



C ommunity A ssistance and T echnical S ervices

CONNECTION

PHMSA Pipeline Safety Program

JUNE 2005

The "CATS

Connection" is a

communications

initiative that will

be provided

whenever there is

a need to make a

connection from

one pipeline safety

stakeholder to

another – and, a

new means to get

you there. I hope

you enjoy the first

issue!

Sincerely,

Chris Hoidal

Regional Director,

Western Region

Office of Pipeline Safety

New website launched

The Office of Pipeline Safety is pleased to debut its new stakeholder website: On this website you will find information that you can use right now -- no matter who you are, where you live, or what you do for a living -- to help ensure pipeline safety in your community.

The site was developed with you in mind – whether you are the general public, local officials, state regulators, federal agencies, emergency officials, pipeline safety advocates, industry or excavators. Please take a moment to launch the site and select a stakeholder group from the top that best describes you: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/>.

Pipeline Emergencies – Are You Ready?



The new Pipeline Emergencies Training Program is now available!

The video and training manual are a resource for responder to pipeline emergencies. The material was developed through a partnership of the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Pipeline Safety and the National Association of State Fire Marshals.

Call 877-627-3605 to order Pipeline Emergencies Training Program or access the online order form from this site: <http://www.pipelineemergencies.com/order.html>

Don't miss these important **ADVISORY BULLETINS**:

Planning for Coordination of Emergency Response to Pipeline Emergencies, issued 5/18/05 <http://ops.dot.gov/regs/adv/2005/adb-05-03.pdf>

Strapping Table Calibration for Pipeline Breakout Tank Operators, issued 3/18/05 <http://ops.dot.gov/regs/adv/2005/strapping%20tables%20advisory.pdf>

Semi-annual Reporting of Performance Measures for Gas Transmission Pipeline Integrity Management, issued 1/21/05 http://ops.dot.gov/regs/adv/2005/Draft_Advisory_Bulletin_Reporting_010605.htm



CATS work to advance public safety, environmental protection and pipeline reliability by facilitating clear communications among all pipeline stakeholders.

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Final rule adopts API's RP 1162

The final rule adopting the American Petroleum Institute's Recommended Practice 1162, *Public Awareness Programs for Pipeline Operators* published in the Federal Register May 19, 2005. The rule incorporates API's RP 1162 by reference into Sections 192.616 (Gas Pipelines) and 195.440 (Hazardous Liquids Pipelines) of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's regulations published in the Federal Register May 19, 2005.

The rule recognizes that promoting pipeline safety requires enhanced communications (by pipeline operators) with the public to increase awareness of pipeline operations and safety issues. This Final Rule takes effect on June 20, 2005 and requires that pipeline operators must have written plans completed by June 20, 2006.

The OPS is planning at least one technical assistance workshop for the Fall. This workshop would cover draft review criteria; clearinghouse operations; opportunities for collaboration among operators; and technical assistance on evaluating for effectiveness - who's doing what and how is it working so far. Watch for a notice to be posted on our web site soon: <http://ops.dot.gov/>

NEW DAMAGE PREVENTION MEASURES – IT PAYS TO CALL ONE-CALL

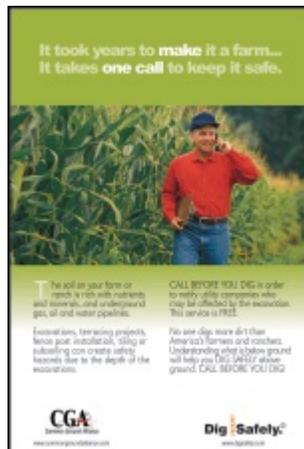
Docket 05-4123 added a new 190.229(e), which reads:

(e) Any person who willfully and knowingly engages in excavation activity without first using an available one-call notification system to establish the location of underground facilities in the excavation area; or without considering location information or markings established by a pipeline facility operator; and

(1) Subsequently damages a pipeline facility resulting in death, serious bodily harm, or property damage exceeding \$50,000;

(2) Subsequently damages a pipeline facility and knows or has reason to know of the damage but fails to promptly report the damage to the operator and to the appropriate authorities; or

(3) Subsequently damages a hazardous liquid pipeline facility that results in the release of more than 50 barrels of product; shall, upon conviction, be subject for each offense to a fine of not more than \$5,000, imprisonment for a term not to exceed 5 years, or both.



Speaking of DAMAGE PREVENTION, the Common

Ground Alliance has developed an educational campaign promoting the "Dig Safely" message within the agriculture community, and has made this campaign available for use by all CGA stakeholders.

Check it out at:

<http://www.commongroundalliance.com>. Just click on "Publications and Resources" and then click "Educational Programs" for more information.

The picture on the left is a preview of one of the print adds that is available to CGA members.