PIPELINE ISSUES SERIES:

SAFETY EFFORTS

Bottom Line:

Pipeline operators through industry-wide initiatives and PHMSA through new regulations are addressing pipeline safety improvement issues and recommendations.

Frequently Asked Questions

What Are Pipeline Operators Doing to Improve Pipeline Safety?

Pipeline Safety Excellence™ is the liquids pipeline industry's pipeline safety performance improvement program. Joint initiatives by API and AOPL member companies are addressing current pipeline issues:

Leak Detection	A new industry-wide API Recommended Practice for pipeline leak detection program management
Smart Pig R&D	R&D funding for research on in-line inspection "smart pigs" focusing on capability to detect cracking
Emergency Response	Free, online training course for first responders on pipeline specific emergency response
Safety Mgmt Systems	A new industry-wide API Recommended Practice implementing NTSB recommendation to manage safety efforts comprehensively and holistically
Cracking	A new industry-wide API Recommended Practice on crack detection, analysis and response
Data Integration	A new industry-wide guidance implementing NTSB and PHMSA advice to calculate the cumulative threat of individual threats
Water Crossings	Expanded industry-wide API Recommended Practice for surveying, assessing, mitigating and monitoring existing water crossings

NTSB recommendations, PHMSA advisories, incident learnings and performance data provide direction for safety improvement efforts.

R&D improving smart pig detection capabilities

Screenshot of free, online pipeline training for first responders

Water crossing surveys help operators monitor pipeline safety

Frequently Asked Questions

What is PHMSA Doing to Improve Pipeline Safety?

On October 1, 2015, PHMSA issued a major proposed new regulation entitled *Pipeline Safety: Safety of Hazardous Liquids Pipelines*. This came on top of additional PHMSA proposed rulemakings on pipeline incident notification, operator qualifications, and pipeline mapping systems. PHMSA is expected to issue an additional regulatory proposal for shutoff valves. Each of these proposals address current pipeline safety recommendations and mandates.

1-Hr Incident Notification, OQ Rulemaking
Proposed July 10, 2015

- Requires Notification of Pipeline Incident within 1 Hour of Confirmed Discovery
- Expands Operator Qualification Requirements for New Construction

National Pipeline Mapping System
Proposed July 30, 2014

Expanding Information Collected from Pipeline Operators

Hazardous Liquids Rulemaking
Proposed October 1, 2015

- Strengthened Repair Criteria
- Inspections after Extreme Weather
- Gathering Line Reporting
- Universal ILI Smart Pigging
- Universal Leak Detection
- Data Integration
- Non-High Consequence Area Testing