



# **Pipeline Design, Construction & Operations Technical Committee**

## **Damage Prevention**

Rick Gailing  
Southern California Gas Company

Research & Development Forum  
Washington, D.C.  
December 11, 2003



## **DC&O Mission Statement**

**Develop safe, environmentally responsible, cost-effective and reliable solutions for the design, construction, and operation of energy pipelines**



## **Key Emphasis Areas**

- **Offshore**
- **Onshore & Arctic**
- **Damage Prevention & Detection**
- **Reliability-Based Design & Assessment**
- **Integrity Practice Standardization**



## Technical Programs (2001 – 2004)

1. Prevention of Third Party Damage	\$1,305k
2. Implementing Integrity Standards	\$3,060k
3. Reliability-Based Design Alternatives	\$918k
4. Determination of Max. Safe Surface Loads	\$994k
5. Leak Detection and Notification	\$350k
6. Prevention of Critical Pipeline Strains	\$1,363k
7. Solutions for Adverse Crossings	<u>\$245k</u>
	\$8,235k



## **Damage Prevention**

- **Addressed by all seven technical programs**
- **Categorized into four areas:**
  - Integrity Assessment for Operating and External Loads
  - Mechanical Damage
  - Industry Standards Development
  - Human Factors (new)



# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ Current Projects

### Surface Loading

- effects of non-typical loading conditions on buried pipelines
- centrifuge modeling of pipe stress from extreme loads
- effects of static and cyclic surface loadings on the performance of welds in pre-1970 pipelines



# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ What's Needed

### Surface Loading

- Calibrate improved FEM techniques to full-scale test data
- Expand database for varied load conditions, pipe parameters, soil types and cover depths using FEM
- Develop tools to assess extreme surface loads on pipelines at various cover depths



# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ Current Projects

### Structural Integrity

- local buckling and collapse of corroded pipelines
- wrinkle bend integrity study
- decompression response of high-pressure natural gas pipelines under rupture/blowdown conditions





# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ Past and Current Projects

### Environmental Forces

- integrity assessment of exposed and unburied pipelines in river channels
- pipeline on-bottom stability
- seismic design and assessment guidelines
- satellite-based ground movement monitoring



**PRCI**

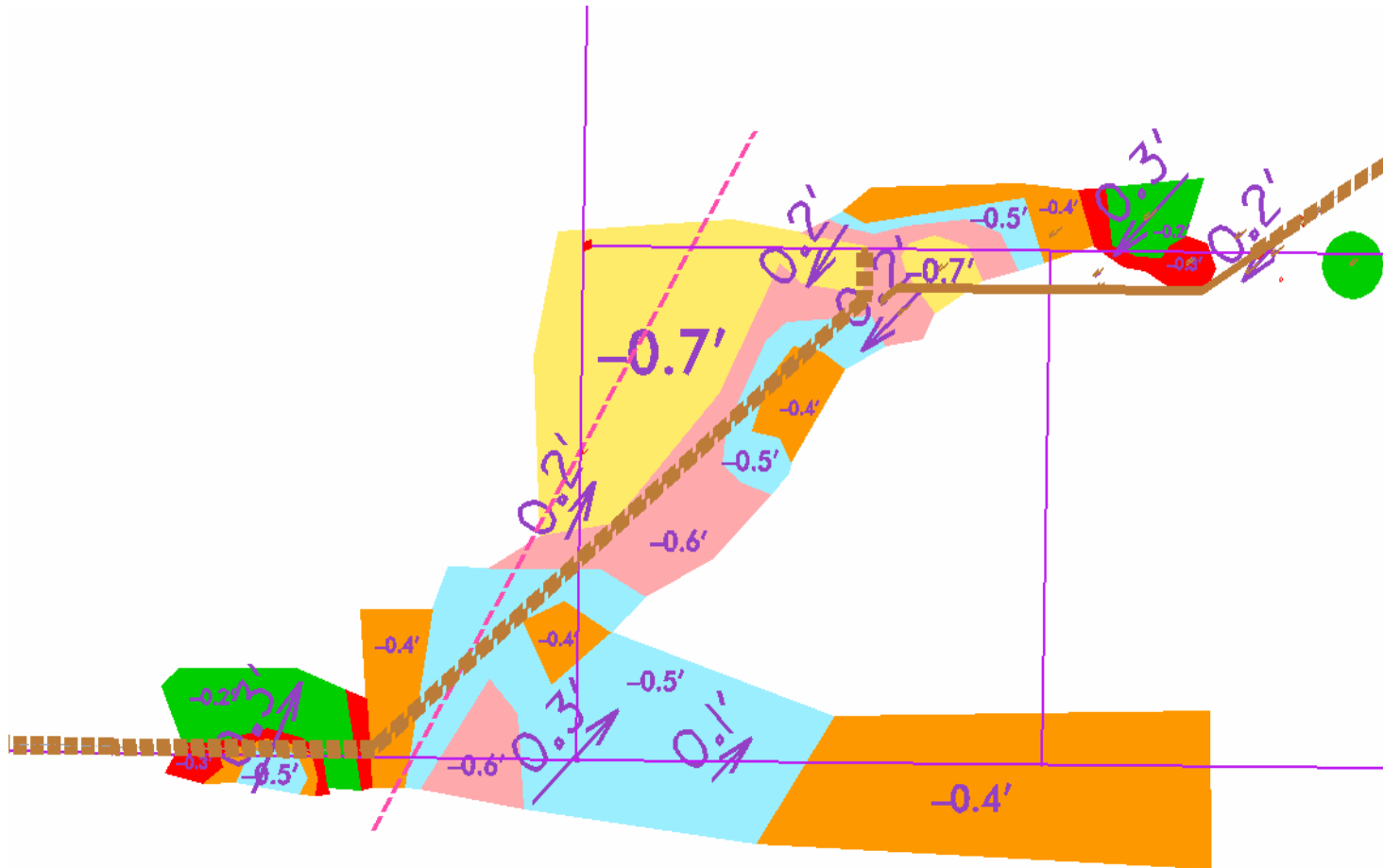
*Technology for Energy Pipelines*





**PRGI**

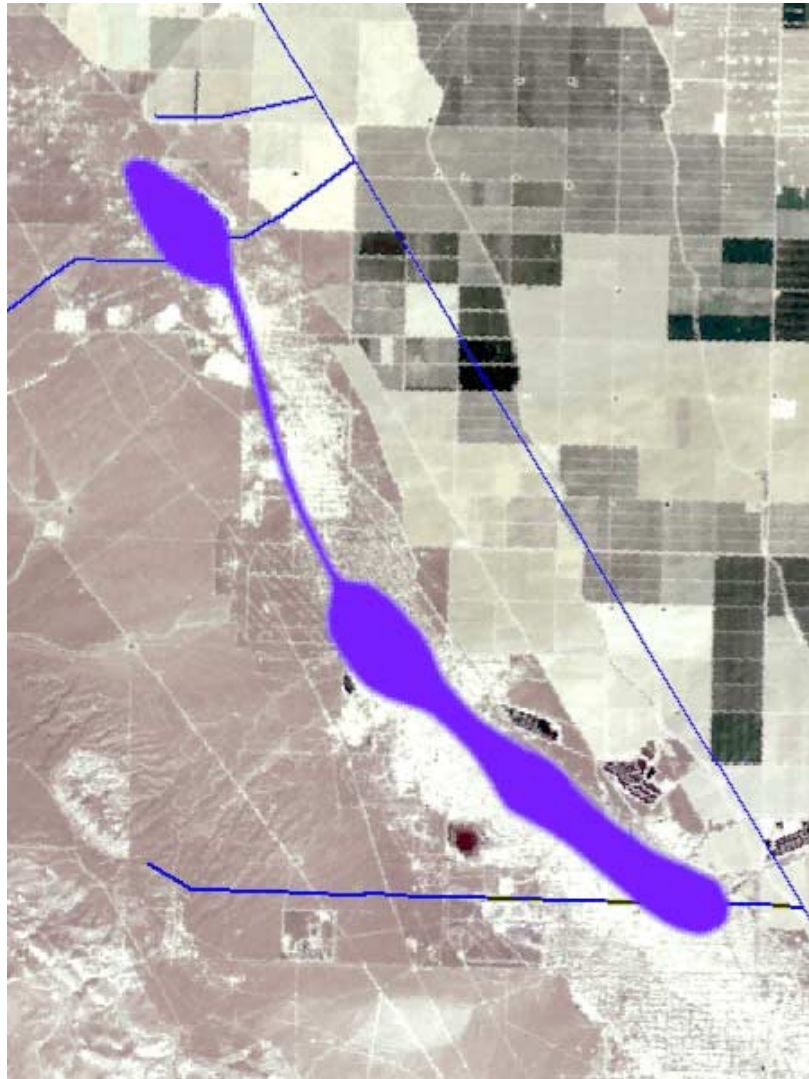
Technology for Energy Pipelines





**PRGI**

*Technology for Energy Pipelines*



40cm

30cm

20cm

10cm



**Ground  
Subsidence  
Along  
SoCalGas ROW  
due to Belridge  
Oil Production**

**February 24  
to September 29,  
2001.**



**PRCI**

*Technology for Energy Pipelines*

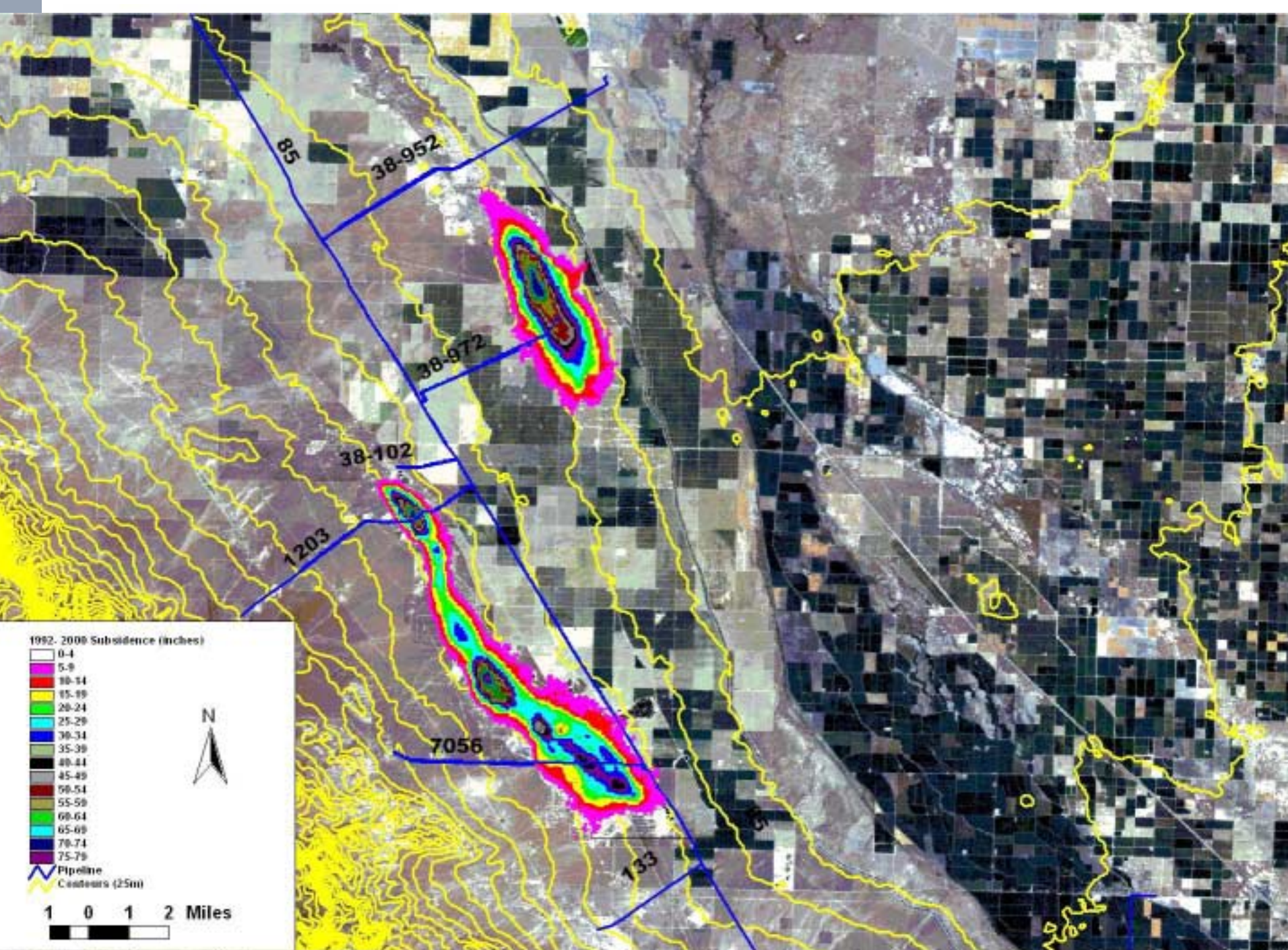




**PRGI**

*Technology for Energy Pipelines*





1992- 2009 Subsidence (Inches)





# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ Satellite-Based Ground Movement Monitoring

- Mature service with several providers
- Reliable measurements
- Applicable to most right-of-ways (arid to semi-arid regions ideal)
- Radar reflectors required in regions with moderate to dense vegetation
- Successful pilots conducted
- Large data archive covering most regions back to 1992
- Cost effective when multiple rights-of-way are covered in a single satellite image
- Very cost effective in remote regions
- New satellites are bringing costs down (~30% less than 2002)





# Integrity Assessment for Operating Loads

## ➤ What's Needed

- more satellites: closer intervals, more images, reduced cost
- enhanced radar imagery resolution
- enhanced imagery processing for larger areas
- enhanced software for automatic detection and notification
- company-specific pilots to demonstrate benefits
- tests to determine if reflectors are required



# Mechanical Damage

## ➤ Past and Current Projects

- pipeline design for mechanical damage
- reliability-based pipeline design for mechanical damage
- reliability-based prevention of mechanical damage to pipelines
- reliability-based planning of inspection and maintenance
- effectiveness of new prevention technologies for mechanical damage
- real-time acoustic monitoring
- detection of third-party encroachment using satellite-based remote sensing technologies
- automated detection of encroachment events using satellites



## Mechanical Damage

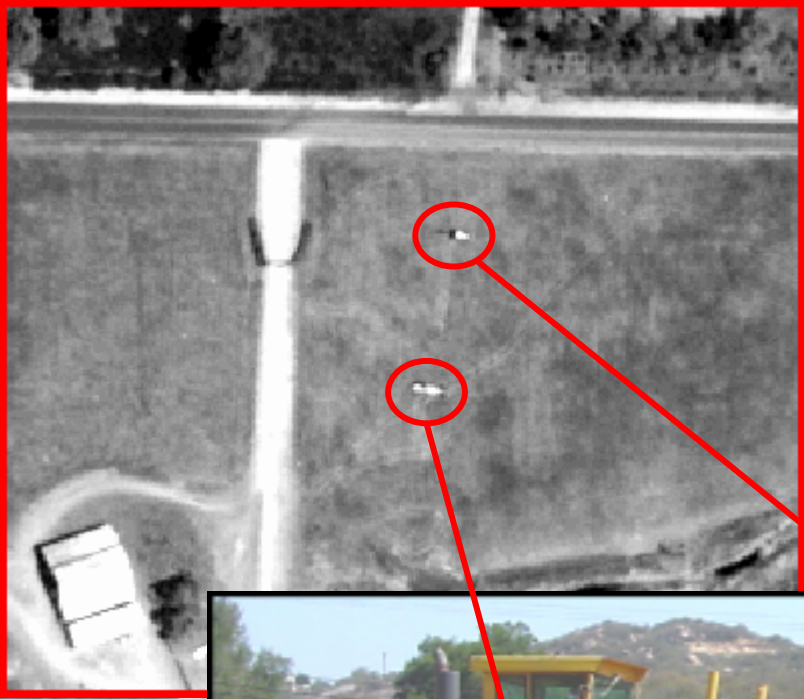
- **Satellite-Based Third Party Encroachment Monitoring**
  - Capabilities and performance continue to improve
  - Automated detection rates approaching human performance
  - New satellites bring new levels of performance
  - Optical satellites close to ‘people’ detection
  - Radar satellites similar to optical resolution to be launched in 2005
  - Radar satellites essential for operations in cloud areas
  - High imagery cost - vendors must become part of overall service provision to make service viable in the long term



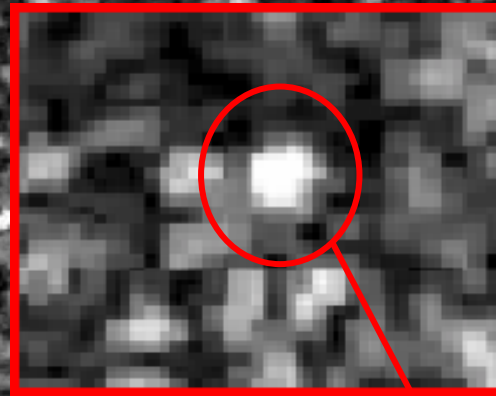
# Mechanical Damage

- **What's Needed**
  - More satellites / lower imagery cost
  - Enhanced imagery resolution & processing
  - Higher accuracy rate (less false calls)
  - Alternatives to satellite monitoring (new platforms)
  - High speed processing chain required for full operation
  - Framework for integration with one-call and 1st/2nd party coordination
  - Pilot Projects:
    - Short duration (1 month) pilots have been successful
    - Long duration (6 month) pilots required to demonstrate full benefits

# QUICKBIRD



# RADARSAT-1





## Mechanical Damage

### ➤ What's Needed

- Best practices compendium with current and emerging technologies to prevent mechanical damage
- Effective methods for monitoring offshore pipelines



## Industry Standards

- **Implementing Integrity Standards**
  - Provide draft language for the periodic integrity assessment and management of threats to pipelines
  - Develop supporting standards for the Integrity Management Program
  - Provide foundation technical reports to ASME, ASNT, NACE, and other Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)





# Industry Standards

## ➤ Projects

### Complete

- ASME B31.8S – Managing System Integrity of Gas Pipelines
- API 1162 – Communications for Integrity Management Program
- Acceptance criteria for mild ripples in pipeline field bends

### In ballot

- API RP1163 – ILI Qualification Standard



# Industry Standards

## ➤ Projects

### Continuing

- ILI Personnel Qualifications Standard - framework for qualification of data interpreters – ASNT ILI-2003
- Conducting analysis of industry incidents
- Conducting analysis of one-call performance
- Developing industry-performance metrics

### Initiated

- ASME B31.8Q Operator Qualification Standard
- Study on fatigue as a root cause for pipeline failure



# Industry Standards

## ➤ What's Needed

- Standards organizations to adopt and incorporate acceptance criteria for mild ripples in pipeline field bends into existing codes and standards
- Develop standards for RBDA for gas, liquid, Arctic pipelines



## Human Factors

- **Human Factors Analysis of Pipeline Control Room Operations and Procedures**
  - Identify recurring human factors that have the potential to compromise the ability of controllers to effectively recognize and respond to leaks
  - Identify strategies that would cost-effectively reduce the likelihood of leaks, accidents, shut-downs or other incidents associated with the identified human factors



## **Contact Details**

**Rick Gailing**

**(213) 244-5404**

**rgailing@semprautilities.com**

**Pipeline Research Council International, Inc.**

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