

PHMSA 2009 R&D Forum
 WASHINGTON, DC • June 24 & 25, 2009

TRACK 5 - CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS – SUBSEA PIPELINES PRCI Current Subsea Projects

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Pipeline Research Council International, Inc. • www.prci.org



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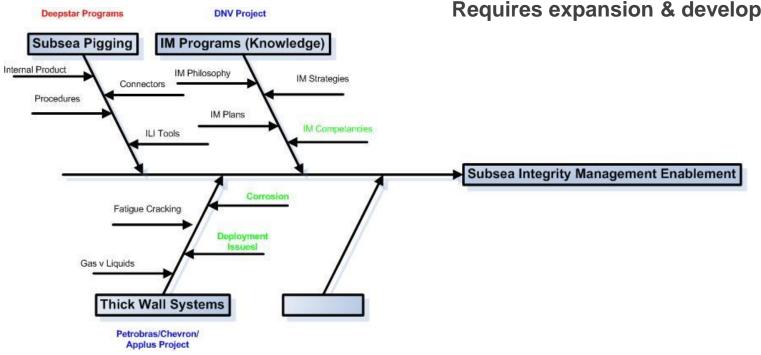


- Subsea track within the PRCI is relatively new.
- Road mapping for direction is at an early stage.
- We are currently looking at 'gap' analysis what is it that PRCI can do that is not being covered elsewhere.



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Conceptual Roadmap



Requires expansion & development

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<u>SPIM 1-1 – Subsea Pipeline Integrity</u> <u>Management</u>

- Fits to road map IM Knowledge
- Focus is on operational pipelines not new design.
- There are three (3) main goals for SPIM:
- 1. Ensure that the pipeline(s) can be managed in a safe and cost effective manner, while protecting the environment throughout their operational lifetime.
- 2. Minimize the impact on the availability and reliability of the offshore production (security of supply), thereby ensuring continuous throughput of hydrocarbon resources.
- 3. Ensure flexibility in its application to the individual needs of oil and gas producers and pipeline operators, in different geographical, organizational legislative environments when developing, executing and revising SPIM programs.



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- Development of a 'Best Practices' document for establishing subsea pipeline integrity management programs.
- Phase 1 current state of industry review.
- Phase 2 development of best practice guidelines.
- Estimated 2 year time frame.
- Contract placed with DNV

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SPIM 1-2 Crack Detection In Heavy Wall Gas Risers & Pipelines

- Program to determine the capability of ILI tools to detect fatigue cracks in heavy wall pipelines.
- primary focus is fatigue cracks in Steel
 Catenary Risers (SCR's) and Gas Pipelines
 subject to cyclical line packing in-service.
- Grow fatigue cracks in pipe sections.





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- Provides a test bed to determine current performance characteristics.
- Provides a test bed to test new sensor technologies.
- Retain to provide an ongoing benchmark of performance improvements.
- Phase 1 1 year duration.
- Contract placed with SwRI

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2010 Ballot Items

- Assessment of NDE technologies for outside the pipe inspection of internal corrosion on subsea flowlines.
- Improving inspectability of gas pipelines & risers by dry coupled ultrasonics.
- Evaluation of MTM technology (on & offshore applications).
- Base resource document for unpiggable pipelines (all sectors)
- Subsea pipeline damage inspection & protocol guidelines.
- Pipe in pipe inspection from outside the pipe.