



United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

UKOPA STRATEGY 2007-2012

1. Purpose

This strategy document has been produced in order to provide visibility for both internal and external stakeholders of the intended strategy of UKOPA. The strategy document will also facilitate forward planning within UKOPA by clearly identifying the current objectives of the Association both in the short and medium term (one year and five year time frames).

By articulating the current goals of the Association it is also hoped that it will help existing members, and pipeline operators that are not currently members, understand the benefits of being a member.

2. Key areas to progress

Appendix 1 presents the output of a stakeholder analysis that was carried out at a special meeting of the Management Council meeting held on the 4th April 2006 to discuss the UKOPA strategy. The key areas that were identified for UKOPA to progress as a result of this stakeholder analysis are summarised below:

2.1 Existing items that the Association will continue to develop

1. Continue to share good practice for pipeline operations including arranging for appropriate presentations at Association meetings.
2. Continue to collect fault data related to onshore Major Accident Hazard Pipelines.
3. Continue to collect incident and near miss data related to individuals carrying out work in the vicinity of members' UK onshore pipelines.
4. Take steps to reduce the incidence of third party damage to members' UK onshore pipelines.
5. Continue to develop risk assessment and hazard assessment methodologies to support the better understanding of the risk associated with the members' operations and ensure that these risks are appropriately controlled, including ensuring that appropriate land use planning controls are in place.

6. Continue to publish, through the website, industry guidance for work in the vicinity of members' UK onshore pipelines, e.g. requirements for the siting of wind farms and requirements for crossing members' pipelines.
7. Continue to represent the industry in discussions on pipeline issues with Central Government, the HSE, the Environment Agency and the Scottish Environment Agency e.g. the rateable value of pipelines and requirements for emergency planning.
8. Continue to develop competency requirements for individuals working in the onshore pipeline industry.

A separate paper will be published outlining the key tasks that will be undertaken to deliver the proposed strategy along with required actions and delivery dates. It is noted some of the activities are tasks that have already been agreed and are being progressed, and other tasks are suggested new tasks. The new tasks will be subject to the normal approval processes before they can be initiated, i.e. agreement to the strategy does not automatically result in these tasks proceeding.

2.2 New items to develop

1. Extension of fault database to include non major accident hazard pipelines.
2. Improve the exchange of information on related to incidents, accidents and near misses by member companies in order that the learning from these incidents, accidents and near misses can be shared.
3. Reduce the number of Association meetings per year from 3 to 2, one of the 3 meetings would then be replaced by a technical seminar. The agenda for the technical seminar would be arranged to cover the sharing of best practice on operational and technical issues that are of interest to the Association members. The attendance at the technical seminar will be open so that member companies would be able to invite individuals from their organisations who they believe would benefit from attending the meeting.
- 4 Regular formal joint UKOPA-HSE strategy meetings will be arranged, typically once a year to agree and align future objectives for the UK onshore pipeline operators. Representatives from all pipeline product groups will be invited to attend

3. Updates

It is intended that this strategy document will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

APPENDIX 1 – STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

Stakeholders

- a) Members who attend the meeting.
- b) The management of the companies the members represent.
- c) All the people involved in pipeline management in the member companies.
- d) The HSE.
- e) The Environment Agency
- f) The Scottish Environment Agency
- g) Local Authorities – emergency planners, land use planners.
- h) Other joint industry bodies, PIG, PLUG, UKOOA, CONCAWE, EGIG, UKPIA, IE (Institute of Energy).
- i) Design Consultants.
- j) Other government bodies, e.g. DTI.
- k) Landowners and Tenants.
- l) The General Public.
- m) Standards bodies, IGEM, BSI.
- n) Contractors.
- o) Other pipeline operators.
- p) Other pipeline operators outside the UK.
- q) EU legislative and standards bodies.

UKOPA Requirements/Aspirations

- Safe operation of pipelines.
- Management of risks associated with pipelines.
- Share experiences and learning and promote best practice.
- Single industry body to represent the pipeline transportation (hazardous fluids) industry.
- Influence legislation and ensure that legislation take account of the requirements of stakeholders in particular pipeline operators.
- Ensure pipeline transportation remains a cost effective means of transportation.
- Sharing of operational best practice and experience including competency and training.
- Development of improved technical solutions to pipeline transportation
- Protection of the environment.
- Codification of best practice.
- Effective communication and influencing processes.
- Cost effective technical solutions.
- Consistent with documented good practice elsewhere in industry.
- Access to other stakeholders e.g. (communication).

HSE - Additional Requirements/Aspirations

- Documented published advice in the public domain.
- Independent verification where appropriate.
- Ability to challenge and influence.
- Compliant with government policy.
- Single point of contact for industry view.

Other Bodies

- Single point of contact for industry view.
- Clear terms of reference and responsibilities.
- Effective communication.
- Collaboration where appropriate.

What can we do to deliver the above?

Develop five and one year plans that will deliver the following:

1. Safe operation of pipelines:

- Publish safety bulletins based on industry incidents.
- Create a website forum for communicating safety bulletins.
- Share in meetings members incident/near miss experiences
- Collect and publish infringement data.
- Communicate to individuals promoting works, risks and requirements for working in the vicinity of pipelines.

2. Management of risks associated with pipelines:

- Collect and publish fault data for hazardous pipelines.
- Publish code supplements.
- Agree risk reduction mitigating measures.
- Review Technical Papers developed by UKOPA, UKOPA Consultants and UKOPA Members and publish on the open section of the website.
- Publish UKOPA pipeline failure frequencies.

3. Share experiences and learning and promote best practice:

- Publish documents on AC induced corrosion, DC stray currents, cathodic protection techniques.
- Annual technical seminar.
- Continue to arrange appropriate technical presentations at UKOPA meetings.
- Members to identify new successful techniques for problem solving.

4. Single industry body to represent the pipeline transportation (hazardous fluids) industry:

- Regular strategy level meetings with the HSE.

5. Influence legislation and ensure that legislation take account of the requirements of stakeholders in particular pipeline operators:

- Meetings with HSE, regular UKOPA meetings.