

Pipeline Safety Management Systems for Small Operators

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Pipeline Safety Trust Conference



American Public Gas Association

APGA & Public Gas Systems

1,028 Publicly Owned Gas Systems

730 APGA Members

- States Served: 37 states
- Customers Served: 4.1 M
- Employees: 21,000
- Miles of Main: 120,000

Public Gas Systems

Customers

Smallest: 19

Average: 5,617

Largest: 478,267

Employees

Smallest: 1

Average: 27

Largest: 1,650

American Public Gas Association: Member Focus

**The
Safe and Reliable Delivery
of
Affordable Natural Gas
at
Just & Reasonable Rates**

Pipeline Safety Management Systems




“PSMS is a management tool that will help a pipeline operator comprehensively manage all the many aspects of pipeline safety.”

Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS)

APGA's Commitment

- APGA supports effective safety management systems for public gas systems.
- ▣ APGA Commitment to Pipeline Safety (2018)



American Public
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APGA Commitment to Pipeline Safety

A safety management system is a systematic approach to managing safety. Embedded in a SMS are the overarching structures, policies and procedures an organization uses to direct and control its activities. In many situations, pipeline operators already have these elements implemented and Pipeline Safety Management Systems (PSMS) offers a framework to continuously improve these programs.

One of the elements of a safety management system that is essential to safe operations is a commitment by management.

Whereas: Safety is the highest priority of APGA members; and

Whereas: public gas systems have an excellent safety record; and

Whereas: the basic elements of pipeline safety management systems are applicable to systems of all sizes; and can assist operators in identifying areas where pipeline safety performance can be enhanced; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that APGA members are committed to continuing to enhance pipeline safety through the following Safety Management System elements:

1. Promoting a positive safety culture within our system
2. Communicating and educating our employees, contractors, and the public regarding pipeline safety.
3. Implementing processes and actions that reduce risk and maintain the integrity of our pipeline assets.
4. Developing and maintaining safe work practices.
5. Investigating incidents and near-misses on our pipeline system in an effort to identify and implement corrective actions moving forward.
6. Verifying that existing operations and safety practices are improving pipeline safety.
7. Reviewing our system's safety performance to determine if additional actions are necessary to improve pipeline safety.
8. Responding effectively to pipeline incidents.
9. Ensuring that our personnel and our contractors are competent in performing all tasks that impact the integrity of our system.
10. Maintaining documentation needed to ensure pipeline safety.



APGA's Commitment

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1. Promoting a positive **safety culture** within our system.
2. **Communicating** and educating our employees, contractors, and the public regarding pipeline safety.
3. Implementing processes and actions that **reduce risk and maintain the integrity** of our pipeline assets.
4. Developing and maintaining **safe work practices**.
5. **Investigating incidents** and near-misses on our pipeline system in an effort to identify and implement corrective actions moving forward.
6. **Verifying** that existing operations and safety practices are **improving** pipeline safety.
7. Reviewing our system's safety performance to determine if **additional actions** are necessary to improve pipeline safety.
8. **Responding** effectively to pipeline incidents.
9. Ensuring that our personnel and our contractors are **competent** in performing all tasks that impact the integrity of our system.
10. Maintaining **documentation** needed to ensure pipeline safety.



APGA PSMS Planning Tool

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- **What:** 50 + Question Multiple Choice Survey
- **Who:** Any system (not just APGA members) & for their internal use only
- **How:** Select the answers that *most* reflects their system
- **Why:** Identifies potential areas of improvement
- **When:** Beta version will be ready by APGA's Operations Conference in late October

APGA PSMS Planning Tool: Example

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A – Our employees are trained to **identify** and **suggest improvements** that they find in the field.

B – Our employees are trained **and encouraged** to identify and suggest improvements that they find in the field.

C – Our employees are trained and encouraged to identify and suggest improvements that they find in the field. We have a **system** in place to **assist** them in documenting those suggested improvements.

D – Our employees are trained and encouraged to identify and suggest improvements that they find in the field. We have a system in place to assist them in submitting those improvements and we provide **follow-up responses** to all suggestions, regardless if the suggestion is implemented.

APGA & PSMS

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- **Embracing** the concepts within PSMS
- **Participating** in industry efforts
- **Translating** into language that fits public systems
- **Creating** tools to assist in implementation
- **Learning** from other industry sectors



American Public Gas Association



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