



eBrief

www.GPAGlobal.org

GPSA NEWS

GPSA gets new name, logo

The Gas Processors Suppliers Association has been referred to as "GPSA" for the past few decades and, whether spoken or written, those four letters have become the association's most prominent and recognizable identity. At its recent summer meeting in Denver, the GPSA Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve "GPSA" as the official new name for the longtime supplier trade association.

Since the original beginnings of both associations, any time GPA Midstream has made a name change, the paralleling supplier group has followed thereafter with a similar new name distinguished only by the addition of the word "Suppliers." As an example, the two trade groups were previously Gas Processors Association (GPA) and Gas Processors Suppliers Association (GPSA).

When GPA Midstream became the new name for GPA in April, GPSA leadership commissioned communications partner Dollahon PR to also explore name change options for them as well. Their research revealed that as a standalone search term, our "GPSA" ranked at or near the top in all online search efforts, but fell off quickly after that with there being "lots of GPSAs." However, when GPSA was searched alongside "energy" and "midstream," findings dominated many pages of search results and clearly revealed the brand's strength in context with energy matters.

Dollahon PR concluded that the group would be best served by making its well-known GPSA identity its one and only name.

In its presentation to GPSA leadership, Dollahon PR provided several examples of companies that have evolved into businesses with only letters as their names, including 3M, AT&T, BVD, DHL, KPMG, QVC and SAP.

The new GPSA also has a new logo. The logo clearly brands "Suppliers" and "Midstream" as part of the group's identity specific for the industry where the graphic will appear most. Its modern design complements the GPA Midstream logo for when both appear together.



The rollout of the new GPSA name and logo will begin immediately and will continue as running changes over the next many months as websites, communications, collateral materials and other forms of

information are updated.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

GPA Midstream Introduction to Midstream Course duration and cost updated

GPA Midstream's training course designed to educate non-technical personnel about liquids, gasses, equipment, processes, terms, etc., regularly encountered in the midstream industry is being adjusted based on member companies' requests. Its updated schedule will consist of three full days of training, Monday through Wednesday, which will allow students to return to their base of operations and still have time to productively support their respective companies that same week. With the shortening of the schedule, the price has been reduced to \$1,000 for GPA Midstream and GPSA members and \$2,000 for non-members. This new training course is part of GPA Midstream's initiative to provide premium training at modest prices as a service to our members. The next course is scheduled for Sept. 26 - 28 at the Enterprise Training Facility in Mont Belvieu, Texas.

[View more course information and find the online registration form.](#)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

GPA Midstream files comments on EPA's proposed Information Collection Request

GPA Midstream filed comments with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on its proposed information collection request for oil and natural gas facilities on Aug. 2. EPA is soliciting comments to develop a rulemaking that would regulate methane emissions from existing oil and natural gas sources.

"GPA Midstream and its members have a strong commitment to gathering and processing natural gas in a manner that minimizes environmental impacts and reduces emissions of valuable natural gas products to the fullest extent feasible. As a result, our members have taken significant steps to reduce methane emissions from their operations," GPA Midstream President and CEO Mark Sutton said.

GPA Midstream does not believe EPA should regulate methane emissions from existing sources but detailed a series of constructive comments on the proposed Information Collection Request, which the association says would clarify, improve and streamline the request, provided EPA and the Office of Management and Budget elect to proceed with the information gathering effort.

Sutton said, "GPA Midstream has a long history of working collaboratively with EPA and will work with them on this particular issue to lessen the regulatory burdens and minimize the costs this will have on the midstream industry."

GPA Midstream Environmental Committee members, along with GPA Midstream Vice President of Government Affairs Matthew Hite, recently traveled to Raleigh, N.C., to meet with EPA at its Research Triangle Park facility to further discuss GPA Midstream's comments with EPA.

[View the GPA Midstream comments.](#)

GPA Midstream comments on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed

revisions to the Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook

On Aug. 29, GPA Midstream's Natural Resource Subcommittee filed comments on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) proposed revisions to the Habitat Conservation Planning (HCP) Handbook.

In order for GPA Midstream member companies to obtain incidental take permits under the Endangered Species Act, the HCP handbook helps applicants develop conservation plans as a prerequisite to obtaining those permits. The HCP handbook also describes requirements, procedures and guidance for permit issuance and conservation-plan development.

GPA Midstream strongly requested that USFWS withdraw the proposed HCP Handbook changes on the basis that USFWS has neither provided a clear basis of need, nor finalized numerous other recently proposed policies and regulations with similar concepts. Many of the proposed changes could have a significant impact on the midstream industry due to substantial changes and newly added hurdles in USFWS approach to Habitat Conservation Plans and permitting requirements. This is contrary to the stated purpose of the HCP Handbook revisions.

GPA Midstream expressed great concern over the large number of proposed changes being made and the potential cumulative impacts of the changes on landowners and the regulated community. GPA Midstream requested that the USFWS conduct an analysis of all regulatory and policy changes proposed under the current regulatory agenda and provide the analysis to the public with a 90-day review period so that the public can effectively review and comment on the numerous substantial changes as a whole.

GPA Midstream also strongly cautioned the USFWS against attempting to address climate change impacts at a local habitat scale or within the planning horizon of a Habitat Conservation Plan or Incidental Take Permit. This type of approach is scientifically inappropriate and highly flawed and will increase project costs without any assurances of wildlife benefits.

GPA Midstream also supported comments submitted by the Independent Petroleum Association of America, American Exploration & Production Council, American Petroleum Institute, Petroleum Association of Wyoming, and Western Energy Alliance on USFWS proposed HCP changes.

[View the GPA Midstream comments.](#)

STATE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

PENNSYLVANIA

Department of Environment 2014 Air Emission Report

The Department of Environment (DEP) issued its 2014 Air Emission Report this month representing emissions from Marcellus Shale natural gas production and processing operations, as well as compressor stations. The report showed an increase in emissions from unconventional natural gas operations between 2013 and 2014, but the report also stated that overall air quality continues to improve due to emissions reductions from other point sources such as electric generating units.

[View the DEP news release](#), which has a link to the complete emissions inventory.

TEXAS

Railroad Commission of Texas Sunset Review Hearing

Former president of GPA Midstream Association, Mike Heim, Targa Resources, testified before the Sunset Review Commission providing reasons for the reauthorization of the Railroad Commission of Texas (RCT) for another 12 years. The issues Heim addressed included (1) keeping the hearings at the RCT, not transferring them to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), (2) authorizing the RCT to enforce damage prevention requirements for interstate pipelines, and (3) authorizing the RCT to create a pipeline permit fee used expressly for the administration of pipeline safety.

GPA Midstream submitted comments in April and also provided Heim's written testimony to the Sunset Review Commission. More than 70 witnesses testified for and against the reauthorization of

the RCT. One issue that continued to arise during the hearing was the appearance of ex parte communications between the RCT commissioners and the hearings division and the need to ensure that such communications were not occurring.

Commissioner Christi Craddick spoke about the "firewalls" and the separation of the general counsel and the hearing examiners into a separate hearings division as requested by the Sunset Review Commission in 2010. Craddick said the move solved the perceived issue. Heim's testimony, as well as testimony from others, reminded the Sunset Review Commission that hearings were moved to SOAH in 2001 resulting in additional costs without improved efficiency, and the hearings were transferred back to the RCT by the legislature in 2003.

It is important to the midstream industry that the RCT remain the agency in Texas that regulates oil and gas. Industry has a long and successful relationship working with the RCT, and the recommendations by the Sunset Review Commission would have a dramatic impact on the midstream industry. GPA Midstream will issue a notice to members when a decision is made.

TECHNICAL/RESEARCH

GPA 2198 updated and available

Technical Section B - Testing & Analysis has completed its revision of the nearly 20-year-old standard GPA 2198. This method covers the recommended procedures for selecting the proper Natural Gas and Natural Gas Liquids (NGL) Reference Standards, preparing the standards for use, verifying the accuracy of composition as reported by the manufacturer, and the proper care and storage of those standards to ensure their integrity and longevity as long as they are in use. It is free to download to GPA Midstream and GPSA members and available for a nominal fee to non-members from the [Publications](#) section of GPAglobal.org.

GPA Midstream's 43rd School of Gas Chromatography receives glowing reviews

GPA Midstream's chromatography school, which is put on every summer at the University of Tulsa by members of Technical Section B - Testing & Analysis, finished up on Aug. 12. This year's attendance reflected our industry's downturn, but evaluation of the feedback given by students in the school survey showed only upward trends. Along with favorable student-teacher ratios, this year's school boasted an updated curriculum, including new classes like "Troubleshooting GC systems used in GPA Midstream Methods" and "Selection, Operation, and Maintenance of On-Line Chromatographs." Course instructors have worked diligently over the past year to better align classes with the midstream industry's needs and it is evident that their efforts have paid off - overall the 2016 class rated the school better than previous classes have. The instructors and vendors who make the school happen do so on a 100 percent volunteer basis, and we would like to thank them and their companies for their participation.

Thank You Instructor Companies

Agilent Technologies
Air Liquide America Specialty Gases
Airgas Southwest
Custom Solutions Group
DCP Midstream
Element Materials Technology
Enbridge
Enterprise Products Co.
INFICON
MarkWest Hydrocarbon

Red Ball Technical Gas Services
SPL
Winn Analytical

Thank You Vendor Companies

ABB Inc. - Totalflow
Agilent Technologies
Air Liquide America Specialty Gases
Airgas Southwest
ASC Group
Cherokee Measurement & Control
Custom Solutions Group
Element Materials Technology
INFICON
M&D Controls, Inc., Div. of Vector Controls & Automation Group
Perkin Elmer
Scion Instruments
Shimadzu Scientific Instruments
Thermo Fisher Scientific

GPA MIDSTREAM CONVENTION

2017 exhibit/sponsorship information; Vendor Night application deadline is Friday

The 2017 GPA Midstream Convention will be held April 9 - 12 at the Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas. Companies interested in exhibiting should make note that the Vendor Night lottery registration period closes this Friday, Sept. 2 at 5 p.m. Central time. The Vendor Night drawing will take place on Sept. 8 and 25 exhibitors, as well as 5 alternates, will be announced that day. The 2017 GPA Midstream Promotional Opportunities packet outlining all sponsorship, advertising and hospitality options will become available for review on Sept. 8, and sponsorship registration will open Sept. 22. Opportunities will be awarded on a first-paid, first-served basis.

[View detailed information about the Vendor Night lottery system.](#)

Contact [Crystal Myers](#) with questions.

Oct. 22 Call for Papers deadline approaching

Are you interested in sharing your expertise with midstream industry decision makers? We're looking for speakers for the 2017 GPA Convention, scheduled for April 9 -12 in San Antonio, Texas. Our open Call for Papers process brings some of the best industry experts to present at our conference each year, and that could be you. Please note that the deadline to submit your abstract is Oct. 22.

[Learn more about convention speaking opportunities.](#)

INDUSTRY EVENTS

GasPro Americas Conference

GPA Midstream is proud to be a supporting organization of Gulf Publishing's 2016 GasPro Americas conference, scheduled for Sept. 13 - 14 in Houston. GasPro is a two-day, two track technical and operations conference dedicated to the gas processing industry. The event will include presentations from executives and experts on gas monetization topics, as well as technical sessions devoted to:

- Best Practices in Operations / HSE
- NGLs
- Gas Treating / Acid Gas
- Cryogenics: Rejection - Ethane, Methane, Nitrogen
- The Future of IoT and Big Data and Wireless Technology for the Natural Gas Industry
- Syngas Production and Utilization / GTL
- The Future of LNG in America
- Liquefaction / Separation / Dehydration
- LNG / FLNG / Metering / Custody

Registrants include representatives from such companies as:

Advisian * Bechtel * Black & Veatch * BP * Chevron * Denbury Resources * Dow Chemical * Emerson Process Management * Enbridge * ExxonMobil * GASROY * GE Oil & Gas * Kiewit Energy * Linde Engineering * Merichem Company * NextDecade * SGC Energia * Siemen * SNC-Lavalin * Williams * Wood Group ... to name a few.

GPA Midstream members are eligible to receive a \$200 discount for the conference. Visit the Members-Only section of the GPA Midstream website to learn more. [Learn how to access the](#)

[members-only area](#). To view the agenda and to register, visit www.GasProcessingConference.com.

Want a free pass? Employees of E&P companies and midstream operators may apply for a complimentary pass to the GasPro conference. For more information, e-mail [Melissa Smith](mailto:Melissa.Smith) or call (713) 520-4475.

COMMITTEE MEMBER NEWS

Honoring the life of Steve Wharry

Former Technical Section B Chair Steve Wharry, research chemist for Phillips Petroleum, passed away Aug. 1. Steve was a longtime member of GPA Midstream Technical Section B and an important part of GPA Midstream's School of Gas Chromatography for many years. Steve was born in Texas and lived in New Mexico, Kansas, Iowa and Illinois before settling down in Bartlesville, Okla. He enjoyed numerous hobbies including chess, golf and scuba diving. He was as tireless volunteer on Section B and helped revise several GPA Midstream standards that Section B maintained. He will be missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing and working with him.

GPA MIDSTREAM/GPSA CALENDAR

September

- 8 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream 3rd Quarter Luncheon
- 9 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream Sporting Clays Event
- 15 - North Texas GPA Midstream Annual Shrimp Boil
- 16 - MidContinent GPA Midstream Clay Shoot
- 16 - Permian Basin GPA Midstream Sporting Clays
- 20 - MidContinent GPA Midstream Ariel Compressor Training
- 21 - GPA Europe Annual Meeting
- 22 - North Texas GPA Midstream East Texas Shrimp Boil
- 22 - Houston GPA Midstream Annual Shrimp Boil
- 22 - MidContinent GPA Midstream Golf Outing
- 26 - 28 - GPA Midstream Introduction to Midstream Course

[View details on events listed above](#)