AC Interference, Dr Patrick Lydon

UKOPA were delighted that Pat Lydon was prepared to speak at this year’s seminar. Pat started by introducing the work he had done to date on the draft of the PIWG Good Practice Guide for AC Corrosion, the aim being to provide a comprehensive guide to everything a pipeline engineer should know about AC Corrosion.

Some UKOPA members were prepared to share their experiences to date prior to round table discussions taking place with all of the delegates to identify areas of concern thus ensuring that the GPG will not missed any issue that is of concern to members.

Pat’s second session focused on AC Interference on pipelines and the potential consequences for personnel safety when it creates touch and step potential electric shock risk during construction, operation, maintenance and repair. This subject caused a lot of discussion amongst the attendees.

Illegal Connections – An update from Peter Davis

It is clear that the response taken by the UKOPA Members has been successful in reducing the number of pipeline thefts. Since 2013 there have been 89 discovered thefts on UK pipelines and of these only 2 were in 2017.

The question we all want to know – has it now gone away? In March 2018, Peter attended a seminar organised by CONCAWE Oil Pipeline Management Group who presented their statistics of pipeline theft across Western Europe. The graphs show that the annual number seemed to have peaked in 2015 but there were still almost 40 new events in 2017. The statistics have also shown that such events have been located by new operators in different countries. These statistics clearly show that the issue is reducing / improving but has not been irradiated. Thus the message to pipelines operators in the UK is to maintain vigilance.

Pipeline Theft – An update from Peter Davis

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UKOPA Work Programme 2018-19

The afternoon of the seminar focused on the current work plans for the UKOPA Working Groups and in particular the work that is being carried out to develop more Good Practice Guides and Technical Bulletins.

Tim Rudd, provided an update on the Weld Quality Project, including the work done to date, the results being provided by Atco in Canada and UKOPA sponsored MSc Project at Swansea University. Chris Rogerson, followed on with an overview of the work that was being carried out by the PIWG including document development for Seismic Screening, Ground Movement, Investigation of Features Identified by ILI and Life Extension.

Graham Goodfellow, gave an informative (and as usual amusing) update on the work that was being carried out by FARWG on the Application of Cost Benefit Analysis to Demonstrate ALARP – this presentation had been given to the February Members’ Meeting and to a seminar organised by Rosen – but given the varied attendees at this seminar, it was felt a re-run would be beneficial. Simon Joyce continued to cover the other work being carried out including, Capturing and Monitoring Population Density, Collecting and Reporting Fault Data, Managing Societal Risk Suite of Documents and Effect of Pipeline Surveillance on Risk.

Geoff Glover, presented the work being carried out by the IWG to develop a GPG for Local Authority Planners and an Agricultural Information Sheet on Working in the Vicinity of HP Pipelines. The event was closed by Chairman, Grant Rogers, who thanked everyone who volunteered their time and encourage others to get involved if they felt they could add value.

GDPR Compliance / Privacy Policy

As a membership only organisation, UKOPA holds (via the UKOPA Secretariat) limited business contact details for nominated personnel from our members companies. Nothing is used for marketing purposes other than for informing our members about UKOPA events and / or meetings.

The UKOPA privacy policy, which can be viewed at www.ukopa.co.uk/privacy statement explains the process we have for holding data and deleting when required.

To contact UKOPA please email: enquiries@ukopa.co.uk

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Next UKOPA full members meeting will be held at The Hilton Hotel, Gateshead on 23-24th October 2018
Meet the Board (more in-depth bios will be on the UKOPA website soon)

Grant Rogers (Chairman) is the Senior Asset Integrity Manager at Wales & West Utilities (WWU) Ltd. Grant is a mechanical engineer with 24 years experience in the gas industry. He is past chairman of the IWG and board sponsor for that group. He has been a Board Member since 2012.

Gurvinder Badesha is the Head of Asset Assurance for Gas Transmission at National Grid. Gurvinder is a mechanical engineer with over 20 years experience in the energy industry and has been a member of the UKOPA board since 2015.

Iain Foster is Head of Network Integrity for Northern Gas Networks and took over from Barry Dalus on the UKOPA Board in June 2018. Iain is a chartered engineer with over 31 years experience in the gas industry. Iain will become the Board sponsor for the EPWG.

Graeme Pailor is Technical Manager for Sabic UK Petrochemicals Ltd, a subsidiary of Sabic Corp based in Saudi Arabia. Graeme is a chartered engineer with over 20 years experience in the petrochemical industry. Graeme has been a board member since 2011 and is chairman of the PIWG.

Barry MacKay is Asset Engineering Manager for SGN. Barry is a chartered engineer with over 35 years experience in the gas industry. Barry has been on the board since 2013 and is the Board Sponsor for the FARWG.

Peter Davis (Vice Chairman) is Director and General Manager of British Pipeline Agency (BPA) Ltd, he is a chartered engineer with over 35 years experience in the industry. He has been UKOPA chairman and a member of the board since 2012. Peter is the Board sponsor for the PSWG.

HSE update – June 2018

Energy Division Unit 5 (ED5)
In 2017, HSE decided to align Gas & Pipelines Unit with the operational team which regulates onshore and offshore renewable energy industry. This means that there are now 4 teams in ED5. In addition to our regulation of gas and pipelines, all the teams in ED5 are involved in the regulation of emerging energy technologies, including novel projects exploring future energy solutions. In this way we aim to better support the integrated energy sector of the future.

We work closely with colleagues in Science Directorate who are also focussed on progressing energy research and providing support to industry.

COMAH
As part of the restructuring, it was decided that regulatory responsibility for sites operated under the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations (COMAH), would be consolidated under HSE’s Chemical Division (CEMHD). ED5 transferred responsibility of COMAH sites to CEMHD, and some of the Regulatory Inspectors also transferred to CEMHD to support this and other major hazard work – providing a degree of continuity.

Effect upon Duty Holders
The restructure will not affect the way in which the COMAH regulations are applied but operators of COMAH sites may notice a change to the frontline team they engage with.

HSE has attempted to minimise the effects of the restructure on all of our dutyholders by, where possible, arranging site handovers between outgoing and incoming inspectors and keeping dutyholders informed of the changes.

We look forward working with you to build on and support a successful energy sector, continuing a professional and enabling relationship with those who we regulate.

Neil Casey
HM Inspector of Health and Safety, Energy Division
UKOPA Engagement Lead for HSE

UKOPA Good Practice Guides and Technical Bulletins
Since 2014 UKOPA has published a number of Good Practice Guides (available to all from the main website) and Technical Bulletins (UKOPA membership access only). The 2018 work programme (documents being developed) can be seen on pg 1.

- 01 – Management of Reduced Depth of Cover
- 02 – Pipeline Safety Monitoring
- 03 – Managing Pipeline Dents
- 05 – Managing Pipeline Sleeves
- 06 – Impact Protections Slabs
- 09 – Stress Corrosion Cracking
- 10 – MAHP Emergency Response Plan (Testing Guidance)
- 11 – MAHP Emergency Response Plan (Template)
- 12 – MAHP (Exercise Pro-forma)
- 13 – Wind Turbine Installations in the Vicinity of HP Pipelines
- 14 – Solar Farm Installation in the Vicinity of HP Pipelines
- 15 – Managing Pipeline Infringements
- 16 – Pipeline Hazard Distances
- 17 – Line Walking Surveys

If you have proposals for other documents to be added to the list please contact UKOPA, enquiries@ukopa.co.uk

Pipeline Emergency Response Officer (PERO) Courses
All the places on the PERO courses scheduled for 2018 have now been taken. We are currently in trying to negotiate dates for an extra one or two courses. If you want more details please contact Nikki Barker, enquiries@ukopa.co.uk

Course dates and prices for 2019 are currently being arranged and as soon as they have been confirmed, members will be informed.

Safety Alerts – Don’t forget to share your safety learning: 10 alerts have been published in the members centre.

All information can be found at - www.ukopa.co.uk
Any question or queries email enquiries@ukopa.co.uk