

UKOPA INSIGHTS

SUMMER 2024

UKOPA Members Meeting

22 May 2024,
Royal Air Force Museum, Shifnal

Preserving Pipeline Integrity: The Life-cycle of Asset Management

The fabulous Royal Air Force Museum in Shifnal was the setting for this year's Spring Technical Seminar that focussed on the topic of 'Preserving Pipeline Integrity: The Lifecycle of Asset Management.'

More than 60 delegates attended from across the broad membership to hear insightful and informative presentations from more than ten experts in their field. There were also round table discussions and break out groups, as well as the fantastic opportunity to network with peers from across the UK's pipeline industry.



The seminar began with a warm welcome from UKOPA Board Member, Simon Joyce, who reminded attendees that whatever their role, everyone has a part to play in asset management and the protection of pipelines. The packed agenda then started with a presentation from Richard Waine, consultant at Ockham, looking at the changing landscape in asset management.

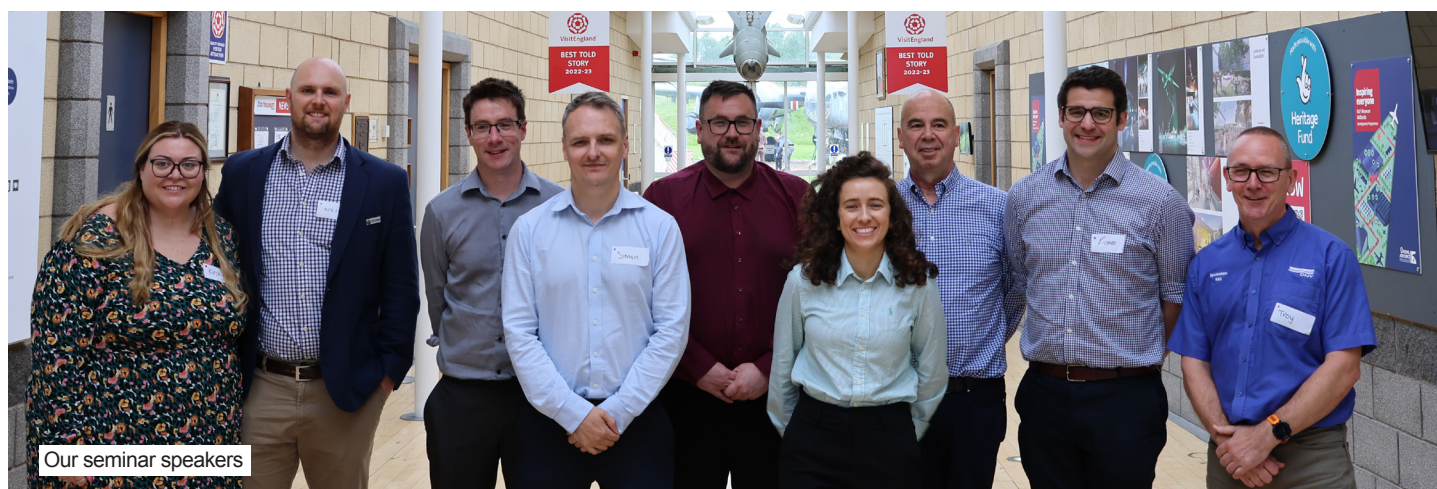
The insightful presentation outlined the importance of securing the right balance between risk and return, as well as the need to take a holistic view across the whole asset life. He also went on to examine the opportunities and risks associated with digital technologies before concluding with a look into pipeline repurposing and the opportunity that holds.



The morning session comprised of further informative presentations from Barry Nicholson of Baker Hughes, who gave a comprehensive overview of the importance of in-line inspection for dents and defects with helpful case studies showing the methodology to help operators reduce the volume of unnecessary and premature digs while also providing transparency where risk exists.



Rebecca Senior and Daniel Finley from ROSEN gave an insight into managing Geohazards including useful case studies showing the impact of landslides, erosion and flooding on pipeline integrity. The session was appropriately followed by expert Steve Davie who shared details of some of the challenges faced with river crossing surveys as well as some innovative solutions.



The afternoon session kicked off with a presentation from Kenny Delaney, Principal Engineer at SCORE, outlining the benefits of repurposing equipment, reducing CO2 and enhancing pipeline lifespan. The presentation included showing the overhaul and automation of 100 year old penstock valves allowing it to be repurposed and remotely controlled.

Neil MacKay, from STATS Group shared details of temporary pipeline isolation solutions with a series of case studies illustrating the installation, repair or replacement of pipelines sections or valves as well as their role in emergency responses. The last session was from Troy Swankie from DNV sharing examples of incidents caused by poor record keeping of assets. He concluded that there was a need for better alignment of databases with additional reporting criteria and consistent use of terminology.



The Technical seminar also gave members an opportunity to share thoughts and learnings through a series of round table discussions. Attendees were split into four groups in morning and afternoon sessions to examine pertinent subjects including 'How does your organisation manage the 'plan' and 'do' part of asset management' and 'How does your organisation manage the 'check' and 'act' part of asset management.' The question of 'how can UKOPA help you with these phases of asset management' concluded the discussions.

Kirsty McDermott led a round up session where the group outcomes were shared across the delegates for the benefit of all.



A special thank you!

The board of UKOPA would also like to extend a special thank you to Andy Middleton who is leaving NGN and retired from board and Donal Cullen who has retired from industry after 30+ years and is known to many for his excellent work on delivering the popular PERO courses.

UKOPA

United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

Date of Next Meeting

- The next Members meeting is scheduled for 8-9 October in Bristol. We would also encourage members to sign up to working groups. If you would like to get involved, please contact secretary@ukopa.co.uk.