

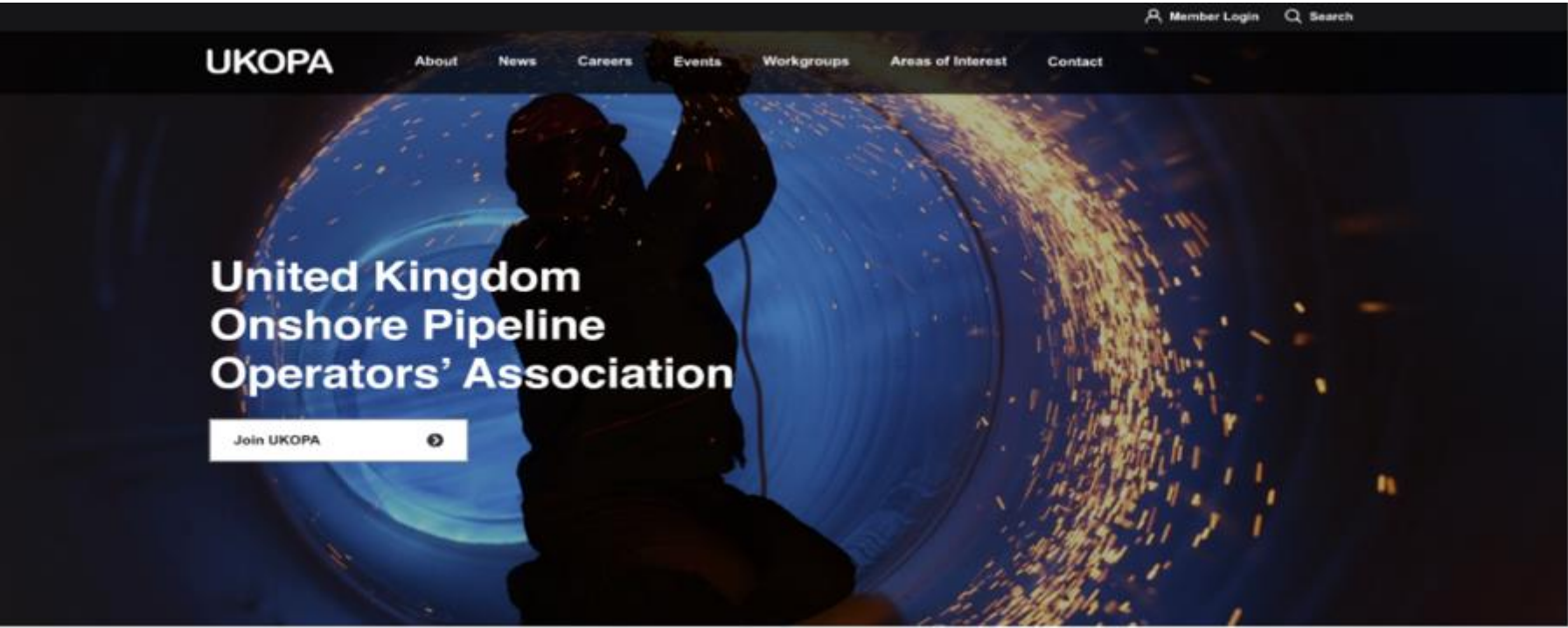
**UKOPA**

United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

# COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

[www.ukopa.co.uk](http://www.ukopa.co.uk)

# Launch of new UKOPA Website



Welcome to UKOPA.  
United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline  
Operators' Association.

The network of pipelines operated by the UKOPA member companies is over 27,000 km in length (nearly 5 times the distance between London and New York). As well as supplying the gas that heats our homes and the gas used to generate electricity in our power stations, these pipelines transport fuel for cars and aircraft and other products. The oils and chemicals transported through these pipelines are also used in countless products that we all use every day in our homes. Ensuring the continued integrity of this infrastructure is vital to the economy of the United Kingdom.

About UKOPA



## Working groups

UKOPA currently has six working groups, each with its own terms of reference and objectives. The chairman of each working group reports to the board at each board meeting and bi-annually to the members at the members meeting.

1. Emergency Planning Working Group (EPWG)

2. Fault Data and Risk Assessment Working Group (FARWG)

3. Infringement Working Group (IWG)

4. Process Safety Working Group (PSWG)

5. Pipeline Integrity Working Group (PIWG)

6. Corrosion Prevention Working Group (CPWG)

## Latest News



News Item 1

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vivamus fermentum sodales elit in scelerisque. Nunc gravida non nibh in lacinia. Nunc accumsan hendrerit lacus. Sed nec metus enim. Nulla iaculis.

[Read More](#)



News Item 2

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[Read More](#)



News Item 3

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[Read More](#)



News Item 4

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[Read More](#)

## Areas of interest

In order to ensure pipelines are operated and managed in the safest possible way, UKOPA working groups develop guidance and advice that can be used by individuals and organisations who may be affected by, need to work on or near, or who have pipelines running through land they may be working in, own or tenant.

Contractors and Utilities

Emergency Planners

Landowners, Farmers and Tenants

Pipeline Industry

Pipeline Safety

Planning and Developers

30+

Member companies

27,000km

Network of pipelines operated by UKOPA member companies

95%

UK pipelines operated by UKOPA members

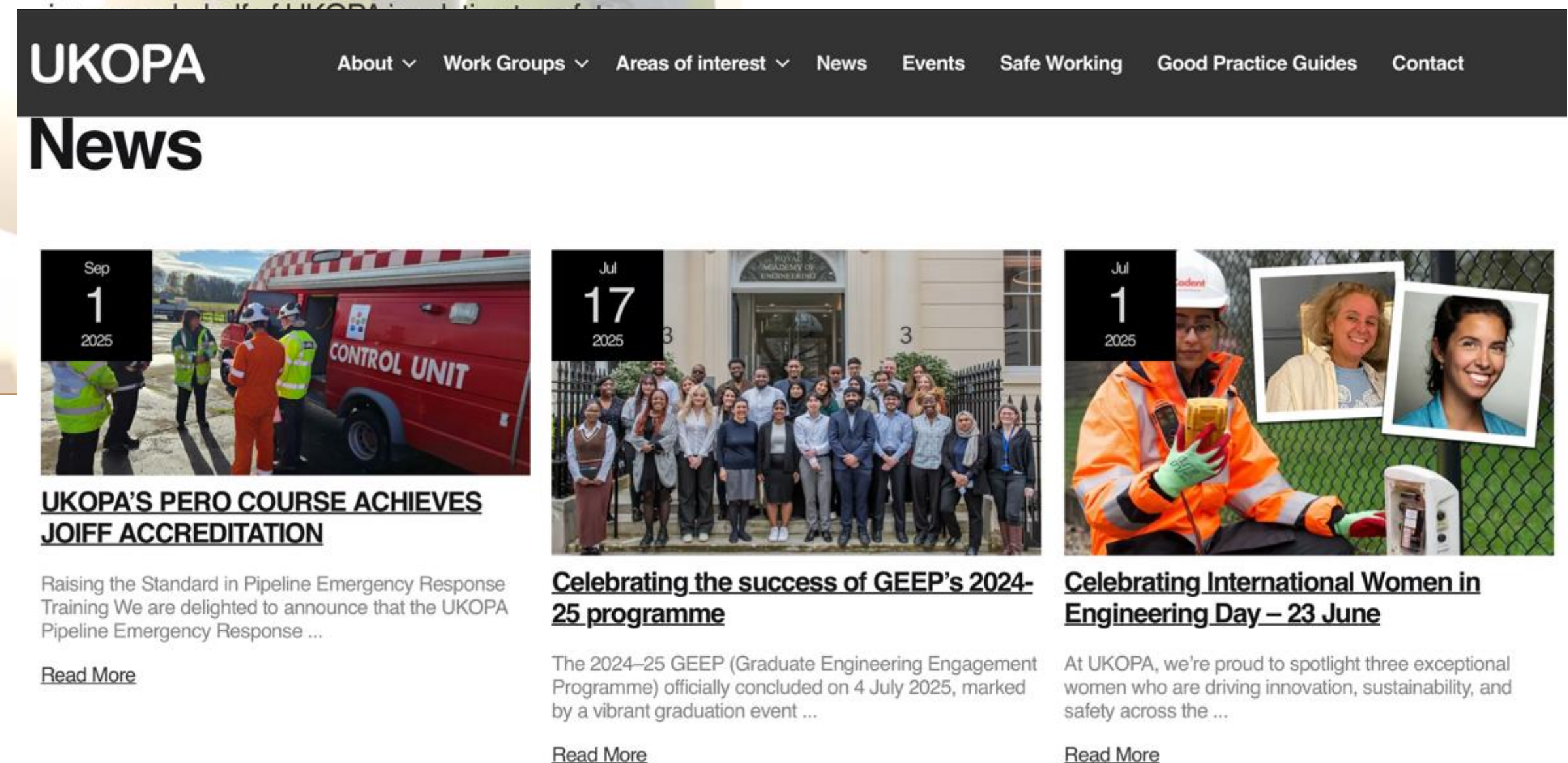
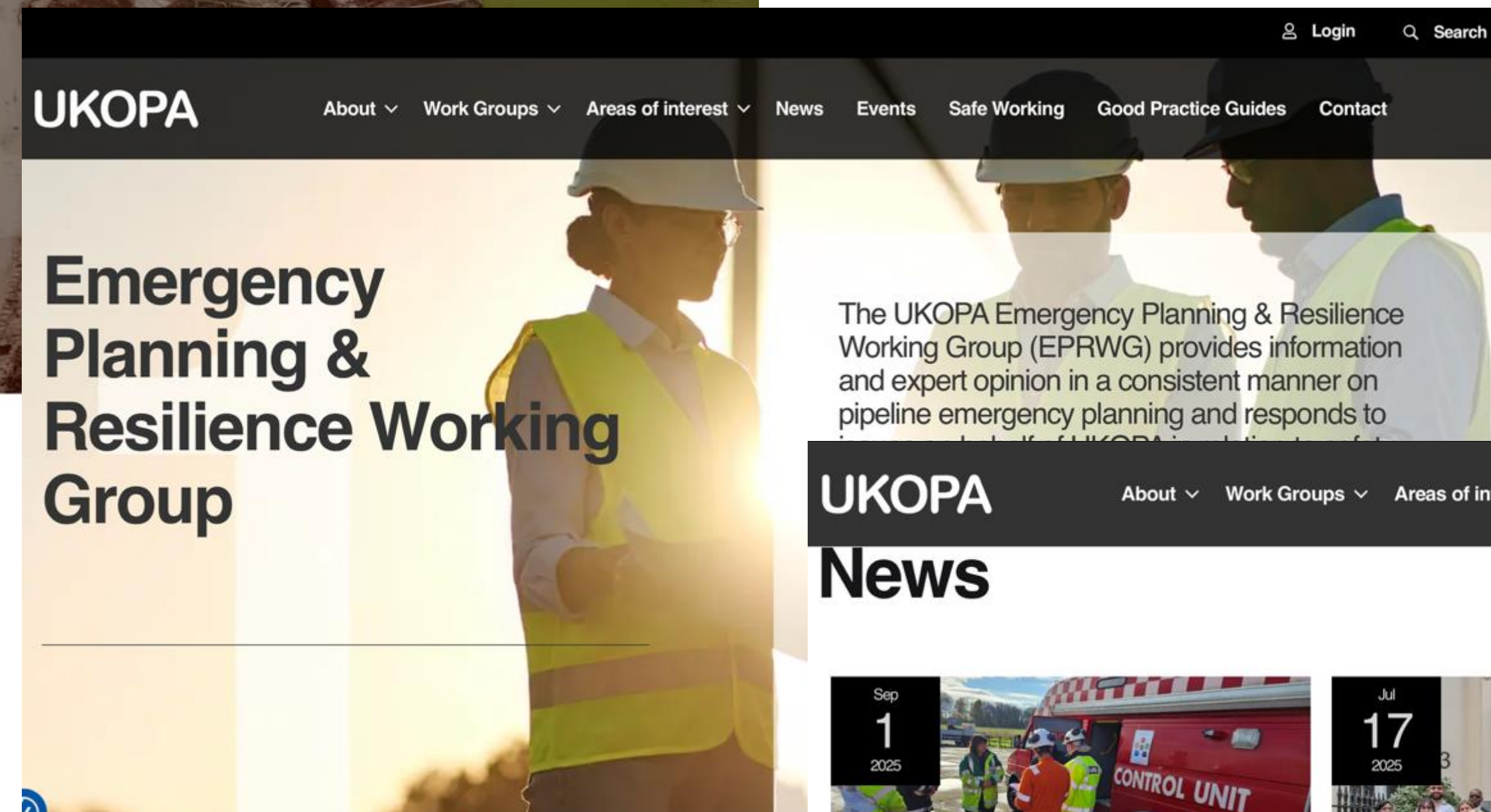
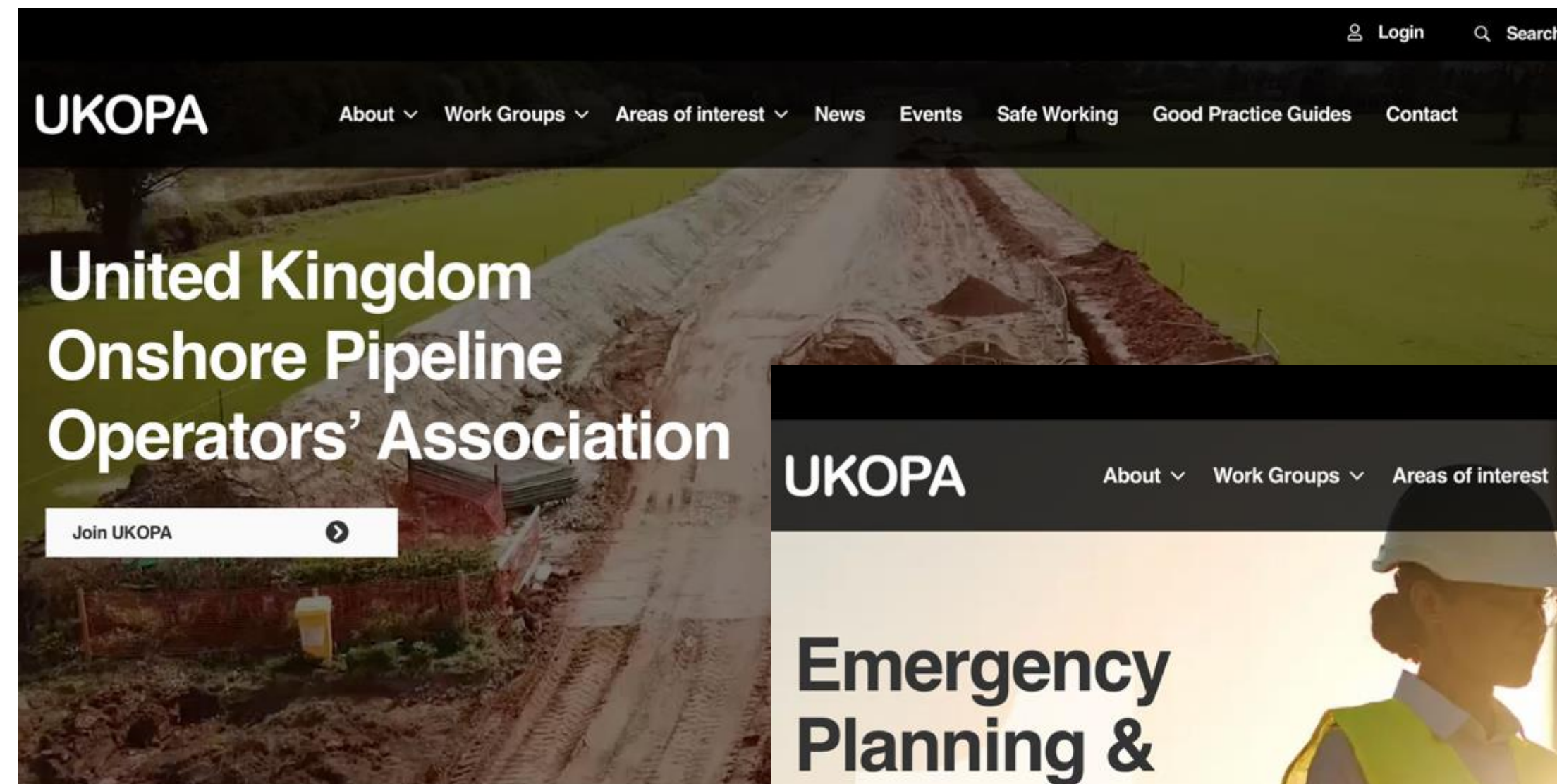
## UKOPA member companies



- New site offers easy access to working groups, advice, good practice guides, news and UKOPA events
- Search facilities to find key documents
- Access to safe working guidelines and good practice
- Dedicated Members section
- Some teething troubles working through 10 years of documents but hopefully there now

## Easy to use and accessible information

# UKOPA



# New Members Section

- Improved access to Members documents
- Safety alerts, learning briefs, technical briefs
- Member profiles shared online and for access to expertise
- New forum to raise questions and seek advice from Members, also structured by Working Groups or discussion topic
- Archive of older documents

## Members Documents

**Archived Documents**  
14 documents  
Documents published prior to 2020

**Board Documents**  
135 documents

**FFREQ**  
0 documents

**FR1 Fault Reporting**  
0 documents

**HSE Documents**  
7 documents

**Members Meetings**  
102 documents

**Safety Alerts / Learning Briefs**  
295 documents

**Technical Bulletins**  
29 documents

**Technical Seminar**  
165 documents

**UKOPA Correspondence**  
0 documents

**Webinar Sessions**  
6 documents

**Working Groups**  
89 documents

Search

Forum	Topics	Posts	Last Post
<b>Corrosion Prevention Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the Corrosion Prevention Working Group	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>Emergency Planning &amp; Resilience Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the UKOPA Emergency Planning & Resilience Working Group (EPRWG)	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>Fault and Risk Assessment Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the Fault and Risk Assessment Working Group (FARWG)	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>Infringement Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the Infringement Working Group	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>Pipeline Integrity Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the Pipeline Integrity Working Group	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>Process Safety Working Group</b> A forum dedicated to the Process Safety Working Group	0	0	No topics and replies
<b>General Conversation</b> A general chat forum for topic relevant to UKOPA members.	3	6	2 months ago Chris Mileman

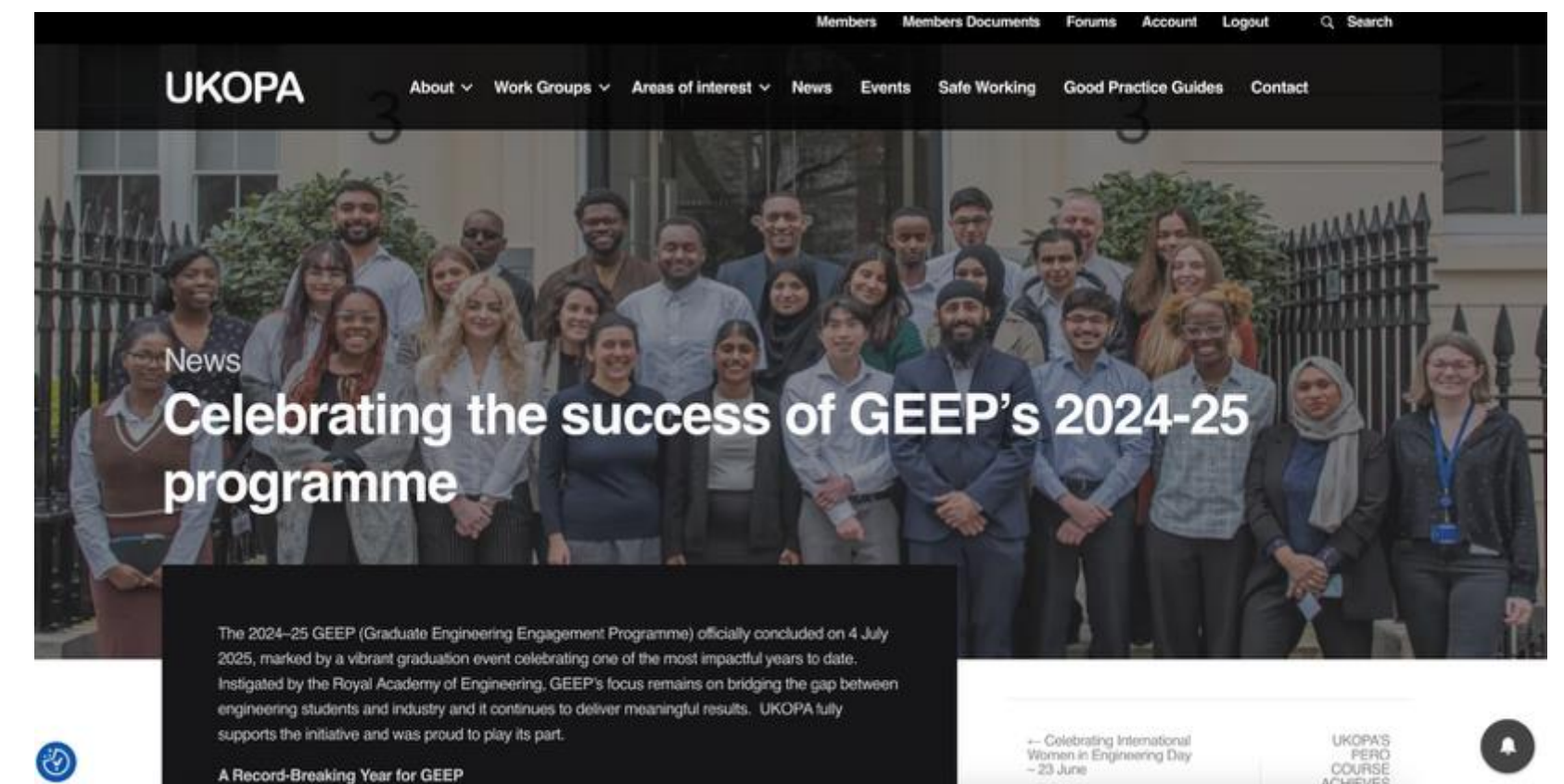
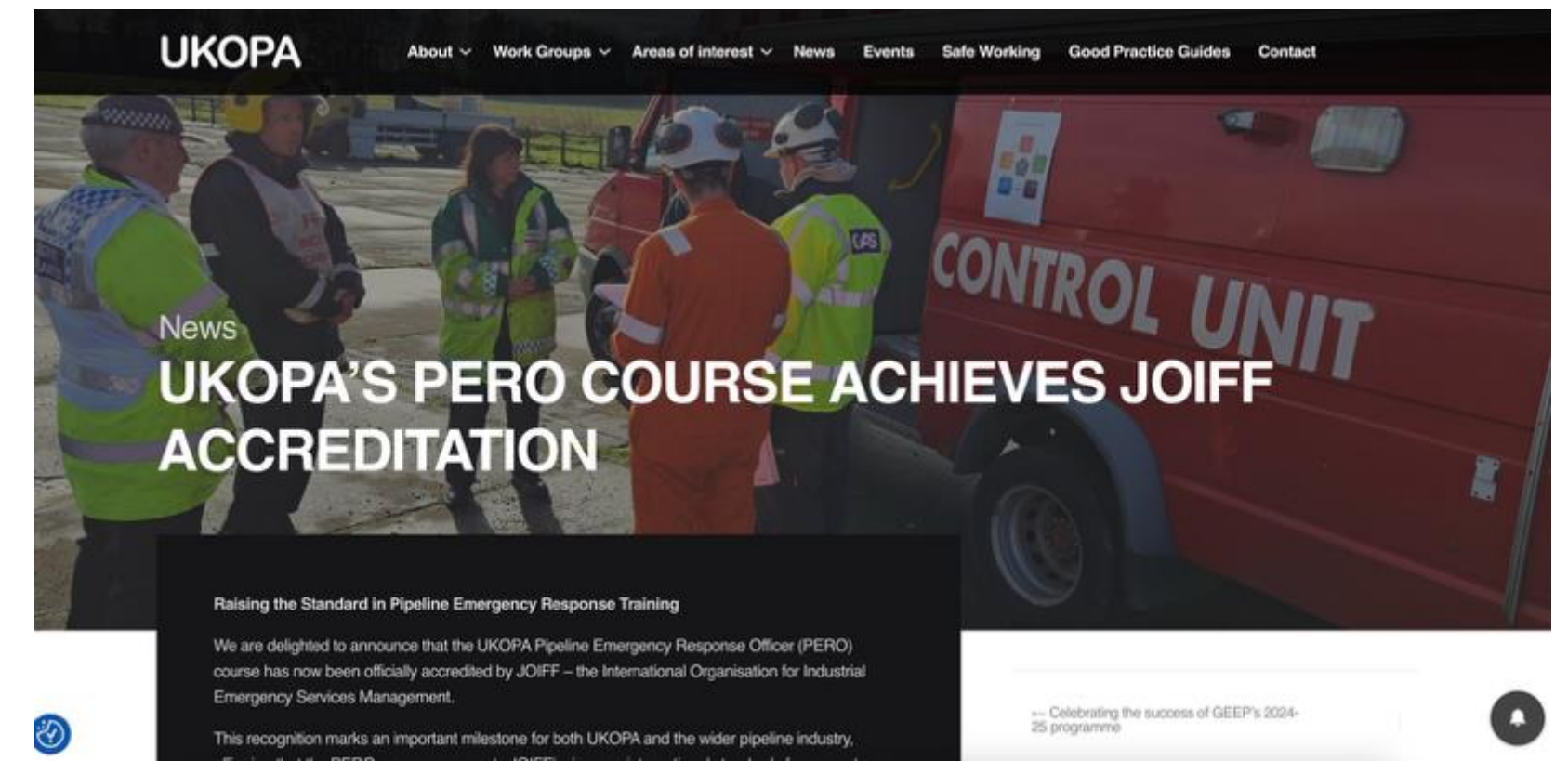
## Building website content for Member advice

Continue to develop content to share digestible round ups of WG activities and Member insights

Provide easy to read articles from the GPG

Last few months topics have included:

- UKOPA's PERO course
- Success of GEEP
- International Women in Engineering Day
- Understanding Crack Susceptibility Analysis to Ensure Pipeline Integrity
- Key Findings and Next Steps from UKOPA Infringement report



## Newsletter e-shot

- Produced Members newsletters, summarising events, sharing presentations and WG activities as well as future events
- Created email distribution lists to save on printing
- Distribution list grown by 20% with wider team members / interested parties.
- Need to continue to encourage others to sign up and receive a copy
  - Colleagues
  - Comms teams
  - Appropriate management



**UKOPA Members Meeting**  
26 February 2025  
Manchester Piccadilly

**Aging Assets and Inspection Tech**

Manchester hosted the first Members' meeting of 2025 and share good practice in relation to managing 'Aging Assets'. The meeting was well attended with more than 65 attendees across the UK and accounting for more than 95% of the UK as our members from Swissgas.

The meeting kicked off with a special welcome from Clive and a big thank you to Darren Thomas who now takes on the role of Vice Chair. From February 2026, Simon Joyce will take on the Vice Chair role. Clive informed the membership that there are new Chairmen for 2027. Martin Davey will chair the Fault & Risk Assessment Working Group and the Pipeline Integrity Working Group.

**Crack Susceptibility Analysis**



Delegates were presented with interesting research looking at the types of cracks, abnormalities in the manufacturing process as well as the susceptibility indicators. The research and insights were supported by a fascinating case study of the work undertaken by Rosen on INEOS' Blackness to Grangemouth pipeline that looked at time dependant cracking threats in terms of stress, fatigue and joints. The presentation ended with safety recommendations and key learnings.

UT W  
MFL I

Richard experienced the results of the UT verification still ongoing. The UT verification identified thickness variations that need for more information is further



**UKOPA Technical Seminar**  
14-15 May 2025  
Spadeadam, Cumbria

**A Spectacular Day at Spadeadam**

The venue for Day 1 of this year's Technical Seminar was DNV's world class facilities at Spadeadam.

More than 50 members met in Newcastle and were driven to the secure site to receive an insightful presentation from Andy Cummings, Senior Principal Consultant at DNV, that outlined the work that his team undertakes on site in support of major hazard research, testing and training.

Delegates were then privileged to receive a guided tour of the fantastic facilities to experience firsthand the work undertaken. Shaun Bosomworth and Gemma Simpson shared tangible examples of the work they are doing with FutureGrid and LTS Futures in preparation for the repurposing of onshore pipelines that is so essential to scale hydrogen usage.

The tour also included some live demonstrations of full-scale hazardous trials and simulation of real-world environments – a loud and memorable experience for all!

Delegates returned for a presentation on the Technical Challenges in the Conversion to H2 from Tim Wrotny and Stefan Klein from Gascade who shared details of a project they are currently undertaking in Germany on the repurposing of more than 410km of pipeline.

On return to Newcastle, members gathered in the bar prior to sitting down to an excellent three course meal and an unparalleled opportunity to catch up and network with colleagues from across the industry.




# E-mail communications to Members

- Drafted e-shots to support communications from the organization, focusing on Members meeting, support for GEEP and business updates
- Now 118 on distribution list (increase of 25%)
- Download and read response rates of 75% and 65% respectively (above industry average of 20%)
- Still looking to circumnavigate some internal firewalls



The **Royal Academy of Engineering's** award-winning Graduate Engineering Engagement Programme (GEEP) is seeking volunteers from UKOPA's membership to work as group leaders and networkers for a masterclass focused on networking at the forthcoming GEEP Masterclass at Bath University.

The event, held on **2 April 2025 from 09.45am until 1pm**, needs volunteers to help lead and support students to harness the power of their personal brand and maximise networking opportunities.

To volunteer and help talented, yet underrepresented, engineering students please contact [secretary@ukopa.co.uk](mailto:secretary@ukopa.co.uk).

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



## A SPECTACULAR DAY AT SPADEADAM

Day one of this year's Technical Seminar took place at DNV Spadeadam where UKOPA Members got to see first hand the work undertaken on site in support of major hazard research, testing and training.

Delegates were privileged to receive a guided tour of the fantastic facilities and witness the work being undertaken with FutureGrid and LTS Futures in preparation for the repurposing of onshore pipelines that is so essential to scale hydrogen usage.

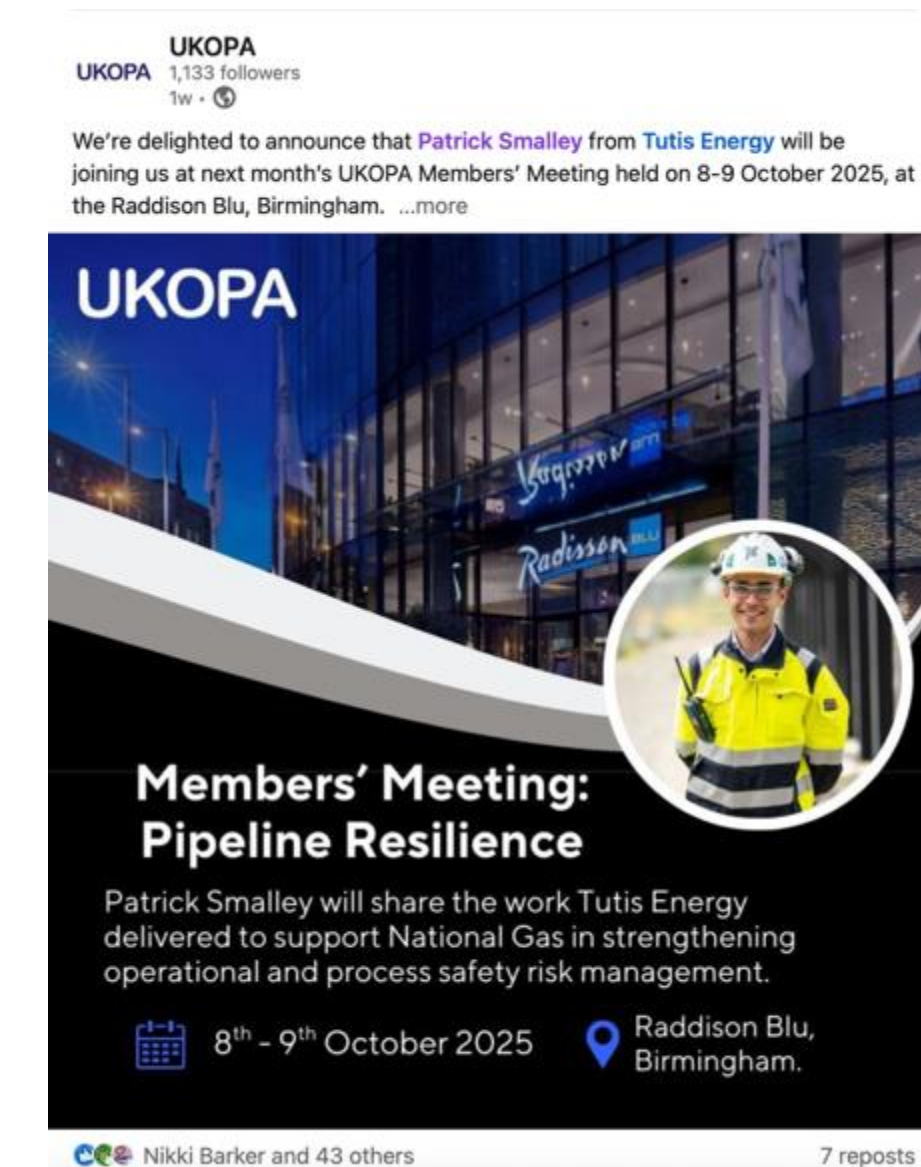
An evening of networking followed, before a second day packed with informative and insightful presentations on how the pipeline sector is 'Fuelling the net zero future'. Click below for copies of the newsletter as well as access to the presentations.

Click here to download the latest newsletter

Members can click here to access presentations

# LinkedIn Update

- Continue to post regular LinkedIn updates
- Looked to improve design feel and content
- Follower numbers continue to grow (117 since last meeting)
- 56,200 impressions on posts (175% increase in last year), 15% increase in comments
- Looking for content to share from Working Group meetings
- People stories!
- Industry successes



## Your profile view highlights

Data for 9/28/2024 - 9/27/2025

**56,426**  
Impressions

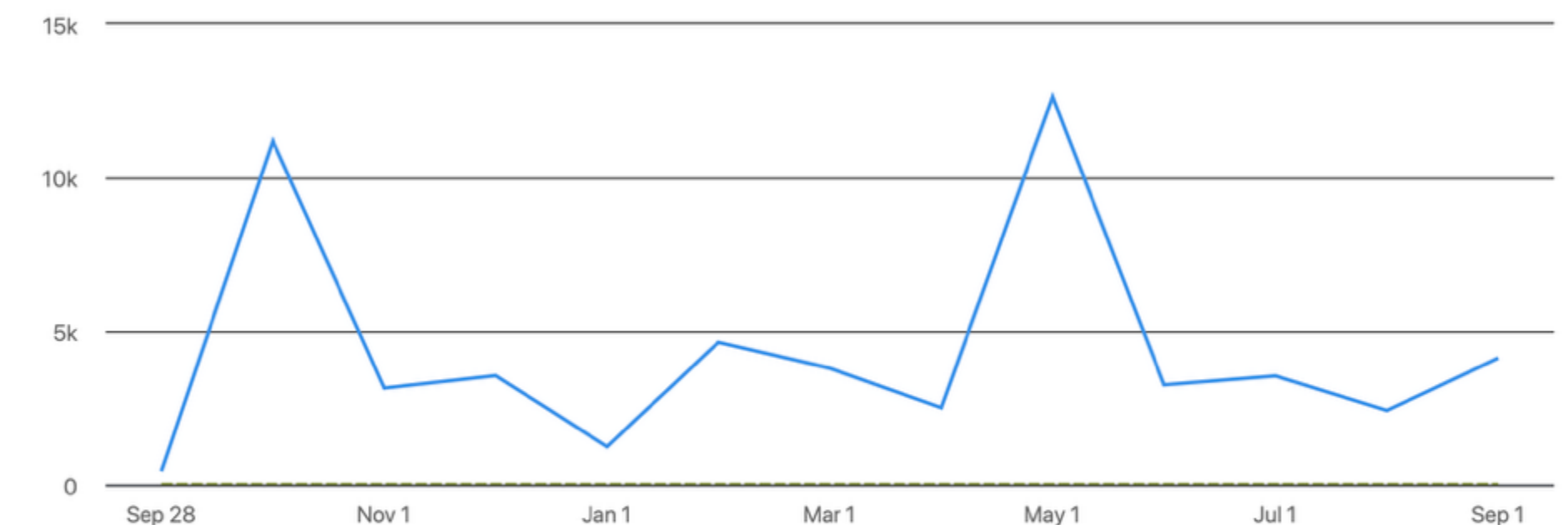
**1,589**  
Reactions

**84**  
Comments

**49**  
Reposts

## Metrics

Impressions ▾



✓ — Organic

56,426

✓ - - - Sponsored

0


# Media Update

- Taking the UKOPA message and work undertaken by IWG to share with specific target groups
- Last year there was a focus on farming, now working with the Construction sector – Professional Builder Magazine
- Feature article with QR code to safety video / on-line course
- Also reached out to the Farm Safety Foundation’s Yellow Wellies Campaign – activities targeted in July 2025
  - Magazine coverage
  - Newsletter inclusion
  - Social media posts

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

WORKING NEAR BURIED PIPELINES

Carl Scott, Chair of the United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators Association's (UKOPA) Infringement Working Group outlines the risks of accidental damage to buried assets, as well good practice when working near to buried pipelines.



The latest Infringement Report (2024) from UKOPA shows that there was a total of 880 infringements recorded in the last year. These represent instances where work was conducted too close to buried pipelines or within easement areas without appropriate procedures being followed.

Of the 880 cases reported three resulted in actual damage to the pipelines and in two cases product was released. In all cases there was damage to the pipeline coating, requiring repairs to be undertaken to ensure safety and integrity. Damaging pipelines can lead to product loss, significant environmental damage, prosecution or even death. That's why Pipeline easements are legally protected zones under the Pipeline Safety Regulations (1996). No construction, excavation, or installation work should occur within these zones without written permission and guidance from the pipeline operator.

High-Risk Activities in Construction  
The data clearly identifies construction activities as a significant contributor to infringements:

- Excavations such as digging in the vicinity of a pipeline accounted for nearly a quarter (22.5%) of all cases.
- Installations, such as signage, structures, and buildings, made up 18%.
- Fencing activities for nearly one in five cases.
- Ditching, often part of landscaping work, accounted for 12%.

In total, 315 of the 880 infringements occurred at development sites, with an additional 14% at watercourses — local projects.

A Shared Responsibility  
Contractors and utility companies reported as the cause, emphasizing the critical safety protocols and teamwork across project teams. To help construction reduce the risk of pipeline-related incidents, UKOPA strongly encourage contractors to use the Linesearch before work begins, use available infrastructure. This free [www.rdr.link/bbsc](http://www.rdr.link/bbsc) conduct searches for advance of undertaking. If a search reveals high-pressure pipelines, they will provide specific guidance and, where required, supervision directly with the pipeline operator.





FG Farmers Guide

6,606 followers

2mo · 🌐

Farmers Guide is supporting Farm Safety Week 2025 ⚠️

The week long campaign is managed and funded by the [Farm Safety](#) ...more

Farmers Guide

FARM SAFETY WEEK

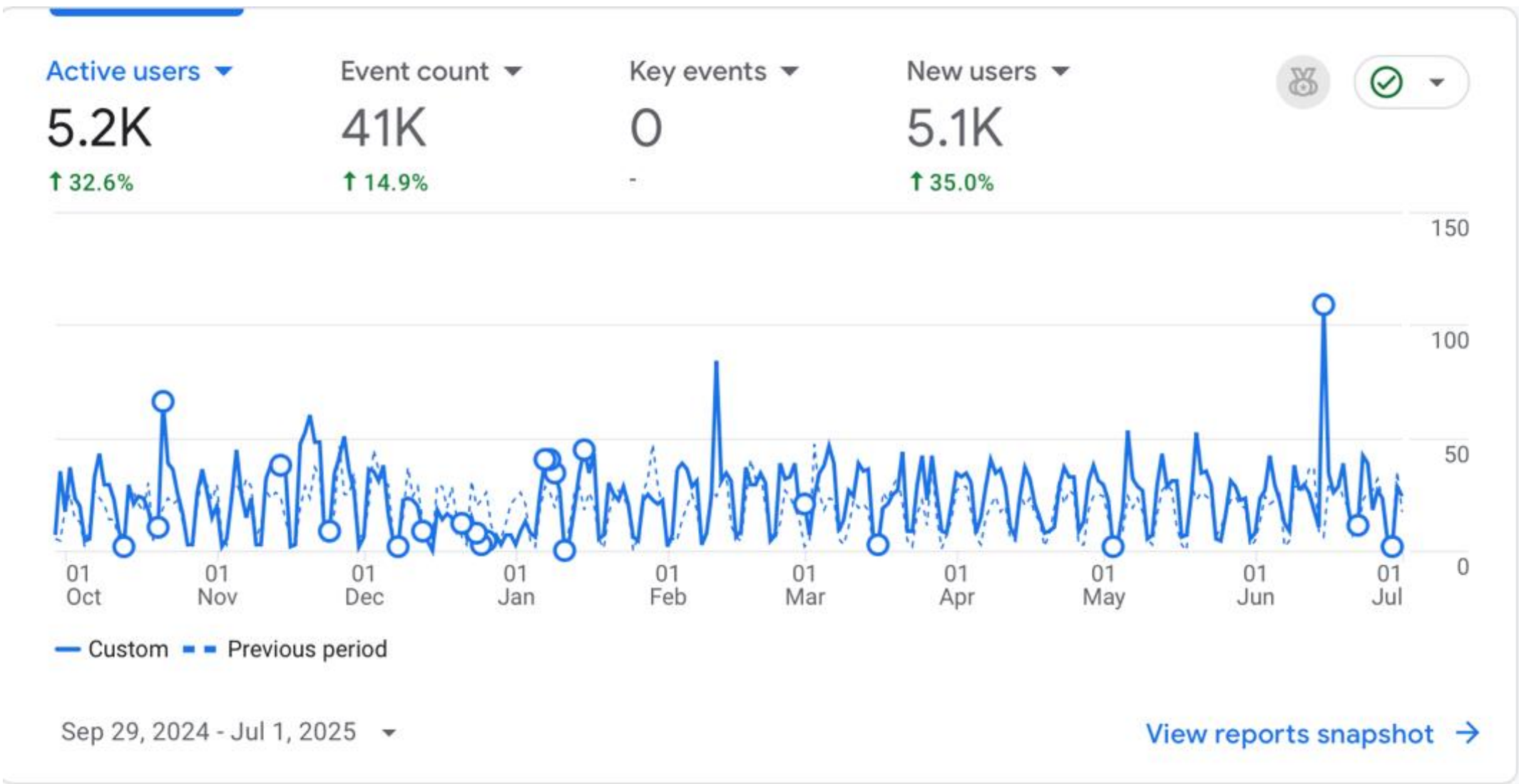
21ST-25TH JULY 2025

#FARMSAFETYWEEK

You and 14 others

1 comment · 6 reposts

# Google Analytics



Views by

Page title and scree...

PAGE TITLE AND S...	VIEWS
UKOPA	4K
Good Practice Guide...	2.3K
UKOPA Reports   UK...	865
About UKOPA   UKOPA	482
Published Document...	383
Emergency   UKOPA	366
Pipeline Safety   UKO...	268

View pages and screens →

New users by

First user primary ...

FIRST USER PRIMA...	NEW USERS
Direct	2.7K
Organic Search	2.2K
Referral	126
Organic Social	35
Unassigned	3

View user acquisition →

- Continued uplift in website traffic (+33%)
- Users finding site from mixture of direct(52%) organic search (44%), and referrals (3%)
- Key pages are GPGs, UKOPA Reports, About UKOPA and Published Documents
- New website data being processed

## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

- Planning now well underway for UKOPA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations
- Location now confirmed to be Silverstone
- Currently looking to confirm 21-22 October 2026
- Building on the existing Member's meeting schedule to include:
  - Regular 2 Day Members Meeting
  - Trade show involving selected industry suppliers and partners
  - Black Tie Gala Dinner
  - Industry awards and recognition
- Tickets allocated for Members, with option to buy additional seats
- Fantastic networking and opportunity to engage with suppliers and wider stakeholder groups
- Please let Kirsty know if you can think of organisations who would like to exhibit – industry wide event!



**Questions?**