



Louisiana Gas Association

LGA Spring
E-Newsletter
April 2014

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Your Source of News for the Natural Gas Industry

PERFORMANCE ~ SAFETY ~ PUBLIC AWARENESS

Exhibitor Hall SOLD OUT for the 2014 Pipeline Safety Conference



The 2014 Pipeline Safety Conference will bring together individuals in the Natural Gas Industry, expert presenters on the federal and state levels, and suppliers to enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness. This conference, which has been referred to as the "Premier Pipeline Safety Conference," will take place July 21-25, 2014 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in New Orleans, LA.

As excitement develops for this year's Pipeline Safety Conference, the exhibitor hall has already SOLD OUT! The Exhibitor Hall is an impressive showcase of the newest and most exciting products and services in the industry. If you would like to be added to our wait list for the exhibit hall, please contact the LGA staff at 225-218-6885 to inquire about this process. Sponsorship opportunities are still available and a great way to promote your business.

While the agenda and speakers continue to be perfected, registration for the conference is now open! In addition to presentations from PHMSA and the Office of Pipeline Safety, the conference is continuing its tradition of offering additional workshops during the conference which attendees will have a chance to learn hands on techniques and participate in roundtable discussions. Do not delay, register today! The final agenda with speakers will be distributed in the coming weeks.

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**Save the Date
LGA Upcoming
Events**

**Fusion Training
April 1, 2014
Zachary, LA**

**Fusion Training
April 2, 2014**

Located in the heart of the French Quarter on world famous Bourbon Street, the Royal Sonesta Hotel New Orleans displays a timeless elegance and refinement reminiscent of its European counterparts. With traditional gabled windows, French doors and wrought-iron lace balconies, the hotel is distinctively European and unmistakably New Orleans. Reserve your room at the official conference hotel TODAY and receive the special room rate of \$101.00. Reservations may be made by contacting the hotel directly at (504) 586-0300, (800) 766-3782 or . Be sure to mention that you are attending the **Pipeline Safety Seminar** in order to receive the special negotiated rate. The deadline to receive this special room rate is Friday, June 27, 2014.

We encourage you to reserve your hotel room and make your travel arrangements as soon as possible. As the regions "Premier Pipeline Safety Conference" rooms book quickly and the deadline will not be extended due to the hotels expected occupancy. Staying at the conference hotel gives you easy access to social events, and allows you to network with fellow attendees.

More information about the 2014 Pipeline Safety Conference can be found by visiting www.lagas.org. Individuals interested in learning more may also contact Kathleen O'Regan for more information at (225) 218-6885 or LGA@tatmangroup.com.

LGA Releases Schedule of 2014 Educational Seminars

The LGA Education Committee have released their line up of educational programs for the year. The programs are designed to offer more quality hands on training for your employees. LGA member company's received special discounted rates for ALL of their employees. Please download the [REGISTRATION BROCHURE](#) or visit www.lagas.org to learn more about each seminar and register TODAY.

2014 Educational Opportunities:

- Fusion Training - Plastic Pipe Joining
- Leak Surveys
- Safety in Excavation & Competent Person Training
- Incident Command & First Response
- Customer Service Roundtable
- Regulator & Relief Valve Training
- Valve Maintenance Seminar
- Online Training (on demand training on a variety of topics)



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SAVE THE DATE:
2014 LGA Annual Operations Conference
October 27 - October 29, 2014 / Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge

The Louisiana Gas Association invites you to attend the **2014 Annual Operation Conference** that brings together Louisiana's top executives, small operators, municipalities and vendors. This three day, fun filled, education packed event will provide

Lafayette, LA

Leak Survey Seminar
April 14, 2014
Zachary, LA

Safety in Excavation & Competent Person Training
April 22, 2014
Metairie, LA

Safety in Excavation & Competent Person Training
April 23, 2014
Lafayette, LA

Safety in Excavation & Competent Person Training
April 24, 2014
Alexandria, LA

Incident Command & First Response
May 8, 2014
Baton Rouge, LA

Customer Service Roundtable
June 10, 2014
Baton Rouge, LA

Regulator & Relief Valve Training
June 17, 2014
Zachary, LA

191/192 & 195 Pipeline Safety Conference
July 21-25, 2014
Royal Sonesta Hotel
New Orleans, LA

Valve Maintenance Seminar
September 30, 2014
Zachary, LA

Annual Operations Conference
October 27-29, 2014
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Baton Rouge, LA

Thank You to our 2014 Pipeline Safety Conference Sponsors & Exhibitors

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Blackbelt Energy
LW Survey Development
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you with the knowledge to enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness. Please **SAVE THE DATE** for this event. We look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge in October!

The Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge Hotel enjoys a reputation for warm hospitality and comfortable accommodations. It is conveniently located near the intersection of I-10 and College Drive on Constitution Avenue.

The special room rate of \$92 will be honored at the Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge Hotel. Please contact the Hotel reservations direct at (800) 678-4065 to make your reservations today. The deadline to receive this rate is October 13, 2014.

Tentative Agenda:

- **October 26, 2014** - Golf Tournament & 7th Annual Michael Hester BBQ Cook-off
- **October 27, 2014** - Small Operator & Management Operations Track
- **October 28, 2014** - General Session Speaker(s) & LGA Annual Meeting

We look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge in October!

President Obama Highlights Support for Natural Gas Vehicles

President Obama today visited a Safeway distribution center in Upper Marlboro, Md., where he called on the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Transportation to develop fuel-efficiency and greenhouse gas standards for future trucks and other heavier vehicles by March 2016.

"President Obama has continued to demonstrate his support for the role of natural gas in a clean energy future," said Dave McCurdy, president and CEO, the American Gas Association. "Two years ago, the President released standards for cars and light-duty trucks that broadened the application of manufacturers' incentives for vehicles that run on alternative fuels to include natural gas. Natural gas vehicles will play major role in helping to improve our environment and our national security, and provide real, long-term savings to consumers, and we're pleased to see his focus on the use of natural gas for the heavy-duty sector."

On a well-to-wheels basis, natural gas vehicles produce 20 to 30 percent lower emissions at the tailpipe than a similar diesel or gasoline-powered vehicles. They also emit much less particulate matter and volatile organic compounds than gasoline or diesel. Compressed natural gas (CNG) costs about 50 percent less than gasoline, and about 60 percent less than diesel.

"The president highlighted how leaders in every sector of our economy are embracing natural gas because it offers real savings, real stimulus and real solutions. Supporting this evolution, natural gas utilities have contributed to a 60 percent growth in our national CNG refueling infrastructure since 2009," McCurdy continued.

The American Gas Foundation and IHS CERA recently released a study entitled "[Fueling the Future with Natural Gas: Bringing it Home](#)" which found that for Class 8 vehicles such as 18 wheelers, the fuel savings from switching to natural gas is significant enough that the extra upfront cost of approximately \$40,000 is recuperated in less than two years. A natural gas passenger vehicle will save you an average of [\\$4,500](#) in fuel costs over five years compared to a gasoline vehicle according to the same study.



Sen. Inhofe Introduces Legislation to Encourage the Production of NGVs

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Furmanite

Farwest Corrosion Control

NGVAmerica applauds the work of Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK), a senior member of the Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, and Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI) for introducing the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Development Act (S.2065), a bill that would incentivize the production and purchase of natural gas and other alternative fuel vehicles.

Specifically, the law would remove the current cap placed on the number of credits automakers can receive for the production of alternative fuel vehicles under the CAFE program. Automakers earn the majority of their credits for producing E85 Flex-Fuel vehicles, leaving few, if any, credits to be earned for the production of natural gas vehicles (NGVs). The legislation would also encourage the purchase of natural gas and other alternative fuel vehicles by giving states the option of allowing these vehicles to use high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes without passenger restrictions.

"The booming natural gas industry in America is delivering a cheap, domestic energy source for our homes and businesses, but this fuel source is being underutilized in our vehicles," said Inhofe. "The legislation will incentivize automakers to bring NGVs to the market more quickly by streamlining regulations and removing red tape that automakers currently must comply with."

"As we continue to drive progress, we appreciate the efforts of Senators Inhofe and Levin to provide incentives for [alternative fuel] technologies," said Curt Magleby, vice president for government relations at Ford Motor Company. "This legislation will help to encourage the production of the more advanced alternative fuel vehicles and will modernize High-Occupancy Vehicle lanes for the future. Efforts like these will help increase customer acceptance of advanced technologies."

"Sen. Inhofe continues to be a champion for the NGV industry by introducing legislation that will encourage both automakers and vehicle purchasers to put more NGVs on American roads," said NGVAmerica president Richard Kolodziej. "The increased use of domestic natural gas in our transportation sector brings a number of policy benefits, including reduced tailpipe and greenhouse gas emissions, reduced dependence on foreign oil and the growth of U.S. jobs."



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LGA Supports Safe Digging Month



April 2014 will once again be National Safe Digging Month, the time of year when all Common Ground Alliance stakeholders come together to communicate how important it is that professionals and homeowners alike call 811 and follow the safe digging process to help prevent injuries, property damage and inconvenient outages.

Advertising Opportunities

Don't miss out on the chance to promote your business in the Louisiana Gas Association's Quarterly E-Newsletter. As an advertiser, you will receive the opportunity to provide

target advertising to business and supply valuable information within your industry. Don't be the only vendor left out. Place an ad today!

Download the E-Newsletter Flyer

Ad rates and deadlines included in flyer

Questions? Contact Rachael Stanton at the LGA office:

- Phone: (225) 218-6885
- Toll Free: (866) 921-0923
- Email: LGA@tatmangroup.com

Have an interesting article for the LGA E-Newsletter?

Have an interesting article to include in the LGA E-Newsletter? Send suggested articles to Kathleen O'Regan at the LGA office. Your article could appear in the next quarterly issue!

Articles may include, but are not limited to:

1. LGA Member, Company, and/or Employee Recognitions
2. Industry Updates
3. Member special events
4. Company Announcements
5. Consumer Reports

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To learn more about LGA or if you have any questions regarding the articles in this newsletter please contact (225) 218-6885 or visit www.lagas.com.

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