ANNUAL CONVENTION

Each year IPLOCA hosts a convention for the leading global players in pipeline construction. Company representatives from all membership categories and Media Partners of the association gather with invited special guests for five days of technical presentations, business meetings, social events and tours.

The Open General Meetings on Thursday and Friday of convention week include presentations from industry speakers that focus on onshore and offshore pipelines and their construction, including current developments in future large pipeline projects, shared experiences of projects undertaken and trends in the current economic environment.

During these meetings, the IPLOCA industry awards are presented and the scholarship recipients are announced.

The highest authority of the association, the Annual General Meeting, takes place during convention week. Business transacted includes the election of the Board of Directors, a review of the Treasurer’s report and the annual accounts. The location of the Annual Convention changes from one year to the next; it is held in all regions of the world where IPLOCA members are situated.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

The reach of the association continues to expand via its regional meetings which are organised by directors of the association for a specific region. While the annual convention brings members together from all over the world, the regional meetings are an opportunity to meet association colleagues in a smaller forum, to invite clients to discuss their proposed projects and to engage potential members of the association in addressing topics of particular relevance to their region.
IPLOCA embraces every discipline associated with the pipeline industry both on and offshore, with more than 250 **members from all corners of the world**, including major international onshore and offshore contractors; their significant subcontractors; owners and/or operators of pipeline systems and associated facilities; and, universities and research institutions. The association strives to work collaboratively and promote cooperative relationships amongst its members as well as with other contractors, suppliers, owners and operators.

The pipeline industry has an enviable record of achievement in some of the most inhospitable terrain in the world. IPLOCA is proud to represent the companies at the forefront of ever-present new challenges.

**Regular Members** are experienced companies directly involved in the execution and/or rehabilitation of pipelines for the transportation of fluids, gases or solids, including submarine pipelines or offshore structures and associated facilities. Their **onshore** and **offshore** expertise is broad. They cover not only pipeline construction but also the installation of pumping and compressor stations, tank farms, ancillary oil and gas field facilities, communications networks and control systems – even infrastructure systems such as roads and housing. Sub-contractors cover a wide range of specialist work, such as engineering, manufacturing, horizontal drilling, welding, double jointing and pipe coating, amongst many others.

**Associate Members** provide vital services, equipment, materials, tools or supplies for the construction, rehabilitation and/or maintenance of pipelines and their associated facilities, onshore and offshore. These international companies contribute significantly to the development of new ideas, techniques, tools, materials and equipment essential to the execution of pipeline projects.

**Corresponding Members** are oil & gas onshore and offshore owners and/or operators of pipeline systems and associated facilities, who have an interest in the work of the association and wish to benefit from a range of technical guidance and briefings produced by the association.

**Academic Members** include universities and research institutions whose activities encompass research and/or the study of pipes, materials, tools, supplies, welding, coating, testing and modus operandi associated with onshore and/or offshore pipelines and/or associated process engineering facilities.
LEADERSHIP

The association is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors of up to 25 owners and senior executives of major pipeline contractors and service companies. Directors representing Regular Members of the different geographic regions and directors representing the Associate Members are elected by the respective members of the association and generally serve for a term of two years. The association’s business is run by a Secretariat located in Geneva, Switzerland, that reports to the Board.

HSE & CSR

IPLOCA commits to promoting health & safety and developing methods to reduce accidents, protect the environment and support the local communities affected by pipeline construction. It hosts workshops and has created a shared experiences platform to raise awareness and to help develop and encourage best practices for all.

As a condition of membership, Regular Members are required to submit their annual health, safety and environmental statistics to IPLOCA, such that aggregate statistics for the industry can be collected and monitored. Information from Associate Members who have field construction activities is also included when provided.

Improving safety in the pipeline industry and above all, eliminating fatalities is a priority. To reach these objectives, the HSE & CSR Committee set ambitious KPI objectives to be reached by 2020: Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR), per million hours, of below 1; and zero fatalities.

In addition, the association has prepared and licensed a safety DVD – Pipeline Construction Safety Instructors Tool – in collaboration with the Construction Sector Council of Canada and with the support of the Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada to assist the IPLOCA membership in training its pipeline workers.
INNOVATION

To encourage greater efficiency and promote continued research and development into improved and safer construction techniques, IPLOCA brought together more than 50 of its member companies and some major clients to develop and publish *The Road to Success*, a reference document that can be used in discussions with clients and also in the training of personnel joining the pipeline industry.

The resulting document is available as a smartphone/tablet application, and is being further developed via a collaborative platform. It includes information on Health & Safety, the protection of the environment, the development phases of a pipeline project, the baseline of a construction contract, risk, planning & design, earthworks, crossings, logistics, welding, non-destructive testing, bending, pipeline protection systems, geographic information systems-based monitoring tools (GIS), tracking systems and Integrated Pipeline Construction Management (IPCM).

RESEARCH COLLABORATION

The association also partners with the Pipeline Research Council International (PRCI) and other research groups to conduct research for the benefit of the industry-at-large.

AWARDS

IPLOCA awards were introduced to be a source for sharing new ideas while recognising those leading companies that are always in search of excellence.

Achievements in health & safety (sponsored by Chevron) are awarded every year, along with two other awards. Every other year awards are given for corporate social responsibility (sponsored by Total) and for achievements in the development of new technologies (sponsored by BP); alternating with awards for the protection of the environment (sponsored by Shell) and for excellence in project execution.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The IPLOCA Scholarship Programme assists children and grandchildren of employees of IPLOCA member companies who plan to continue their education in college, university or vocational school programmes.