Agenda

• Provide overall context for pipeline safety and reliability efforts.

• Evaluate recent and planned initiatives to build on past successes.

• Consider possibilities for future collaboration toward our shard goals.
The number of serious incidents reported nationally each year has declined and stabilized....
...Even as pipeline systems have continued to expand, reaching over 2.6 million* miles nationally in 2013.

*Includes services
Substantial progress on pipeline safety was achieved in the 1980s and 1990s... according to an assessment conducted by the Transportation Research Board.
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The Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 brought new dimensions to pipeline safety programs.

• Directed USDOT - establish integrity management program regulations for gas transmission line operators.

• Significant step forward - from a prescriptive approach to a more risk-based regime.

• Created new regulatory programs:
  • Qualifying pipeline personnel
  • Managing pipeline control rooms
Risk-based integrity management (IM) programs for gas transmission and distribution are very important additions to pipeline safety.

- Industry, regulators, and other stakeholders have dedicated significant resources to implementing IM programs.
- More time is needed to fully assess the effectiveness of IM programs.
- Initial GAO and NTSB studies
  - IM is having a positive impact on pipeline safety.
Natural gas pipeline systems benefit from a risk-based integrity management approach

**Key Elements**

1. Know your assets
2. Understand the risks and threats to your assets
3. Mitigate those risks and threats over time
Further substantive changes were initiated by the 2006 PIPES Act...

New provisions:

• Damage prevention and public education and awareness
• Distribution integrity management
• Pipeline control room management.

Rulemaking proceedings to address these topics after the Act’s passage.
In 2011 Act, Congress included significant additions to pipeline safety including:

- Incident notification timelines
- Testing of certain gas transmission lines
- Requirements for valves and gathering lines
- Leak detection
- Integrity management
- Class location
PHMSA: increase in funding for the federal pipeline safety program in the 2014 appropriations

Gas pipeline incidents involving third-party excavation damage has declined significantly in recent years

- Coincides with the implementation of several key initiatives
- Enforcement of state damage prevention laws, expanded use of new technologies, and best practices, and public awareness.
- **Demonstrates the positive impact of stakeholder cooperation - notable work of the Common Ground Alliance**
Agenda

• Provide overall context for pipeline safety and reliability efforts.

• Evaluate recent and planned initiatives to build on past successes.

• Consider future opportunities for collaboration toward our shared goals.
Industry will continue to play a vital role in ensuring the safety and reliability of the nation’s pipeline infrastructure.
States are promoting pipeline modernization efforts through the implementation of special cost recovery programs.
America’s gas pipeline network is safer and more reliable today than at any other point in its history.
American Gas Foundation

Study available at: www.gasfoundation.org
Nationally reported natural gas distribution incidents show excavation damage is the cause of about one-third of reports from 2003-2012.

Source: PHMSA, 2014