



Good Practice Guide – Managing Pipeline Infringements (UKOPA/GPG/015)

UKOPA Technical Seminar
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- ❑ Background
- ❑ History of Infringements
- ❑ UKOPA initiatives
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Background

- ❑ The way in which Pipeline Infringements are managed is an industry challenge and an issue for all pipeline operators. The HSE suggested this could be a topic for an industry initiative.
- ❑ The main threats are – risk to human life and interruption to commercial operations.
- ❑ Different ways of managing and reducing pipeline infringements occurs across the industry.
- ❑ **Aim was to develop a UKOPA strategy for managing pipeline infringements – now a Good Practice Guide.**

Rupture and ignition of a gas pipeline July 30, 2004, Ghislenghien Belgium



Aims of Guidance

- To improve safety around pipelines for general public, pipeline operators staff and contractors
- Protect environment
- Management of Risk
- Maintain supply chain



Provision of Plant Information

- ❑ Operators should provide - location of their pipelines to enquirers
- ❑ Information to Local Authorities should include:
 - scaled maps, strip maps, electronic files, updates
- ❑ Information to Developers should include:
 - wall thickness, pipeline protection, depth of cover or other factors which may affect the risk of pipeline failure
- ❑ Information to Developers should include:
 - Operator's advice on working in the vicinity of high pressure pipelines
- ❑ Initial response to enquiry should be within 14 days

Pipeline Locating

- Operators should locate and mark out their pipeline routes prior to any work commencing
- Trial holes
- The 3rd party should be provided with contact names and emergency numbers
- Copies of work instructions
- This should be free service
- No more than 14 days turn around time

Supervision of 3rd Party Activities

- ❑ The requirement of the need for supervision

- ❑ Determining factors:
 - ❑ Type of work being carried out
 - ❑ Method statement for the proposed work
 - ❑ Competence of persons conducting the work

- ❑ Charges – normally free however depending on the length of the supervision some operators may agree a charge with the third party

- ❑ Notification of works

Proactive Activities to Prevent 3rd Party Damage

- Aerial Surveillance
- Vantage Point Surveys
- Ground Patrols
- Route Walking – min 4 years
- Route and Easement Management
- Requirement to record and review

Liaison and Awareness Raising

- ❑ Pipeline operators requirement to maintain record of landowners and tenants – regular contact once per year
- ❑ Annual Mailshot – requirement to contact landowners and tenants in writing
- ❑ Face to face contact
- ❑ Targeting contact depending on risk.
- ❑ Consider using company web site, industry journals, engaging third party organisations where appropriate
- ❑ Operators encouraged to include references to UKOPA

Data Collection, Analysis and Auditing

□ Requirement to provide infringement data to UKOPA

	Actual Damage	Serious Potential for Damage	Limited Potential for Damage
Within Wayleave or Easement	A1	B1	C1
Within Operators Notification Zone	-	B2	C2

- Submission on an annual basis of good useable data which is used to formulate the IWG UKOPA report
- Identification of trends, working with 3rd parties to reduce occurrences

Concluding remarks

- ❑ Managing Pipeline Infringements is critical to maintain security of supply but also prevent loss of life
- ❑ Working together as an industry and one voice to reduce the risk of Infringements

