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# Public Awareness Programs for Pipeline Operators

**Common Ground Alliance  
Excavation Safety Conference  
March 7, 2007  
Orlando, FL**

**Presented by Blaine Keener**



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# PHMSA's Public Awareness History

- Pipeline Safety Regulations Requiring:
  - Damage Prevention awareness for Excavators
  - Emergency Plans for Fire, Police, & Public Officials
  - Public Education
- Participant in American Petroleum Institute (API) committee to create API RP 1162
- Operator workshops in 2003 and 2005
- Final Rule published May 2005 requiring RP 1162-style programs by June 20, 2006



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New Features of Public Awareness

# Local Public Official Audience

- Messages (partial list)
  - Risky land use practices
  - Operator contacts for Integrity Management, land use practices, emergency preparedness, etc
- Audience Members (partial list)
  - Planning & Zoning Boards
  - Licensing & Permitting Departments
  - Town & City Councils
  - Franchise Managers



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New Features of Public Awareness

# Evaluating Program Effectiveness

- Due at 4 year intervals
- Survey Stakeholder Audiences to Determine
  - Percentage of Audience Reached
  - Understandability of the Message
  - Desired Behaviors by Audience
  - Achieving Bottom-Line Results
- Revise Program Based on Evaluation



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# Implementation of Completed Program

- There is no single “due date” for distributing RP 1162-style awareness materials to stakeholders
- “Due date” calculated by a simple formula:  
**June 20, 2006 + RP 1162 Frequency**
- First evaluation of effectiveness due in June 2010



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# Written Program Review

- PHMSA Advisory Bulletin published June 16, 2006 requesting submission of programs by October 8, 2006
- 8 States decided to conduct independent reviews
- As of February 21, 2007, 1,266 Programs covering 1,651 OpIDs have been received
- Programs are being reviewed by a central Clearinghouse with feedback to the jurisdictional pipeline safety agency



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# Establishing the Clearinghouse

- PCCI Marine & Environmental under contract
- Gas Dist Written Program review began in October 2006
- Gas Trans & Haz Liq Program review began in late January 2007.
- Review Criteria for the Clearinghouse have been developed jointly by National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) & PHMSA
- Review of the written program will be concurrent with implementation of the program by operators



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# Gas Operator Roll Call

Based on CY2005 Annual Reports

- Gas Distribution for 97% of main miles and 98% of services. No submission from 321 combinations of OpID and State.
- Gas Transmission for 96% of onshore miles. No submission from 293 combinations of OpID and State.
- Gas Gathering for 66% of onshore miles. No submission from 172 combinations of OpID and State.



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## Liquid Operator Roll Call Based on CY2005 Annual Reports

- 97% of onshore Low-Stress miles and 99% of onshore High-Stress miles. No submission from 18 OpIDs.
- Gathering currently being investigated. Annual Report data often makes no sense.
- Should Public Awareness Programs for Gathering, Low-Stress, and High-Stress pipelines be the same?



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# Clearinghouse Results

- Review of programs stored as database
- For each operator, the pipeline safety agency(ies) will receive
  - List of program aspects that deviate from RP 1162 recommendations
  - List of supplemental elements implemented
- Pipeline Safety Agency(ies) and Operator need to resolve deviations and supplemental element issues



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# Reviews Completed

as of Feb 2007

<b>Operator Type</b>	<b>Submittals</b>	<b>Reviews Complete</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Gas Distribution</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Gas Transmission</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Hazardous Liquid</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Gathering</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>



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## Significant Incidents caused by Excavation Damage **2002 thru 2005**

- Liquid Pipelines
  - 15% of Significant Incidents
  - 63% of Fatalities and 17% Injuries
- Gas Transmission Pipelines
  - 14% of Significant Incidents
  - 100% of Fatalities and 26% Injuries
- Gas Distribution Pipelines
  - 38% of Significant Incidents
  - 29% of Fatalities and 33% Injuries



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# Supplemental Elements

- Additional actions beyond the Baseline implemented by an operator in response to one of 12 specific considerations listed in RP 1162
- Excavation Damage one of the 12
- Implementation of Supplemental Elements in an attempt to further reduce the threat of Excavation Damage has been sparse



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# Implementation Inspections

- PHMSA Regions will inspect implementation records as part of an operator Standard Inspection
- NAPSAR members may inspect intrastate operators
- Pipeline Operators and Pipeline Safety Agencies will both experience a learning curve
- PHMSA inspection goal is to **Foster Improvements**, not to cite for non-compliance



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# Public Awareness Programs for Pipeline Operators

## Questions ???

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