5. Emergency response (How many companies utilize contractors to respond to emergencies?)

11. Distribution O&M - Equipment Technology O&M

1. New Technology
2. Key-hole (ideas for new applications)
3. RLMD
4. Liners, pipe-bursting...Other non-traditional techniques?

12. Homeland Security Issues

1. Security

Other (Topics submitted by gas companies)

1. Pipe replacement programs - are companies being proactive, or only developing and executing replacement programs "as necessary", or as mandated by their state regulatory bodies.
2. Internal regulator inspections vs meeting the minimal inspections requirements....lock off and relief valve setting etc.
3. How other companies determine which reg, stations may require an internal inspection. Criticality ranking, wet gas, historical information etc.

Wednesday Evening

Reception / Dinner @ the Georgia Aquarium - 5:00 to 8:00

Our Centennial Celebration features a reception at the Georgia Aquarium. This is an adult tour/reception/dinner. Spouses need to register. Breathtaking views provide the backdrop in the Aquarium's Oceans Ballroom. With two large aquatic observation windows, we will be face-to-face with beluga whales, exotic fish and marine life from every corner of the globe.

Your name badge is required for admission to this event!

- Admission to the aquarium (5:00 to 7:00 pm)
- Open bar (6:00 to 8:00 pm)
- Buffet dinner (6:00 to 8:00 pm)