



THE IPLOCA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021



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IPLOCA Mission

To provide value to members through a forum for retaining and sharing knowledge globally, facilitating business opportunities and promoting the highest standards in safety, innovation, quality, business ethics and sustainability throughout the pipeline construction industry.

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IPLOCA © 2021

Cover Photo

Courtesy of

TAP

IPLOCA Yearbook

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Letter from the President

Despite worldwide sanitary restrictions, IPLOCA continues to provide value to its members, by adapting the way it organises events and provides services for member companies to undertake their business activities safely and in due consideration of their environmental impact.

In a special effort during these pandemic times IPLOCA is pursuing the implementation of actions committed to in Bangkok which are the outcome of the strategic review recently undertaken. A new database system has been put in place, together with a contemporary and efficient website that promises to positively impact the image of the association.

Details for the coming year are outlined in this newsletter, including important deadlines, such as the due dates for submissions of your HSE statistics, and for the IPLOCA awards. As a reminder, the submission of Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) Statistics is an obligation for Regular Members. We also welcome statistics from our Associate Members who have field construction activities. The online form is available on our website, along with guidelines and translations to assist you.

We warmly welcome three Regular Members and one Associate Member who have joined our association this year. The company profiles can be found on page 10. Our webinars continue to be popular and we are grateful to all the companies who have provided their valuable contributions to date. We hope to be able to organise face-to-face Regional Meetings in the near future. Further details may be found on our website as dates approach, and will be emailed to company representatives in their particular region. We are, however, exploring the idea of running online Regional Meetings in order to continue providing value to our membership.

During the Spring Novel Construction Session, to be held online from 14 to 15 April, in addition to presentations on new technology developments, the Working Groups will meet to continue editing and adding to the content of "The Road to Success" app. Three awards will be presented during 2021: the IPLOCA Health & Safety Award newly sponsored by TC Energy, the IPLOCA Corporate Social Responsibility Award sponsored by Total and the IPLOCA New Technologies Award sponsored by BP. For those members wishing to make a submission for the IPLOCA awards, further details and deadlines are provided on page 17.

In particular, we are very much hoping to be able to hold our 54th Annual Convention this year in Prague, Czech Republic from 13 to 17 September. The agreement has been signed with both the hotel and ground agent for the rescheduled dates. Make sure you have blocked the dates in your diary and note that registration will open on 1 June. You will find more details about the convention on page 20 of this newsletter.

Best regards,

Leon Richards

IPLOCA President 2020-2021

News from Geneva

Health, Safety and Environmental Statistics Due



The deadline for the submission of statistics is **5 March 2021**. It is a requirement of regular membership of the association to provide HSE Statistics, so if your company has not yet submitted them, please make sure they are sent right away! Further details are available on page 18.

Highlights from IPLOCA Social Media Activity in 2020

LinkedIn: IPLOCA went from 3200 to 5450 followers in one year which represents an impressive 60% increase. Since March 2020 we posted 54 times, with a total of about 240,000 views. IPLOCA's profile attracted more than 2500 unique visitors throughout the year. The most popular post, with more than 25'000 views and 460 likes, was of Leon

Richards from McConnell Dowell welcoming him as the new IPLOCA President in November 2020.

Twitter: IPLOCA reached a total of 15,000 views for 40 posts.

Instagram: We posted 54 times and as a result gained 60 new followers in one year which represents an excellent 66% increase.

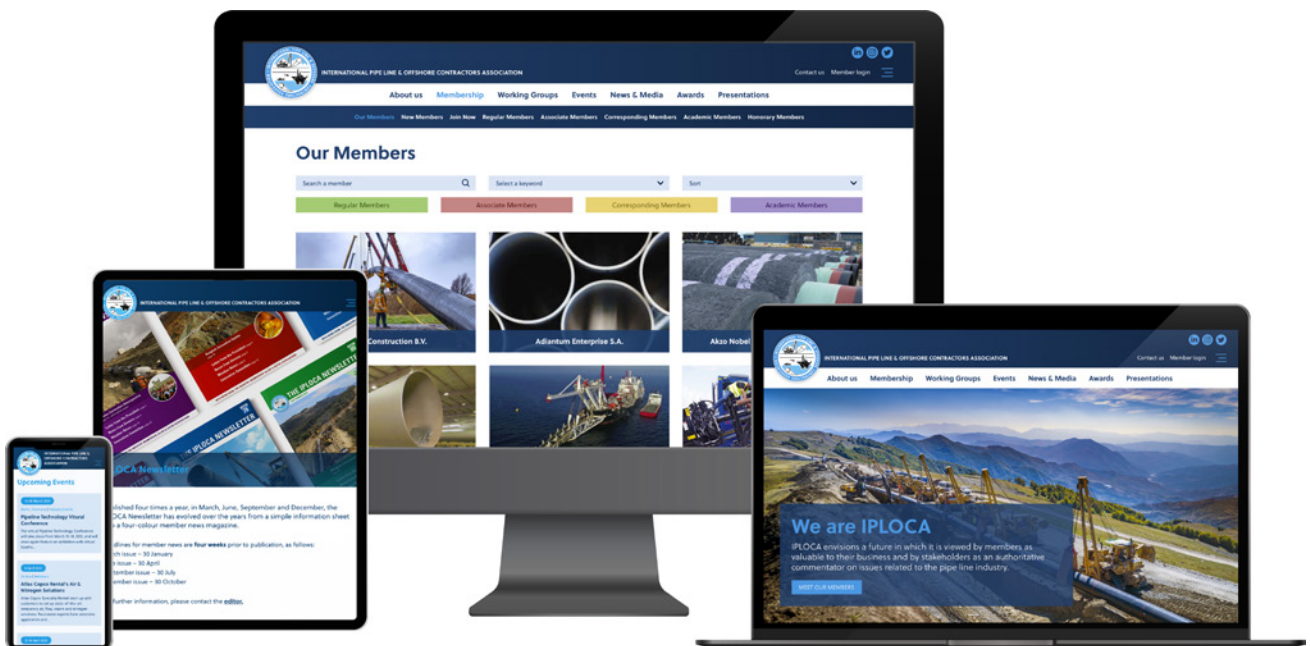
To conclude the year, we had put together a 'Year in Review' video which was seen more than 200 times on **YouTube**.

Membership Certificates

Membership certificates were mailed out in January to paid-up members. For those members who have not yet paid their fees for 2021, we kindly ask you to do so as soon as possible. If you are the designated IPLOCA Key Representative for your company and you have not yet received your certificate please contact sebastien.goetschmann@iploca.com.

IPLOCA's Newly Launched Website

We have been working on a brand new IPLOCA website for the past year and we are pleased to let you know that our updated website has just been launched and replaces the old one. It has a totally new look, respects current standards and is mobile friendly. Greater use is made of images and member companies in particular are presented in an enhanced way. Take a look at www.iploca.com. We hope you will enjoy it! We welcome your feedback so feel free to send your comments to gregoire.demontmollin@iploca.com.



IPLOCA Webinars

As the effects of the pandemic continue to affect work habits, IPLOCA is continuing to hold regular webinars informing members on projects completed under difficult circumstances, award winning innovations, new technologies, as well as updates from associations working for the benefit of the pipeline industry. Since the beginning of the year, the following webinars have been held:



Engineering & Construction Risk Institute (ERCI)

Suggested by long standing member CCC, presented to IPLOCA members on 14 January by Jon Nield, CEO & President. ERCI was established in July 2005 as an initiative of the World Economic Forum and is now supported by 17 engineering & construction companies. ERCI is an independent industry body involved in education with respect to the identification, management and implementation of sound project-risk practices in the global E&C industry.

Shore Approach: An Art or a Science?

Presented on 28 January by Ahmad Khairiri Ghani, Construction Project Manager recently retired from

Petronas, who shared his vast experience in overcoming the various difficulties with shore pipeline construction. Light was shed on some issues, concerns and lessons learnt of what needs to be considered in order to achieve construction effectiveness and meet contract requirements.

Increasing Safety and Productivity On Site

Presented on 4 February by Jorge Rodriguez, Business Development Manager, Stanley Black & Decker, of which CRC-Evans Pipelines International is a business unit. DeWALT, a registered trade mark of Stanley Black & Decker, is the most important brand in the world's largest tool company and battery platform, supporting customers in over 160 countries. With the help and experience of pipeline companies, they have developed tools and accessories with several safety features that have been used on many projects around the globe.

Techfem & the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) Pre-commissioning Project

Presented on 11 February by Luigi Eusebi, Pre-commissioning Project Manager, Techfem S.p.A., who shared the complex issues involved and solutions found in the TAP pre-commissioning operations of the 105 km offshore pipeline link from Albania to Italy.

Should you wish to review the presentations and/or the recordings of any of our webinars, please go to www.iploca.com/webinars.

Upcoming webinars with IPLOCA members Laurini, ILF Consulting and the recently joined Allied Institution, Construction Safety Research Alliance (CSRA), will be posted with dates and times on our website.

If you have an interesting subject you would like to share with members, please contact jacqueline.tempel@iploca.com.





IPLOCA's Board Directors are hoping to meet in person again like during this past event.

Board Meeting Update

10-11 December 2020
via video conference

The following summarises the main discussions and outcomes of the December 2020 Board Meeting.

Safety Moment

Bruno Pomaré of Spiecapag shared, as a safety moment, an event that took place in The Netherlands in August 2015. The video showed a barge that had pushed a platform with a cargo on it and had docked. The cargo was a prefabricated section of a bridge and was about to be offloaded with two cranes. However as the platform was on the water, once the cranes started to lift the cargo, the platform tilted and everything fell off, into the water. No human injuries were reported, but a dog was killed. The instability created by having a platform on water was not taken into consideration with regards to this lifting operation. Bruno went on to present a matrix used by Spiecapag when undertaking lifting operations. The use of this matrix helps to avoid situations such as the one shown in the video. This incident is listed in the HSE Shared Experiences Platform and can be accessed by all IPLOCA members. Leon Richards stressed the importance that all these lessons learnt are entered onto the platform and that members take steps to avoid similar incidents happening in the future.

HSE & CSR Committee

Bruno Pomaré, HSE & CSR Committee Chair, supported

by Levent Kafkasli, Ebbo Laenge, Robert Linder and Bobby Poteete in leadership roles presented the committee report. They reported that the HSE workshop was held on 20 October in Geneva and provided the possibility for participants to join in person or via Zoom. Nicolas Brocherieux from DuPont Sustainable Solutions gave a safety leadership perspective for leaders to have a better understanding of how to have a positive impact on employee safety behaviour in the workplace. The HSE Committee members' companies sponsored this training.

The next HSE & CSR Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 13 April 2021 via Zoom in conjunction with the Novel Construction Spring Session. The main ongoing action items are as follows:

- CSR subject on CO₂ emissions: CO₂ calculation methodology
- Golden rules for driving
- HSE speaker for the Annual Convention in Prague: an employee who was subject to a work incident that led him to lose his sight is available to speak.
- Current initiatives: database, website etc.

It was noted that during 2020, 84% of the mandatory HSE statistic forms were received from IPLOCA Regular Members.

There have only been a small number of additions to the HSE Shared Experiences Platform. This past year the focus had been on sharing COVID-19 protocols for the IPLOCA online repository. Bruno Pomaré reminded the Board of the importance that all members contribute and help populate the HSE Shared Experience Platform. It was announced that Chevron would cease to be the

sponsor of the Health & Safety Award effective end of 2020. A number of potential sponsors were suggested, including TC Energy Corporation (formerly TransCanada Corporation) who agreed to accept.

Innovation Committee

Gerben Wansink, Innovation Committee Chair, supported by Doug Bailey, Adel Botros, Leonardo Gravina, Wilko Koop and Tim Zboya in leadership roles presented the Innovation Committee report.

The Fall session was held in Geneva on 21 & 22 October 2020 and attendees were able to participate either in person or via Zoom. The 5th version of the 'Road to Success' is now up and running. The new platform recently launched makes it easier to work with by using the same template for updates and edits and is very user friendly. The app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play Store. It was noted that the updates needed to be downloaded in order to visualise the latest version.

The agreement with Pipeline Research Council International (PRCI) has been renewed. This allows IPLOCA to suggest certain research projects in the industry and co-fund them. The results of the IPLOCA co-funded projects are available to IPLOCA members via the RTS app. IPLOCA is being represented by Bill Olson, Sr. V.P. Operations of Gulf Interstate Engineering (GIE) who keeps in close contact with PRCI. A couple of co-funded projects are already included in the RTS app.

The recently launched initiative "IPLOCA Members Technology Platform", in partnership with TechnologyCatalogue.com, is now up and running for all members and is included as a benefit of membership. This platform modernises the way that IPLOCA helps to connect the innovative technologies of IPLOCA members to potential clients and also facilitates knowledge sharing between members. All members are encouraged to populate this platform.

The IPLOCA New Technologies Award is presented every other year to Regular or Associate Members in recognition of a significant contribution to innovation in the pipeline construction industry. The 2019 winner was CRC-Evans Pipeline International for their NeXray real-time radiography tool. The deadline for submissions to the 2021 award is 21 May 2021.

The next Novel Construction Session is scheduled for 14 -15 April 2021, originally planned to take place in Athens, Greece, but will be held via Zoom due to continued travel restrictions.

Scholarship Committee

Kelly Osborn, Scholarship Project Lead, presented the Scholarship Committee update. It was noted that only 94 applications were received for the 2020 scholarship awards. The applications were composed of 41% male, 59% female and linked to employees of 32 Associate Members and 62 Regular Members. A total number of 23 scholarships were awarded of which 20 were IPLOCA funded and three company sponsored. The scholarships were awarded to 16 students linked to Regular Members and seven linked to Associate Members, overall representing more than 11 countries.

The Scholarship Programme started in 2016 and an addendum to the original agreement has been signed for it to run until 2023. Since the start of the programme 676 applications have been received and 106 scholarships have been awarded (100 IPLOCA funded and six company sponsored) for a total cost of USD 477,000. It was mentioned that IPLOCA's funds have decreased since the beginning of the programme. At the time of the board meeting, no permanent solution had been found with regards to alternative sources for funding this initiative. Any member companies who are interested in sponsoring a scholarship should contact Kelly Osborn at U.S. Pipeline, kosborn@uspipeline.com.

New Website & Database Capabilities

Peter Schoonenberg of Pedemex Publishers presented the soon-to-be launched IPLOCA website and the new database capabilities. The Board of Directors unanimously agreed that the website looks more modern and efficient and will positively impact the image of the association. A suggestion was made for Peter Schoonenberg to present the new website and database to members during the Annual Convention, explaining how members will be invited to be active in posting news, photos and their company logo. This presentation could be recorded and posted on the website for members to consult as required.

Annual Convention

Juan Arzuaga informed the Board that arrangements were moving forward as planned for the Annual Convention scheduled to take place in Prague from 13 to 17 September 2021. The agreement has been signed with both the hotel and the ground agent for the rescheduled dates. The speakers who had agreed to participate last year will be contacted to confirm their presence. It was suggested that the opening of registration could be postponed for one month, to June, to allow for improvements in the COVID-19 situation. Any contingency plans for the Convention will be discussed at the March 2021 Board Meeting allowing time for the Board to make an informed decision.

Regional Meetings

No Regional Meetings took place in 2020. For 2021, Regional Meetings are being considered for:

- France - with the support of Spiecapag and Spac
- Germany – being planned by Gerben Wansink (Maats) and Wilko Koop (A.Hak)
- Shanghai, China – Leon Richards (McConnell Dowell) is considering holding an online meeting

Despite general agreement by the Board that a remote Regional Meeting will not offer the same person to person networking possibilities, online solutions are being explored so as to continue providing value to membership.

Treasurer's Report

Adam Wynne Hughes presented the Treasurer's Report including the 2020 forecast and the 2021 budget. He explained that 2019 was a 'normal' year and the association ended the financial year with a negative figure of CHF 260,000. This year, due to the pandemic, the Annual Convention was cancelled and resulted in a loss of income. The end of the financial year for 2020 was expected to show a negative figure of CHF 298,000. He said every effort had been made to reduce the association's costs where possible. Adam Wynne Hughes then presented the budget for 2021 which was duly approved.

Membership Update

As of December 2020, there were 226 IPLOCA members

comprised of 82 Regular, 107 Associate, 28 Corresponding, 3 Academic and 6 Honorary. In comparison the end of year total for 2019 was 246.

The following membership applications were approved:

- **Boskalis Offshore Subsea Contracting B.V.**, The Netherlands (Regular Member)
- **Chengdu Xionggui Jiashi Electrical Co. Ltd.**, China (Associate Member)
- **Glavbolgastro International AD**, Bulgaria (Regular Member)
- **Monter Strojarske Montaze D.D.**, Croatia (Regular Member)

Resignations were received from the following companies:

- **Akzo Nobel Powder Coatings GmbH (AM)**, Germany
- **Betafence N.V. (AM)**, Italy

Regular Member **Stroygazmontah's** membership was terminated due to the fact that the company no longer exists.

The following name changes were accepted:

- Gorizane Group S.p.A. is now **Gorizane E&C S.p.A.**
- Maats Pipeline Equipment is now **Maats Pipeline Professionals**
- Cyntech Construction Ltd. is now **Cyntech Anchors Ltd.**
- Gulf Interstate Engineering Co. is also known as **Gulf Companies** (both names are used).

Sister Associations



The **Pipeline Industries Guild's (PIG)** 64th Annual National Dinner, London, U.K. has been rescheduled to take place on 8 March 2022. For information on other events please visit www.pipeguild.com.



The **International Marine Contractors Association's (IMCA)** Asia Pacific and Middle East & India Committees join forces for the first time to host a webinar on 17 March starting at 08:00 GMT. Further details may be found on www.imca-int.com/events.



The **Pipe Line Contractors Association's (PLCA)** 73rd Annual Convention, planned for 6 to 10 April in Nassau, the Bahamas and **Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada's (PLCAC)** 67th Annual Convention, scheduled to take place from 16 to 20 May in Victoria, BC, Canada have both been cancelled. Alternative dates

are currently being evaluated for the PLCA Convention. To review other events that are scheduled, visit their websites: www.plca.org and www.pipeline.ca, respectively.



The **Distribution Contractors Association's (DCA)** 60th Annual Convention has been rescheduled for 27-31 July 2021 at the Ritz-Carlton Orlando, FL, U.S.A. This "Family" Convention will take the place of the traditional July Mid Year Meeting, previously scheduled for Whistler, British Columbia. For further information, refer to www.dcaweb.org.



The **Australia Pipelines and Gas Association (APGA)** has planned a full schedule of events this year, including the APGA Convention and Annual General Meeting from 25 to 28 September in Brisbane. Check their website for further details of face-to-face and virtual events: www.apga.org.au/events.

Membership Centre

New Regular Members



GLAVBOLGARSTROY
Leadership Through Excellence

Glavbolgarstroy (GBS) is the largest construction

corporate group in Bulgaria and has over 50 years of experience. GBS has successfully implemented landmark projects in Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Africa, Central and North Asia and the Middle East. The company specialises in energy infrastructure (compressor stations, gas pipelines, GMS), transport and water infrastructure, as well as in the construction of residential, commercial and industrial projects. GBS is an international contractor with over 10 subsidiaries in Bulgaria and abroad. The company "Glavbolgarstroy International" AD (Sofia) was established in 2007 and is an investor, employer and main contractor of "turn-key" projects.

Glavbolgarstroy International AD

3-5 Damyanitsa Str.

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international@gbs-bg.com gbs-bg.com/en



MONTER
STROJARSKE MONTAŽE D.D.

Monter - Strojarske montaže joint stock

company has many years

of experience in the construction and maintenance of industrial plants, process equipment production and is considered a leader in the construction and transport of pipelines for oil, gas, water and district heating throughout Croatia. The company is specialised in the construction of oil, gas and water pipelines including special services such as road and river crossings, horizontal drilling, embedding the pipes in micro tunnels and welding technology for pipelines made of carbon steel, stainless steel or PE etc. Founded in 1948, Monter - Strojarske Montaže is a well recognised contractor with its core business being the construction of pipelines.

Monter Strojarske Montaze D.D.

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Boskalis

Active in the offshore energy sector, **Boskalis** is involved in the development, construction,

transport, installation, inspection, repair & maintenance (IRM) and decommissioning of oil and LNG import/export facilities, offshore platforms, pipelines and cables, and offshore wind farms. The company has an extensive track record related to seabed intervention activities, such as trenching, pipeline protection and also landfall operations. Boskalis creates new horizons for all its stakeholders, by offering a unique combination of experts, vessels and services. Maintaining the highest safety and sustainability standards, they provide innovative and competitive all-round solutions for clients in the offshore energy sector, ports, and coastal and delta regions around the globe. With its roots in the Netherlands, Boskalis has been in existence for over 100 years. Their head office is located in Papendrecht and they have a worldwide network of branches.

Boskalis Offshore Subsea Contracting B.V.

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New Associate Member



Xiongggu Electrical was founded in 1992 and

started business as an IGBT inverter welding machines manufacturer. In 2001, the company entered the pipeline industry by developing semi-automatic pipeline welding machines which went on to be used in the West to East China gas pipeline project. Xiongggu Electrical's semi-automatic and automatic pipeline welding machines have been used in pipeline projects across China, Russia (Russia-China gas pipeline), India, UAE, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, South Africa and Algeria.

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Member News



C.A.T. Group's Pipeline Update

Despite the global impact of the pandemic in 2020, the C.A.T. Group (C.A.T.) managed to become a more resilient organisation, ready more than ever, to adapt to the difficult market conditions and to improve in crisis management situations. C.A.T. ranked 3rd as an international pipeline contractor worldwide according to the Global Sourcebook published by Engineering News-Record (ENR). In the U.A.E., and after successfully completing and handing over ahead of time the pipeline project for Total and ADNOC on their Dyab Unconventional Gas Field, C.A.T. managed to win another pipeline project with ADNOC's subsidiary, Borouge. In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, C.A.T. is working on various projects and is progressing in the execution of the 125 km (30") and 125 km (16") South Ghawar Transmission Pipelines Project which was awarded in 2020 and subsequently managed to also win the South Ghawar Wells Tie-In Project. Additionally, C.A.T. has recently been awarded the Hawiyah Unayzah Injection and Reproduction Flowlines and Trunklines which fall under the Onshore Maintain Potential Programme (OMPP) where C.A.T. has four long-term contracts spread across various fields. C.A.T. has also embarked on a business transformation journey in order to strengthen its engineering capabilities and project management services which shall help in enhancing project execution capabilities with the support of its plan to expand into new geographical areas and new product lines. In parallel, C.A.T. has launched its renewable energy product line with the aim to provide sustainable energy solutions to its clients.

New International Sales Director for DENSO Group Germany

On 1 March 2021, Luc Perrad takes over from Michael Schad as Director of International Sales for DENSO Group Germany. Michael is taking his retirement after

36 years of service. Having worked in various sales roles, he has been responsible for the successful development of the company's international sales since 2012. In the course of his work, he contributed his extensive knowledge to well-known committees and international associations. Luc Perrad, a Belgian citizen, has been working for DENSO Group as an Area Sales Manager since 2019 and has more than 20 years of global technical sales experience and extensive consulting expertise when it comes to questions concerning corrosion protection for pipelines. In his new role, he will focus on further growth for the business and on opening up new markets.



Euro Pipeline Equipment: First Delivery of Performer 720 Model



The patented Performer pipelayers family officially presents the small version of the renowned Performer 980. A 72-ton capacity model (with the possibility to extend the range up to 75 tons) is now available on the market and has already been sold to the Italian company Impresa Tre Colli S.p.A. Like its "older brother", the Performer 720 features the patented tracks dismounting system in order to cut the cost and time of mobilising the pipelayers and also features the full electronic platform providing LMI, anti-tipping, free fall and boom kick-out. A different counterweight, smaller Bosch Rexroth reduction, 800 mm tracks and a 7.3 m boom are the main differences with the bigger model.

GDI's Vision to Become Global Solutions Leaders

GDI, a Mexican EPC (Engineering Procurement and Construction) company is moving towards a global



vision, seeking to bring all its knowledge in the area to other countries outside Mexico. It is the leading company in Mexico for the construction of pipelines, currently covering more than 4,200 km (2,600 miles) of installed pipeline. Such is the case for their "Transmission Gas Pipeline (Interconnector) Border of Bulgaria - Border of Hungary" project located in Serbia, with a 48" direct pipe crossing of 624 m. For this project, GDI sent a team of specialised personnel and the most advanced technology in the sector, like their 750 HP Thruster used for the installation of the pipe. The execution was divided into three sections of just over 240 m in length, allowing them to install the Direct Pipe in just 15 days. Similarly, GDI is innovating in the development of storage terminals. They recently completed the construction of a storage terminal located in the port of Veracruz, Mexico. The project consisted of the installation of 12 tanks for a storage capacity of 2.2 million barrels divided in gasoline, diesel and jet fuel.

Goriziane's Pipe Bending Machines (PBMs) in Canada



Goriziane E&C's high-performance PBM ranges from 6" to 60" with over 35 machines delivered worldwide since

the 1990's. Years of experience have enabled Goriziane to design and manufacture an innovative machine with the utmost attention to detail. The PBMs are made of high-resistant steel and can bend pipes up to 60". With the new big-bend design, the innovative cylinder configuration can bend pipes with a thickness of up to 48 mm. They can be operated with pneumatic or hydraulic mandrels. Recently, Goriziane delivered three PBMs 36"-48" that will be operated on one of the most difficult gas pipeline projects in Canada. It also includes Goriziane's most advanced technological features such as self-propelled and wireless hydraulic mandrels with automatic positioning, data logger, and integrated pipe bender. In addition, the machines have a Tier IV engine, which is in line with environmental protection standards.

ILF Consulting Engineers Congratulates TAP



ILF Consulting Engineers congratulated TAP AG on the first months of operation and declared they are proud to have supported the project with consulting, engineering and planning services, project management as well as accompanying engineering during construction and commissioning in Greece and Albania. The Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) is a 878 km long transportation system that carries natural gas from Azerbaijan at the Caspian Sea to Western Europe starting from Greece just 4.5 years after kick-off. Being the European part of the Southern Gas Corridor, TAP connects to the Trans-Anatolian Gas Pipeline (TANAP) system at the Turkish-Greek border. It currently delivers up to 10 bcm/a of gas via Greece and Albania through the Adriatic Sea to Italy with an expansion capacity of up to 20 bcm/a.

ISCO Industries and Largest Solid-wall HDPE Outfall in North America

The needs of the new McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Victoria, British Columbia presented an

opportunity that would lead to the construction of the largest solid-wall HDPE outfall in North America. The line stretched 1.92 km (1.2 miles) long and was primarily constructed with 2250 mm DR26 HDPE pipe. It featured several unique and innovative concepts from design to installation. High-performance HDPE pipe manufactured to European ISO standards was the material of choice. ISCO Industries supplied the 2250 mm pipe manufactured by Agru America in 16-metre sticks. HDPE was selected based on its long-term performance in the corrosive seawater environment, seismic resiliency, and its ease of construction.



An assembly site was set up in Nanoose Bay, north of Nanaimo, about 180 km by sea from the project site. A weather-resistant enclosure was set up around the ISCO supplied fusion machine. Sections of pipe were trucked to the site where experienced ISCO fusion technicians were able to complete three fusions per day for a total of more than 100 fused joints. This project was an incredible demonstration of teamwork between multiple entities resulting in a record-breaking installation. The construction showcased what can be accomplished with ISCO and HDPE pipe.

Laurini Meets Challenge to Adapt Three Crawler Excavators

The year that just ended brought a new challenge to Laurini, an impulse that once again led the company to evolve and improve. They were awarded a special project on behalf of Saipem: adapting three 374F Caterpillar excavators for a demanding job in Saudi Arabia, to be used for transport and operations in seawater up to 4 m deep and with an incline of up to 8 degrees. The client's request indicated the need to dig a trench of several kilometres in the water, in order to bury a methane pipeline coming from the open sea, which would then continue its journey on the mainland. The depth of the seabed in that stretch of sea would not allow the use of dredgers on ships or other similar



means, so crawler excavators, with the appropriate modifications, proved to be extremely functional. Starting from the base of Caterpillar's 374F, they were able to obtain a multi-purpose and exceptionally stable machine, free of oscillation and capable of delivering remarkable performance in both bucket digging and hook lifting. When the works inside the water have finished, the machines can be reconverted quickly and go back to being 374F standard excavators, a unique characteristic of these machines.

MAX STREICHER Launches 100% Electrically Driven HDD Rig



The 80 ton drilling rig was developed by a team of specialists in cooperation with experienced drillers and offers a fully-featured and user-friendly mobile design incorporating powerful thrust and spindle drive, an integrated mud pump and drill pipe handling system combined with a low emission electric drive technology. Due to full electrification it was possible to reduce noise emission to a minimum. Moreover, many automatic features make the operation of the device easier and guarantee the highest degree of safety. The new horizontal drilling rig is highly efficient and is especially well suited

to sensitive ecological and urban areas. After a successful test run, this drilling rig is already on duty at a trenchless power cable laying project in Emsland, Germany. In addition to this drilling rig, further special machinery with low emission electrical drive technology is currently in the development phase. Just like the new drilling rig some of these machines have already been tested successfully on different construction sites.

Monti Group Expands with MontiPower Brasil

In February, Monti-Werkzeuge GmbH (Monti), the innovator and manufacturer of unique surface preparation technologies including the patented Bristle Blaster, announced that its North American subsidiary, MontiPower Americas Inc., had entered into a joint venture agreement with Tecnofink LTDA to market and sell Monti products in Brazil.



Tecnofink is Monti's long-time distributor in Brazil. The new venture – to be called MontiPower Brasil – will create joint forces to market the entire range of Monti surface preparation products and services in Brazil under the Monti brand. Dirk Pohlmann will move from Tecnofink to MontiPower Brasil to take up the role as General Manager of the new venture. MontiPower Brasil will be located in Macae, with regionally based sales engineers.

Noksel España S.A. Manufactured More Than 20,000 Tons of Gas Pipes in 2020

During 2020 Noksel España manufactured more than 20,000 tons of gas pipes for the Polish gas system. The pipes were of L485M grade with diameters ranging from 20" to 40" with wall thicknesses between 11 and 22.2 mm. The pipes were coated with three layer polyethylene and lined with flow coat epoxy. Noksel España S.A. is a spiral welded steel pipe manufacturer which has its integrated production and coating facilities in Lorca, Spain with an annual production capacity of 150,000 tons of diameters



ranging from 16" to 100" using steel grades up to X70 and a 25.4 mm wall thickness. The company delivers its pipes mainly to Europe, UK, Latin America and Western Africa for oil & gas and water pipelines.

Qapqa Group Acquires PWT Division of ITW Welding

On 30 November, Qapqa Group, headquartered in The Netherlands, acquired the PWT Division of ITW Welding, strengthening its position in the pipeline market and thus ensuring they are better able to serve their clients' needs. Qapqa Group has been the sole distributor of PWT (Pipe Welding Technology) Italy since November 2018. PWT is a well-known brand in the pipeline industry, with its advanced automatic pipe welding technology, bringing together high quality and productivity. The Group will continue to work closely with ITW Welding, and moving forward as always, aims to improve on its high-end welding technology. Responsibility for R&D, design and manufacturing will remain with the team in Italy.

SICIM Strengthens Canadian Footprint

Sicim's growth path in Canada is reinforced by the acquisition of the Brewster Pipeline Project, one of the eight spreads part of the NGTL System Expansion. Steel River Solutions and SICIM Canada have formed Steel River SICIM Pipeline (SRSP), a company established with a shared vision of common values of a privately held indigenous business. With diverse expertise in the oil & gas and construction industries, SRSP offers extensive knowledge and resources, providing a unique solution to the Canadian market. The Brewster Pipeline Project runs in Clearwater County, approximately 35 km north-west of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. It consists of 49 km of 48" (1219.2 mm) diameter pipeline. The project is located on 100% crown



land and runs south to north, starting at the existing NGTL Vetchland compressor station and ending at the NGTL Nordegg compressor station. Construction work includes the trenchless crossing of the North Saskatchewan River, an area of great environmental value, and pipelaying through the typical 'muskeg' wetland. SICIM plans to seize the opportunity to deploy the in-house welding system Fastweld. Measures are already in place to meet the stringent COVID-19 limitations, to safeguard the health of the workforce and maintain the contractual milestones of 2022.

Spac Construction Project for Gas Supply to New Power Plant

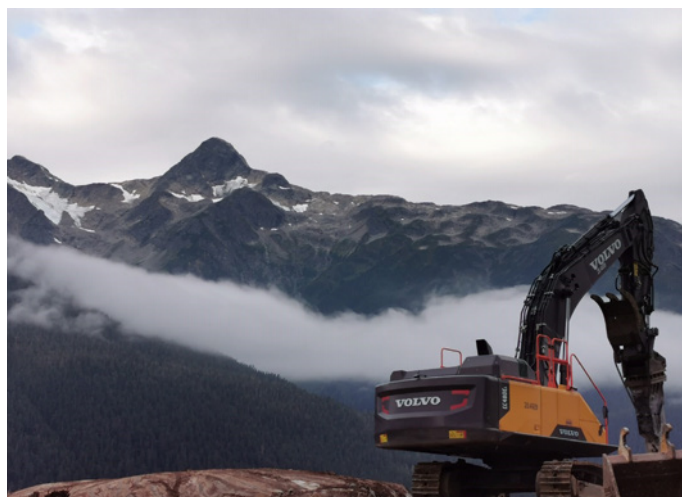
GRTgaz has commissioned Spac to construct a new 19 km pipeline to transport gas from Tréflévénez to Landivisiau where a new power plant has been built. Up to 90 committed skilled workers have been involved in this major project. The new plant will provide electricity to all of Brittany (France) through natural gas starting next December. Started in February 2020, this project was the opportunity to successfully test automatic welding on middle size (DN400) pipelines and its profitability. In addition, the team used recorded



ultrasonic testing to check the welding integrity. The pipeline work is now completed, in compliance with GRTgaz's commitments to farmers. Since the project outline crossed several fields, topsoil was completely removed over the 16 m pipe footprint to be preserved. This will then be re-levelled when the land is restored next March, in time for the next planting season.

Volvo Construction Equipment, Spiecapag and PAPC (Bonatti) Working on Coastal GasLink Pipeline, Canada

The Coastal GasLink is a 670 km (416 miles) pipeline project, owned by TC Energy, which will safely transport natural gas across northern British Columbia, Canada. When Coastal GasLink is operational, it will deliver the natural gas from the Dawson Creek area to a coastal facility near Kitimat where it will be exported to global markets. The pipeline is being built to move 2.1 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d) of natural gas, with the potential for delivery of up to 5 bcf/d, depending on the number of compressor and meter facilities.



Spiecapag and Pacific Atlantic Pipeline Construction Ltd (PAPC), a subsidiary of Bonatti Group, are two of the four contractors selected to build the pipeline, and both companies have selected Volvo Construction Equipment for their project fleets. PAPC is operating 40 Volvo excavators and Spiecapag has a fleet of 96 Volvo machines. Great West Equipment, the Volvo dealer in British Columbia, supports both contractors across the province. Great West Equipment has technicians and parts on-site for the duration of the project and they are followed by the Volvo CE ActiveCare Direct programme to guarantee uptime of the Volvo equipment, including over the harsh winter in northern Canada. In addition to the equipment operated by Spiecapag and PAPC, Volvo Construction Equipment has over 22 units with other sub-contractors on the project, including seven rotating pipelayers.

Wasco Continues to Deliver Great Results for Gorgon 2 Projects



Following Wasco's successful 2010 contract delivery associated with the Chevron-operated Gorgon Project, Wasco entered into a contract with Chevron Australia Pty Ltd in 2019 for the company's Gorgon Stage 2 Project. The contract was executed last year and involved the supply of standalone FBE coating on carbon steel (CS) and corrosion resistant alloy (CRA) line pipes, supply of bracelet anodes and pipe preservation. To date, Wasco has coated more than 22,000 km of pipelines in every climate and geographical area. Last year, the company announced its global footprint expansion in the UK. To be operational this year, the new pipe coating facility will complement WASCO's existing concrete weight coating capabilities in Europe by providing a full range of external and internal coating solutions to its clients.

New Chairman and Deputy Chairman appointed at Winn & Coales International Ltd.



Early October 2020, the Board of Directors of Winn & Coales International Ltd. were delighted to announce that Chris Winn, the great grandson of the founder of the company has succeeded his father, David Winn OBE, as Chairman of the Group. Chris Winn becomes the

fourth Chairman of the company since it was founded in 1883. He has extensive and broad experience within the Group and held the position of Managing Director of Winn & Coales (Denso) Ltd. and Executive Director of Winn & Coales International Ltd.

Winn & Coales International Ltd remains a privately-owned family business after 137 years of trading. The company has specialised in the manufacture and supply of corrosion prevention and sealing products for over 90 years.



Keith Erskine, the grandson of the second of the two company founders, Frank B. Coales, has assumed the role of Deputy Chairman of the Group. Keith brings a wealth of knowledge from his professional career to the role and holds the position of Non-Executive Director of Winn & Coales International Ltd.

Xionggu Electrical's Welding Machines Used on Sino-Russia Gas Pipeline

Xionggu Electrical's automatic pipeline welding machines have been applied to many projects in China and abroad, including the biggest ongoing Sino-Russia gas pipeline project with a total mainline length of more than 3000 km from the Russian border all the way to Shanghai. This pipeline with diameters of 56" and 48", using API 5L X80, and with a pressure of 12MPa, is aimed to transmit natural gas from Russia to the most developed regions in eastern China to meet rapidly growing demand for energy. From north-east China, where temperatures drop to minus 40, to the south-east, where rivers and rice fields predominate, more than 40 spreads of internal welding machines plus dual torch external automatic welding machines have been in operation. A remarkable one-time qualified rate of welded pipe joint was achieved by adopting internal welding for root pass. High productivity and weld consistency of dual torch external welding machines for fill and cap have been acknowledged by the client PipeChina and contractors.





2021 IPLOCA Awards

Would your company like the opportunity to be selected and recognised as a leader in search for excellence within the pipeline industry? It is now time to choose which of your company's significant initiatives or achievements meets the eligibility requirements to be considered for one of the following IPLOCA Awards.

Deadlines for submissions are coming up in May. For more information, such as guidelines, entry forms, eligibility and details on previous winning entries, you may refer to www.iploca.com/awards.

Note that all entries should be focused on the pipeline industry and related work and are required to comply with the guidelines, including submission in the appropriate format, not exceeding the maximum number of pages and within the specified time frame.

Reminder: for the annual H&S Award, entries are limited to projects launched a maximum of three years earlier, and a maximum of five years for the four other awards that are presented every other year.

If you have any questions, please contact Sébastien Goetschmann, sebastien.goetschmann@iploca.com.



Deadline: 7 May

The Health and Safety Award is presented each year in recognition of members' initiatives aimed at improving the health and safety of the pipeline industry such as:

- A unique innovation or initiative to avoid incidents
- A new and well-defined system, procedure or practice enhancing safety
- Implementation of lessons learned

- An initiative to address a specific need identified in the local community
- A programme or practice demonstrating the corporate social responsibility of the company
- A creative initiative in which a large impact is made with a small investment
- A long term project, intended to be continuously supported by the company or another company, once the pipeline activity is complete



Deadline: 14 May

The Corporate Social Responsibility Award is presented every second year, alternating with the Environmental Award, and is in recognition of members' initiatives, which are aimed at improving the living conditions of the people impacted by the pipeline industry such as:



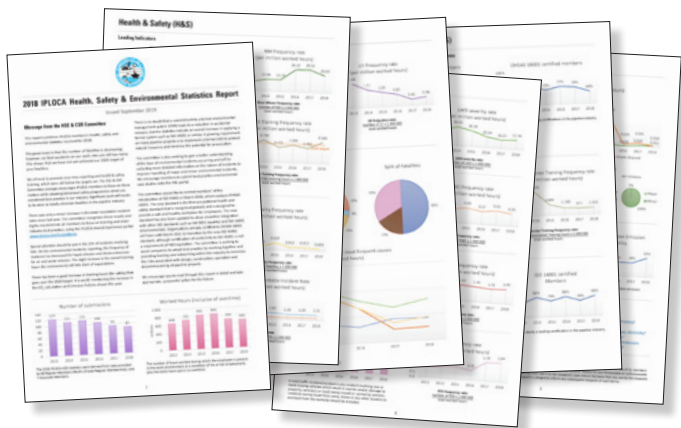
Deadline: 21 May

The biennial New Technologies Award gives recognition to a significant contribution to innovation in the engineering of, the provision of equipment for, and the construction of pipelines by virtue of:

- A technological or engineering breakthrough
- A new piece of equipment, tool or construction supply
- A new type of permanent material
- Other relevant innovations

Health, Safety, the Environment & CSR

HSE Statistics Required of All Regular Members



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 via the annual statistics report issued in September each year. This information is also welcome from our Associate Members who have field construction activities.

The online form, along with guidelines and translations in French, Russian and Spanish, are available at www.iploca.com/hse-statistics. Returns should cover onshore pipeline construction sites or offshore operations and all infrastructure-related projects. The deadline

HSE Shared Experiences Platform

Share your experiences so that others may benefit!
Learn from the experiences of others and don't make the same mistakes!

We continue to encourage all industry players to visit and contribute to www.iploca.com/hseplatform. Over 300 documents are sorted into various categories and grouped under "Lessons Learned" and "Safety Alerts", including some bilingual texts; all languages are accepted. Note that, in addition to health and safety issues, major environmental incidents and best practices are also included. Should you have any questions or comments please contact sebastien.goetschmann@iploca.com.

to submit your 2020 Health, Safety and Environmental Statistics Return is **5 March 2021**. So, if you represent a Regular Member and you have not yet sent in your statistics, please do so immediately.

Returns are confidential documents and are not shown or passed on to any third party, other than the HSE & CSR Committee members working in collaboration with the IPLOCA Secretariat in order to produce the annual statistics report.

New Sponsor for IPLOCA H&S Award

We are pleased to announce that TC Energy (previously TransCanada), a Corresponding Member of IPLOCA, has accepted our invitation to sponsor the annual IPLOCA Health & Safety Award.

We would like to thank **Chevron** for sponsoring this very important award for so many years with the support of Mark Rand who is now retiring from the company.

Robert Jones, President of TC Energy Mexico, has kindly taken over responsibility for the sponsorship of this award and will be participating in the selection and analysis of the entries, assisted by Juan Carlos Hernandez Azuela, Communications Lead of TC Energy. See previous page for more information on the 2021 IPLOCA Health and Safety Award.



Innovation Committee



Novel Spring Session Programme

The Novel Construction Spring Session will be held online from 14 to 15 April 2021. The agenda of the session will be announced mid-March and will be available on our website: www.iploca.com/novel-construction-sessions.

The Novel Construction Programme will include an open forum on Wednesday afternoon for members and non-member companies to present their latest developments within the industry. The following day all Working Groups will connect during the afternoon to discuss how to further develop the content of the Road to Success. This will be followed by group presentations.

If you would like to suggest a presentation for Wednesday afternoon, please submit the title and a brief outline to gregoire.demontmollin@iploca.com. All the presentations and group work will take place via Zoom video and audio conference. A link will be sent to all registered attendees nearer to the date of the event. Should you wish to participate in a Working Group, please contact the appropriate group leader:

Working Groups	Leader (Company)	Email
Health & Safety	Alain Gauthiez (Spiecapag)	alain.gauthiez@spiecapag.com
Earthworks & Crossings	Diana Rennkamp (Herrenknecht)	rennkamp.diana@herrenknecht.de
Steep Slopes Installation	Matt Granger (Ledcor)	matt.granger@ledcor.com
New Trends & Innovation	Mustafa Abusalah (C.C.C.)	mabusalah@ccc.net
Coatings	Somaieh Salehpour (Seal for Life)	somaieh.salehpour@sealforlife.com
Environment	Katrina Cooper (RSK)	kcooper@rsk.co.uk
Logistics	Jean-Baptiste Rousseau (Spiecapag)	jean-baptiste.rousseau@spiecapag.com
Pre-commissioning	Vincenzo Calabria (SICIM)	v.calabria@sicim.eu
Bending	Geert Dieperink (Maats)	dieperink@maats.com

Passing of John P. Best



We are saddened to have heard of the passing of John Best, Mears Group Quanta Services Inc., due to COVID-19 complications on 19 January.

As an attorney, he was a dedicated and hard working contributor to risk mitigation research within the New Trends and Innovation Novel Construction Working Group.

Our sincere condolences go to Mears Group and to John's family.

Please note: the venue originally planned in Athens for the Spring session will be retained for the Fall Novel Construction Session, which is scheduled to take place from 27 to 28 October 2021.

54th Annual Convention

Prague, Czech Republic

We are all keen to meet again in person once travel bans have been lifted and the COVID-19 pandemic is behind us.

At the beginning of April, we will be sending out a Doodle Poll to all IPLOCA members to evaluate their willingness to attend the Convention in September. It is important that every member responds to the questionnaire in order for us to define the best course of action.

Pipelines Powering a Sustainable Future

As previously announced, the Prague Convention has been given a theme: 'Pipelines Powering a Sustainable Future' and presentations at the Open General Meetings will focus on the many aspects of health, safety and the environment, as well as the rapidly evolving political response to climate change and its impact on the pipeline industry.

IPLOCA members will also have the opportunity to host or attend Poster Sessions, participate in pre-arranged 10-minute Business to Business Meetings (B2B) with potential clients, suppliers, operators and contractors, and

updates will be given on IPLOCA's activities during Regular and Associate Member Meetings on Thursday afternoon.

Cultural Programme

In addition to the business meetings, networking opportunities and the many social events, we have an extensive cultural programme lined up for delegates and spouses, which includes tours to Prague Castle, the iconic Charles Bridge, the astronomical clock in the Old Town City Hall, a cruise through the waterways of old Prague, Karlstejn Castle, built in 1348, and the Franz Kafka Museum, to name but a few. And not forgetting our golf enthusiasts, the IPLOCA golf tournament is not to be missed!

Mark your calendars!

IPLOCA's 54th Annual Convention, 13 to 17 September, 2021 at the Hilton Prague hotel.



In Memory of Albert Zakhem



At the time of publishing this newsletter, it is with great sadness that we inform you that Albert Zakhem, Zakhem International, IPLOCA Director, Middle East & Africa, passed away on 1 March due to complications related to COVID-19.

Our thoughts are with his wife Ariane and their family at this time. Condolences may be sent to Ibrahim Zakhem at iszakhem@gmail.com.



In Remembrance of Ruth Michels

With sadness we inform you that Ruth L. Michels passed away on 21 December 2020.

Ruth played a quiet, yet powerful, role in Michels Corporation, the energy and infrastructure

construction company founded by Ruth and her husband, Dale Michels, in 1959. With Dale at the helm, the company blossomed from a small regional gas distribution construction company into one of North America's largest, most diversified speciality contractors. Ruth continued to support the business but settled into what she saw as her most important role, mother to the couple's four sons, Pat, Tim, Steve, and Kevin. Ruth re-entered a leadership role at Michels in 1998 when Dale died, joining her sons in leading it. With Ruth as Chairwoman of the Board, Michels Corporation grew, while maintaining the family atmosphere that was so important to her. "My mother purposely avoided being the focus of attention," said Pat Michels, President and CEO. "Yet we all knew she was the unsung hero of Michels' success. My dad rightly gets a lot of credit for what Michels has become, but it is important to remember that my mother was right beside him, sharing his vision."

Ruth oversaw the Michels Family Foundation, a charitable organisation that has given millions of dollars to local educational institutions, medical facilities, and community organisations. Ruth was also a founding and active member of the committee formed in 2009 to oversee the DCA Dale Michels Scholarship Fund.

Upcoming Events

2021

N.B. As the situation evolves concerning the sanitary crisis in each country, we recommend you check individual websites to ensure an event is taking place.

Pipeline Technology Virtual Conference

15-18 March - Berlin, Germany

www.pipeline-conference.com

Hannover Messe

12-16 April - Hannover, Germany

www.hannovermesse.de

IPLOCA Novel Construction Spring Session

14-15 April – online

www.iploca.com/novel-construction-sessions



DCA 60th Annual Convention

27-31 July – Orlando, FL, U.S.A.

www.dcaweb.org

Offshore Technology Conference

16-19 August - Houston, TX, U.S.A.

2021.otcnet.org



IPLOCA 54th Annual Convention

13-17 September

Prague, Czech Republic



Offshore Pipeline Technology Conference (OPT)

22-24 September 2021 – Amsterdam, The Netherlands

informaconnect.com/offshore-pipeline-technology

20% discount for IPLOCA Members

Important IPLOCA Dates

Health & Safety and Environmental Statistics

5 March - Deadline for submissions

www.iploca.com/hse-statistics

Member News for IPLOCA June Newsletter

30 April - Deadline for submissions

newsletter@iploca.com

2021 IPLOCA Health & Safety Award

7 May - Deadline for submissions

2021 IPLOCA Corporate Social Responsibility Award

14 May - Deadline for submissions

2021 IPLOCA New Technologies Award

21 May - Deadline for submissions



IPLOCA Yearbook 2020-2021

The IPLOCA Yearbook is available in hardcopy and a quarterly updated version can also be accessed on your mobile device at mobile.iploca-yearbook.com.

Do not hesitate to send us the addresses of the persons to whom you wish us to send a copy of the IPLOCA Yearbook.

Additional printed copies can be obtained on request from the website www.iploca-yearbook.com.



IPLOCA

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Please note the submission deadline for applications has been extended to 2 April 2021.

Spread the word within your companies and make use of the translated pdf flyers, available on our website: www.iploca.com/scholarship. Applications should be made in English online at learnmore.scholarsapply.org/iploca/.



In addition to the IPLOCA funded scholarships, we are pleased to continue to offer member companies the possibility of sponsoring a scholarship.

For 2021 we wish to thank **Vacuworx** who has confirmed their intention to sponsor once again.

The deadline for applications to sponsor scholarships is **31 March 2021**. Should your company be interested in this opportunity, please contact Kelly Osborn, kosborn@uspipeline.com.

IPLOCA Media Partners

Editorial opportunities are available for IPLOCA Members. Contact: jacqueline.tempel@iploca.com.

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Thanks to your dedication and your continuous commitment, we're keeping our promises even *during this emergency.*

This responsibility, demonstrated by all, has allowed us to build a bridge towards the future and, thanks to everyone's contribution, we will succeed in the difficult endeavor **to overcome also this challenge.**

