

# **IMGA** **gas NEWS**

Interstate Municipal Gas Agency

March / April, 2011

Issue 56

## **IMGA's Third Training Season is a Success**

This March wrapped up the third Operator Qualification Training season for the Agency and it was another successful year!

In January, the Agency welcomed Ralf Henkel as our new instructor for the program. Ralf is retired from Ameren where he worked for 29 years. His last 10 years were spent with the training department.

In addition to our regular training attendees, we also gained attendance from White Hall, Shawneetown and Vienna, which helped to push attendance to a record level in January!



A new training season will kick off in the fall and will include sessions on leak investigation, corrosion control, and damage prevention, just in time for those who took these sessions with us during the 2008-2009 season to recertify.

IMGA would like to thank you for your support of the training program. It wouldn't be a success without you!

## **Leverage Geography to Satisfy DIMP Requirements**

(Written and Provided by APGA)

Every threat involved in a distribution integrity management program (DIMP) has a geographic location. When you use GIS technology, you are able to connect distribution data to its geographic location. This allows you to keep information current, and provides you with a powerful analytical tool to identify and quantify threats, calculate and model risks, and create accurate reports.

GIS technology leverages the geographic components of your gas distribution system to help you reduce risk, improve safety, and satisfy DIMP requirements.

In an ongoing webinar series, Esri give you a firsthand look at how to complete crucial DIMP requirements using GIS technology. The free webinar series will demonstrate how to identify threats, evaluate and mitigate risk, and measure the performance of your process.

Register to take part in the series:

### **March 23—Maintain Critical DIMP Data**

See how GIS can help you maintain and access critical DIMP data. We will discuss how the same data and software can be used to improve decision making in other areas of the utility.

### **April 20—Collect and Validate Field Data**

Learn how to use GIS-based mobile tools to record new information and validate existing field data. Then, expand the use of these tools to other business processes.

### **May 18—Present and Expose DIMP Results**

Discover how GIS can be used to communicate DIMP analysis results with regulators, decision makers, and stakeholders. Beyond DIMP, see how GIS can help improve decision making.

### **June 15—Measure Risk and Answer Critical Questions**

Step through the process of using GIS to measure risk and complete DIMP analysis. Find out how free models can add value to your organization.

**Sign up for the free DIMP webinar series at [www.esri.com/dimp](http://www.esri.com/dimp).**

## IMGA Member Communities

Aledo, Illinois  
Auburn, Illinois  
Bethany, Illinois  
Chester, Illinois  
Cobden, Illinois  
Corning, Iowa  
Creal Springs, Illinois  
Divernon, Illinois  
Enfield, Illinois  
Findlay, Illinois  
Franklin, Illinois  
Fulton, Missouri  
Grayville, Illinois  
Karnak, Illinois  
Livermore, Kentucky  
Louisville, Illinois  
Milford, Illinois  
New Boston, Illinois  
Perryville, Missouri  
Pinckneyville, Illinois  
Pittsfield, Illinois  
Plattsburg, Missouri  
Pleasant Hill, Illinois  
Riverton, Illinois  
Rossville, Illinois  
Tamms, Illinois  
Thebes, Illinois  
Waverly, Illinois  
Westville, Illinois  
White Hall, Illinois  
Winchester, Illinois

### IMGA Eligible Utility

Corn Belt Energy Corporation  
Graceland University  
Illinois Agriculture Association  
Lamoni Municipal Utilities  
Western Illinois University

## Planning on planting a tree or garden? Adding an addition to your home or installing a deck or fence?

Just call 811 from anywhere in the country and your call will be routed to your local One Call Center. Once you inform the operator where you are planning on digging and what type of job you will be doing, your local utilities companies will be notified and will mark your underground pipes and cables in just a few days.

The service is **free** and can save you money and time in the long run. Save yourself from injury or the embarrassment, expense and inconvenience of repairs by calling prior to digging this spring!

### One Call Center numbers by State

Illinois 1-800-892-0123

Iowa 1-800-292-8989

Missouri 1-800-344-7483



## 2011 Annual Meeting

The IMGA Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12th at the Northfield Inn & Suites in Springfield, Illinois. The event is **FREE**, but you must register in advance by calling our office at 217-438-4642, faxing your information to 217-438-6100, or emailing your information to [choward@imga.org](mailto:choward@imga.org).

IMGA has reserved a block of rooms at a discounted rate of \$69. If you need a room, please contact the hotel directly at 866-577-7900 or [www.northfieldinn.com](http://www.northfieldinn.com).

Come join us for a day filled with informative sessions, networking and delicious food! We look forward to seeing you on April 12th!

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Interstate Municipal Gas Agency  
1310 West Jefferson  
Auburn, IL 62615