



JANUARY 2011 eBrief Print Version

Headlines

Legislative & Regulatory Affairs News

- [GPA names LARAC State Coordinators](#)
- [EHS and LARAC leadership examine committee restructuring](#)
- [EPA administrator issues 90-Day stay on RICE NESHAP](#)

Chapter News

- [MidContinent GPA heightens Young Professionals involvement](#)

[ASTM subcommittee considering lower sulfur limit for propane spec](#)

[GPSA members encouraged to support GPA Research Program](#)

[Reminder – GPA and GPSA safety stats are due](#)

[2011 GPSA membership dues](#)

[IPTC Call for Papers deadline: January 31, 2011](#)

2011 GPA Convention Information

- [2011 GPA Convention boasts strong Early Bird registration numbers](#)
- [Convention Quick Bits](#)
- [For only \\$325, be a sponsor of the 2011 Convention's largest gathering!](#)
- [Hospitalities/Vendor Night opportunities](#)
- [Exclusive training opportunity for Convention attendees](#)

[Remembering GPA members who have gone before us](#)

[GPA/GPSA Calendar](#)

LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY AFFAIRS NEWS

GPA names LARAC State Coordinators

A common theme we have recently seen shows an ever-increasing level of legislative and regulatory activities affecting GPA member companies. In an effort to stay ahead of these issues and to make sure GPA is proactive rather than reactive, LARAC leaders have initiated a State Coordinator program for each of our GPA states. We'd like to introduce our coordinators:

Beth Claude, Enbridge, for Texas and North Dakota

Elizabeth Hawkins, Targa, for Louisiana

Shane Henry, Williams, for New Mexico

Mick Urban, ONEOK, for Kansas

Danny Nixon, ONEOK, for Oklahoma

J.R. McPherson, DCP, for Colorado

Wendell Hunt, Williams, for Wyoming

Mark Hager, Williams, for Pennsylvania

The GPA State Coordinators will be leading and coordinating the activities of lobbyists representing GPA members on key legislation. LARAC has recently requested our member companies to complete an information survey identifying their activities within our states so that we are able to identify and track legislation that may affect their operations.

EHS and LARAC leadership examine committee restructuring

EHS and LARAC leaders recently met to discuss the activities of the committees and subcommittees. The high level of legislative measures and new and developing regulations has required the partnering of the committees and subcommittees to develop our GPA position and action plan. The Pipeline Safety legislation and PHMSA Reauthorization brought together members of the Pipeline Safety Subcommittee and LARAC members. Similarly, the Environmental Subcommittee and LARAC members have worked together on several issues in the past year to work on pending legislation and EPA rules. These activities have resulted in discussions to change the structure of standing GPA LARAC and EHS committees. The new committee structure plan will be presented to the GPA Board at our annual meeting in April for approval.

EPA administrator issues 90-Day stay on RICE NESHAP

The GPA Environmental Subcommittee has been extremely busy working on several new rules and regulations for the past two years. They have coordinated their efforts with other associations on several major issues to support and strengthen our position while dealing with EPA on these regulations. In a response to their unified Request for Stay in the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Stationary Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines, submitted by GPA, API and INGAA, EPA has granted a 90-day stay of the provisions in 40 CFR 63.6625(b) and 40 CFR 63.6625 (k). These provisions address the performance specifications and operation and maintenance requirements of continuous parametric monitoring systems (CPMS). EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said, "We expect in the near future to publish an amendment to the rule clarifying the CPMS data validation requirements and the procedures for conducting quarterly calibrations of the temperature measurement devices."

CHAPTER NEWS

MidContinent GPA heightens Young Professionals involvement

In early December, the MidContinent GPA Board of Directors unanimously approved a budget request of \$10,500 for the chapter's Young Professionals (YP) initiative. Ryan Dillman, MidContinent GPA YP President and Co-Chair with Devon Energy Corp., said, "This approval reflects a formal shift in the MidCon GPA's position with respect to investing in its future: rather than focusing on financial aid to students who may or may not enter the midstream industry upon graduation, the chapter is redirecting about 40 percent of its usual scholarship funding to existing industry employees through investment in this YP initiative."

Dillman reports that since the budget approval in December, the group has filled a 22-member committee with representatives from seven companies in the mid-continent region and has elected officers (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer). This committee has since met several times and has adopted a committee charter, goals and the following mission statement:

"The MidContinent Gas Processors Association Young Professionals are committed to enhancing career development of young professionals in the midstream industry by creating a forum for the exchange of experiences, ideas, and expertise through social, educational and philanthropic events. MCGPAYP also seeks to promote life-long growth and development for young professionals by facilitating and encouraging participation in regional and national GPA chapters."

GPA's association-wide YP initiative was introduced at the 2007 GPA Convention and has continued to grow each year, now with most chapters incorporating their own YP efforts. For more information about GPA Young Professionals, contact Kenny Wheat, kwheat@GPAglobal.org.

Want to see news about your chapter here?

Send it to us! If you know of a newsworthy event in your chapter, e-mail Johnny Dreyer so we can include it in our next eBrief issue.

ASTM subcommittee considering lower sulfur limit for propane spec

ASTM's subcommittee on LPG, D02-H, will soon be questioning LPG engine fuel industry experts about their desire for a lower sulfur propane spec for propane used in internal combustion engines, hybrids and fuel cells. The committee plans to collect this information in the form of a questionnaire.

The current specification for sulfur limits (found in ASTM D1835 and GPA 2140) in HD-5 propane, the propane most commonly used as engine fuel in the United States, is 123 ppm. Sulfur limits in discussion are as low as 15 ppm, which has raised concern because the current odorant, ethyl mercaptan, must be present in HD-5 propane at a level high enough to well exceed the 15 ppm suggested limit.

This raises many questions to those interested in LPG:

- *What will we use as an odorant if the spec is indeed lowered to 15 ppm?*
- *Will this new spec change existing HD-5 or will this be an all-new "grade" of propane meant for special duty engines that may in the future require ultra low sulfur limits?*
- *Where would such a product be stored in order to not have cross contamination with other LPGs containing higher levels of sulfur?*
- *Along the same lines, how will it be transported while keeping its ultra low sulfur level?*
- *Will there be a great enough demand to warrant such a processing expense?*

Kenny Wheat, GPA Director, Technical Services, will monitor the situation and its consequences, benefits and needs to the industry and will keep GPA members up to date on issues of concern.

GPSA members encouraged to support GPA Research Program

Research has always been a priority and highly recognized component of GPA's role in the natural gas industry, and 2011 marks the first year that all of the association's members will share in its funding. Previously, GPA member companies were given the opportunity to support the research program on a voluntary basis. With the passing of the new GPA by-laws, research funding is now included in annual membership dues.

GPSA member companies historically have committed up to \$50,000 to the research program, comprising a fair percentage of the overall budget for a program that truly benefits the entire industry. GPSA companies, as in prior years, will receive a commitment form for the 2011 budget of which they are welcome and encouraged to contribute.

GPSA members should expect to receive their commitments forms by e-mail in the coming weeks. We hope you will consider supporting this influential program this year.

Reminder - GPA and GPSA Safety statistics are due to jdreyer@GPAglobal.org by Feb. 1. Please use the same e-mail address for questions or comments about these programs.

2011 GPSA membership dues

We'd like to thank all members who have already paid their annual dues of \$300. As a reminder, 2011 GPSA membership invoices are due for payment this month. If you have questions or need a duplicate copy of the invoice, please contact Piper Penny, ppenny@gpaglobal.org. Dues can be paid online at: <http://gpsa.gpaglobal.org/membership/apply/>

IPTC Call for Papers deadline: January 31, 2011

GPA encourages those actively engaged in the midstream industry to respond to the "Call for Papers" for the 2011 International Petroleum Technology Conference (IPTC) being held Nov. 15-17, 2011, in Bangkok, Thailand. The deadline is Jan. 31, and full conference details, including the form to submit your paper can be found here: <http://www.iptcnet.org/2011/index.php>

GPA is an endorsing organization of the event, which will draw 3,000+ attendees.

2011 GPA Convention Information ***High Definition at 90 – Advancing the Midstream Vision***

2011 GPA Convention boasts strong Early Bird registration numbers

We are nine weeks from opening the 90th annual GPA Convention, and registration is up 37% over last year's registrations numbers during the same time frame. To see who's already registered, go to: <http://www.gpaglobal.org/convention/registrations/>.

The Program Committee is hard at work putting the final touches on the schedule of events (shown online at: <http://www.gpaglobal.org/convention/soe>). Confirmed speakers are sending us their presentations so we can post them online for attendees to view/download prior to the event.

Don't miss the opportunity to attend at the lowest rate by registering by Feb. 4. Complete information and registration is available at: <http://www.gpaglobal.org/convention/2011/>.

If you have attended in the past, no doubt you will register for the 2011 event ... if you are debating whether you should attend, here are the TOP Reasons to Attend:

- Network with industry professionals in midstream business sectors worldwide
- Learn more about the leading edge of research and development
- Share best practices in safe operations and environmental performance
- Receive the latest information on the industry's legislative and regulatory issues

- Benefit from technical sessions led by industry experts
- Exchange ideas and solutions

Be there or be left out! We hope to see you in San Antonio.

Convention Quick Bits

When is it?

April 3 – 6, 2011

Where is it?

San Antonio, Texas at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel

Where can I find convention information online?

<http://www.gpaglobal.org/convention/2011>

Where can I register online?

<https://www.gpaglobal.org/convention/register>

Why can't I register my co-worker as my guest at the Convention?

To help make the distinction, a co-worker will have a business interest; a guest will not.

For only \$325, be a sponsor of the 2011 Convention's largest gathering!

Returning to the 2011 Tuesday Night Party for the 90th annual GPA Convention is the World Classic Rockers, featuring an all-star performance by former members of the world's greatest rock bands, including Boston, Journey, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Santana, Steppenwolf and Toto. Make plans to be there on Tuesday, April 5, at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in San Antonio, Texas for dinner and a rockin' good time!

Take this opportunity to join many of your GPA colleagues by becoming an entertainment sponsor. Your sponsorship of \$325 will go a long way toward making this great evening possible. GPSA will be pleased to recognize all entertainment sponsors by including your company's logo in a scrolling Power Point presentation on two huge, 12-foot screens during both the Early Bird Party and the Tuesday Night Party. We will also publish each of those member company's names in the Convention Program and on the tabletop displays as well.

Please contact Piper Penny, ppenny@gpaglobal.org for additional information.

Hospitalities/Vendor Night opportunities

Holding a hospitality or being a vendor night participating company at the **GPA Annual Convention** is a great way to re-establish connections, cater to existing customers and meet potential new customers. To participate, [download the Hospitality Packet, which includes the Vendor Night request form](#). Contact Christine Simpson, (918) 493-3872, with any questions you may have.

EXCLUSIVE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY for Convention Attendees

Don't forget to register for this exclusive training when registering for the Convention: *An Overview of Process Safety Engineering & Operations for Gas Processors*

GPA and John M. Campbell have partnered once again to offer this exclusive training session, April 6-8, which won't interfere with other GPA Convention activities. The Instructor will be Mark Bothamley, John M. Campbell & Co. and training topics will include:

- Historical Incident and Problem Areas
- Risk Analysis Basics
- Process Hazards Analysis Techniques
- Overview of Hazards Associated with Specific Plant Systems
- Fire and Explosion Protection Principles

John M. Campbell & Co. is known for providing competency-based and industry-relevant training services since 1968. Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to attend the convention and training session for a total price starting at \$995. Full schedule for the training session:

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 6

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 7

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Friday, April 8

Remembering GPA members who have gone before us

Ronald Beaty

Ron was a longtime member of GPA Technical Section H – Product Measurement and Handling. He served as Vice Chairman of the committee from 1988-1992 and Chairman from 1992-1995. Ron passed away on Jan. 14.

Richard Mueller

Richard passed away on Jan. 1. He served as a member of GPA's Pipeline Safety group for many years. At the family's request, please direct any donations to the Boys and Girls Country of Houston or Ft. Hood Area Military Family Scholarship Fund.

William A. "Bill" Smith Jr.

Bill was a retired chemical engineer with Texaco and a longtime contributor to GPA's technical activities. He left us on Jan. 17. The family has asked that any donations be sent to Clarehouse Hospice (Tulsa).

Send us your news!

GPA and GPSA members and midstream personnel worldwide can submit articles of interest for potential submission for the GPA eBrief to jdreyer@GPAglobal.org. Keep in mind that articles should be brief and include links to more detailed information when possible. No commercial articles will be included.

GPA/GPSA Calendar

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: www.gpaglobal.org/calendar/

February

- 8 NTGPA Training Session
 - 8 MCGPA Dinner
 - 9 HGPA Monthly Luncheon
 - 10 RMGPA Chapter Meeting
 - 11 RMGPA Breckenridge Ski Trip
 - 16 GPA-GCC Technical Committee Meeting
 - 17 HGPA Sporting Clay Shoot
 - 23-25 GPAE February 2011 Conference
-

Gas Processors Association

www.GPAglobal.org

6526 E. 60th Street, Tulsa, OK, USA 74145 | 918-493-3872 | Fax 918-493-3875 |

E-mail: gpa@GPAglobal.org