

# ***Pipeline Research Council International, Inc.***

---

PHMSA R&D Forum

## **PRCI Overview of Projects in Leak Detection**

PRCI Program Manager: Carrie Greaney

Cleveland, OH  
November 16-17, 2016



# PRCI Membership

2



LEADING PIPELINE RESEARCH WORLDWIDE

- **38 Energy Pipeline Operating Companies**
  - 21 Natural Gas Transmission; 9 Liquid
  - 8 Liquid/Natural Gas
- **3 Pipeline Industry Organization (PIO) Members**
  - Association of Oil Pipe Lines (AOPL)
  - Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)
  - Operations Technology Development (OTD)
- **37 Associate Members & Technical Program Associate Members**
  - Australia, Canada, China, Europe, Japan, Mexico, U.S.
  - Special Membership – Australian Pipelines & Gas Association (APGA)
- **Worldwide Research Organization**
  - 43 U.S. Companies
  - 35 Non-U.S. (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Europe, Japan, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Africa)



# PRCI Technical Committees

## Pipeline TCs

Inspection & Integrity

Surveillance,  
Operations &  
Monitoring

Corrosion

Design,  
Materials &  
Construction

Compressor  
& Pump  
Stations

Measurement

Underground  
Storage

## Facilities

# PRCI SOM Program Areas

PL-1:  
Continuous  
Pipeline Leak  
Detection

ROW-3: ROW  
Automated  
Monitoring

ROW-6:  
Satellite  
Monitoring

DP-3: Human  
Organizational  
Factors

# ROW-3 On-going Work

5

## ROW-3H: Methane Detector UAS – Phase 2/3 Underway

- Phase 4 approved for 2017
- **Objective:** Phased development of a methane detector for handheld and UAS platforms (VTOL & fixed-wing) to include ethane for biogenic differentiation
  - The sniffer optical head is an open-path, multi-pass tunable laser spectrometer and plots all data atop a 2D map in real-time on a tablet



# ROW-3 On-going Work

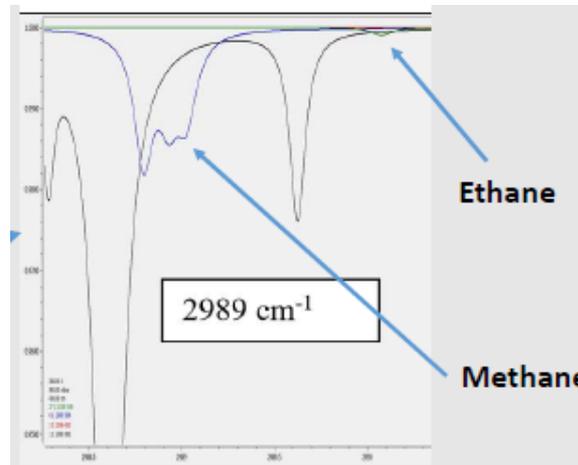
6

## ROW-3H: Methane Detector UAS – Phase 2/3 Underway Cont.

- *Phase 4 approved for 2017*

### ▪ Status & Expected Completion Dates:

- Handheld platform system validated and completed for methane (ethane TBD Phase 3)
- Finalization of UAS system modification and flight validation underway and to be completed by end of 2016
- Phases 3 & 4 - Modification to Handheld & UAS systems to include ethane detection started and to be completed by end of 2017



# PL-1 On-going Work

7

## PL-1-2: API 1149 Update Phase 2 - A New Look at the Pipeline Variable Uncertainties and Their Effects on Leak Detection Sensitivity Software Tool

- **Objective:** Provide information that will assist the pipeline industry in:
  - *finding leaks on liquid hydrocarbon pipelines,*
  - *determine theoretical and practical detection thresholds,*
  - *fully consider all aspects of pipeline leaks,*
  - *document all research work undertaken*
  - *produce a software tool that could API 1149 calculations for day-to-day software based leak detection performance considerations (e.g. ongoing system testing comparisons as per API 1130)*
  - *Products to expand beyond original 1993 version*

# PL-1 On-going Work

8

SCADA Data

Import Template Export

Receipt Delivery Pump Station Valve Station

Banos

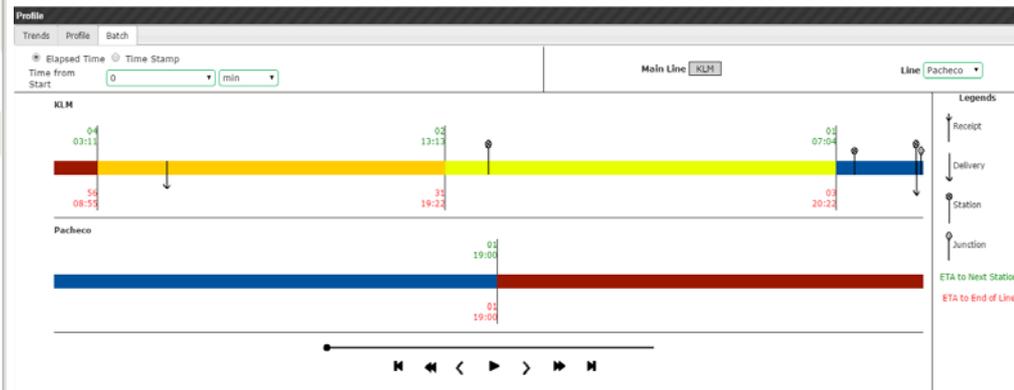
Instrument Type	Instrument	Tag Name	Is Disabled
Inlet Pressure	PT3051	BANO.PU psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge Pre...	PT424	BANO.PD psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Binary Status		BANO.ST	<input type="checkbox"/>

Medanos

Instrument Type	Instrument	Tag Name	Is Disabled
Inlet Pressure	PT3051	MEDA.PU psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge Pre...	PT3051	MEDA.PD psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Binary Status		MEDA.ST	<input type="checkbox"/>

Avon

Instrument Type	Instrument	Tag Name	Is Disabled
Inlet Pressure	PT3051	AVON.PU psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discharge Pre...	PT3051	AVON.PD psi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Binary Status		AVON.ST	<input type="checkbox"/>

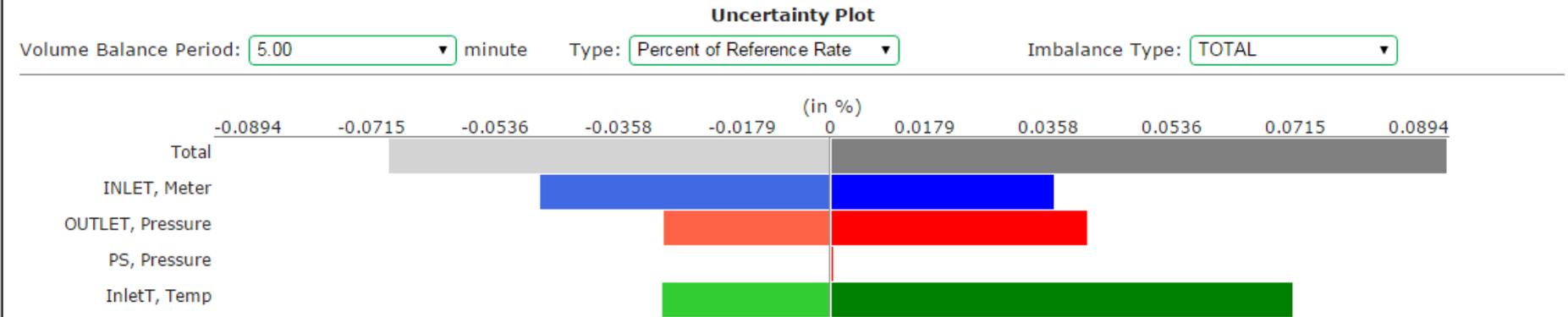
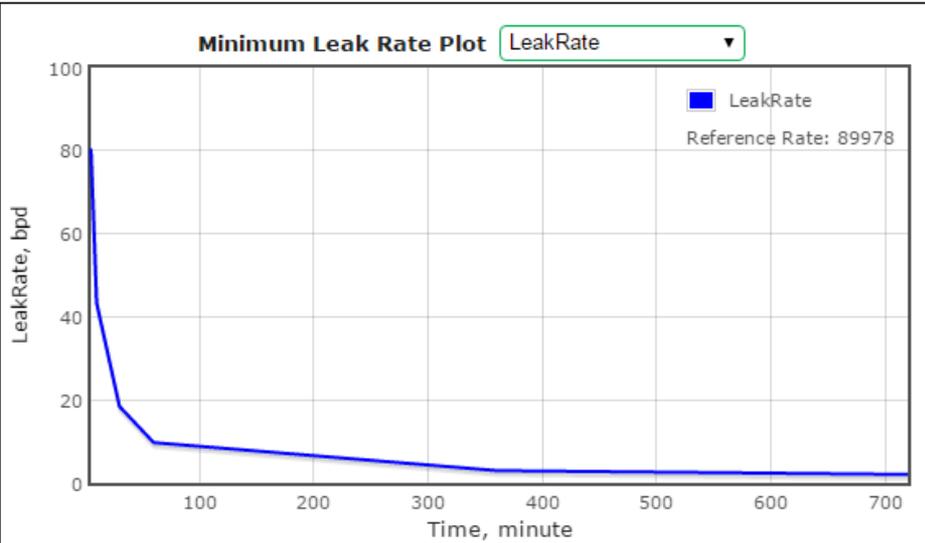
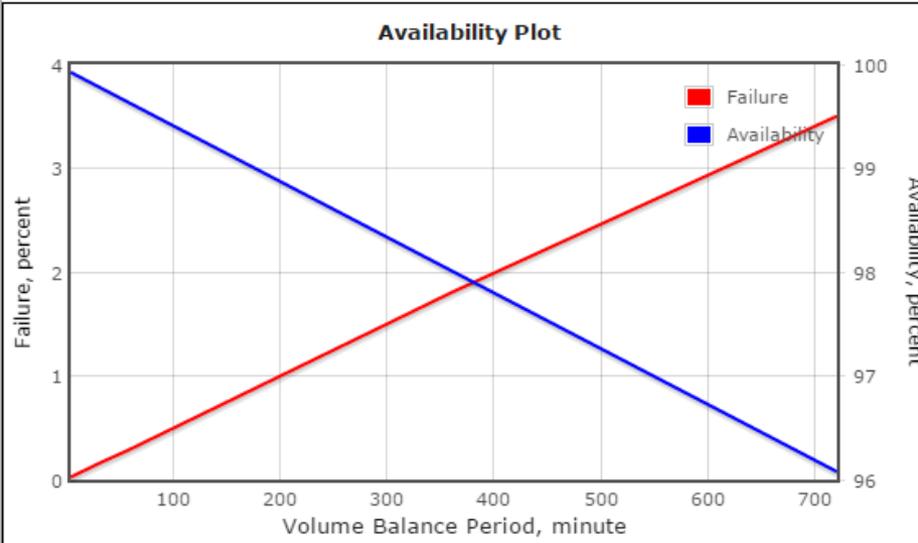


## Example Load case **Batch Demo**:

1. Inline Receipt/Delivery and Branch definitions
2. Batch definitions for linefill (and queue)
3. SCADA tag mapping for real-time transient modeling

# PL-1 On-going Work

PRCI Statistics

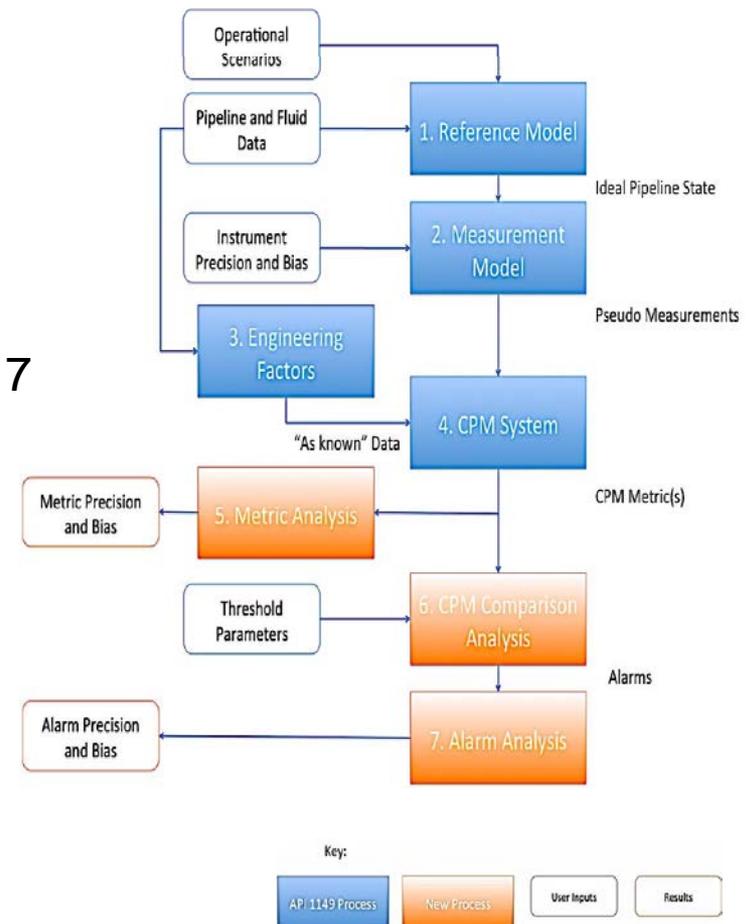


# PL-1 On-going Work

10

## PL-1-2: API 1149 Update Phase 2 - A New Look at the Pipeline Variable Uncertainties and Their Effects on Leak Detection Sensitivity Software Tool

- **Status:** API 1149 Document Updated
  - Software GUI being finalized
  - Joint API-PRCI workshop/webinar 2017
  
- **Expected Completion Date:**  
December 2016



# PL-1 On-going Work

11

## PL-1A: Field Testing of Selected Technologies for In-situ Detection of Small Leaks from Liquid Pipelines

- **Objective:** Field testing and demonstration of commercially available Distributed Acoustic Sensing leak detection systems (2 potential technologies providers have accepted to participate, but could test up to 4 systems)
- **Status:** Initial test plan being produced for an transmission operator's site on the west coast
- **Expected Completion Date:** December 2017

# PL-1 On-going Work

12

## PL-1H: Evaluation and Development of a Petroleum Pipeline Leak Detection Cable Utilizing Polymer Absorption Sensor Technology Large Scale Testing

- **Objective:** To demonstrate a proof-of-concept cable system that inductively provides power and communications to distributed sensor nodes incorporating PAS hydrocarbon detectors. A largescale tested prototype will be demonstrated for several trials in operation-like conditions.
- **Status:** Phase 2 nearing completion
  - demonstration of component and system Lifecycles in laboratory aged conditions
  - Outdoor testbed construction/testing 2017/2018
- **Expected Completion Date:**  
December 2018



# PL-1 On-going Work

13

## PL-1K: Numerical Modelling and Lab Simulation of Subsurface Fluid Migration

### Objective:

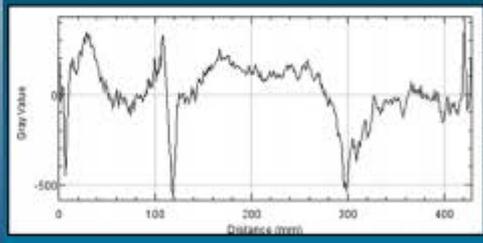
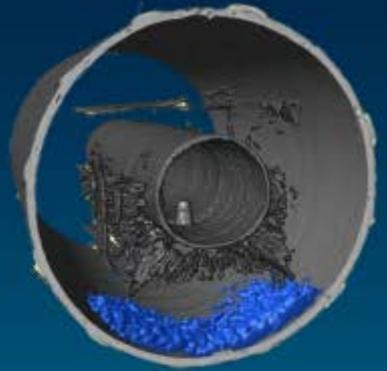
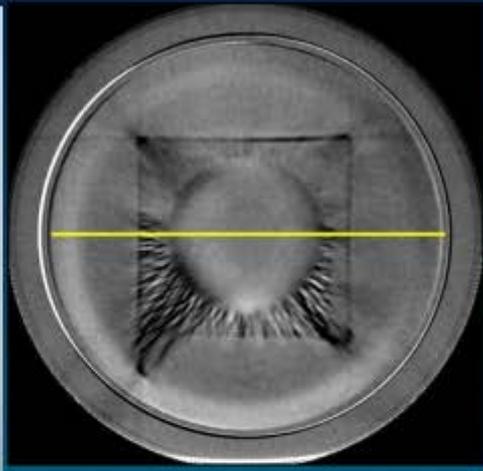
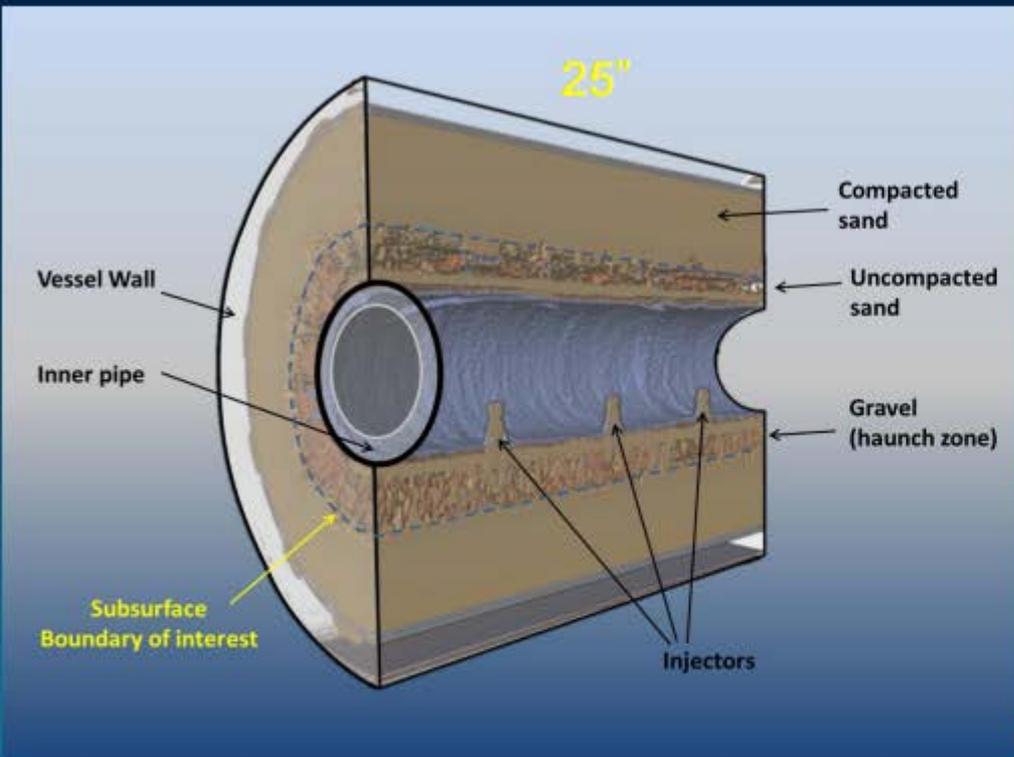
- Study that aims to predict and characterize the behavior of dense non-aqueous phase fluid (i.e. dilbit and gasoline) leaking from pipelines into surrounding geological porous media (i.e. sand and gravel).
- Integrate laboratory leakage simulations and modeling efforts.

### Status:

- Final Report Under project team review
- Operators would have an enhanced understanding of leaked fluid behavior in the pipeline corridor under various environmental (temperature, moisture) and physical conditions (porous medium, engineering design).

**Expected Completion Date:** December 2016

# PL-1K



Contact Information:

**Carrie Greaney**

Program Manager –  
Surveillance, Operations & Monitoring

[cgreaney@prci.org](mailto:cgreaney@prci.org)



[prci.org](http://prci.org)