



IPLOCA

TOGETHER - DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Newsletter

December 2023

Number

97



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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 Newsletter

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Cover image courtesy of Denys

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Letter from the President

I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve as IPLOCA President for 2023-2024, and I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to Kelly Osborn for his vitality and energy in leading our Association during the last term. I feel honoured to be the first President to work alongside our incoming Executive Secretary, Georges Hage, and am confident that, together with our new and existing board members and the Secretariat, we will continue to enhance the value offered to our members, partners and affiliates alike.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the eight incoming directors, who will be adding extra talent and knowledge to the Board, and whose profiles can be found on page 8 & 9.

At the AGM held during the Convention in Vancouver, proposed amendments to the IPLOCA By-laws were approved, in addition to the formal ratification of the nomination results for the Board of Directors. Over recent years increasing costs have eroded our finances and since the membership fees have remained the same since 2008, it was agreed to increase them as of 2024. We are pleased that approval was also given to open up the Executive Committee to active representatives of all members, not just Regular Members, and allow for a serving director to become President should the Board decide they are the most suitable and available candidate.

In the following pages, you will find a retrospective of this year's Convention, including the traditional 6-page photo gallery, the guest speakers and the golf tournament results. A special feature covers the winners and runners-up for the four 2023 IPLOCA Awards. Also in Vancouver, I was particularly delighted to have witnessed our outgoing and long-term Executive Secretary, Juan Arzuaga, receive his (well deserved) Honorary Membership certificate.

The IPLOCA Fall Sessions, incorporating the HSE & CSR Workshop and the Novel Construction Sessions, held in Munich, Germany in October were greatly appreciated. In the future we would like to see how we can expand the content of the Workshop. I feel it is also important to continue developing an educational forum for the transition of the industry to green energy, and to explore ways to involve the younger generation more and more in the activities of IPLOCA.

As already well said by our outgoing President, there are no better ambassadors for IPLOCA than our current members. We urge every Regular Member to encourage active participation of our Corresponding Members in order to facilitate networking and relationship-building opportunities for all the membership.

Please feel free at any time to contact a director if you have suggestions or wish to provide feedback on our Association. I am excited about meeting and working with many of our members during this coming term and delivering a high-value Convention in Sorrento, Italy in September 2024.

Roberto Castelli, Bonatti S.p.A
IPLOCA President 2023-2024

News from Geneva

Season's Greetings

IPLOCA's Board of Directors and the staff of the Secretariat would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the work of the Association during this past year.

We are grateful to you for your expertise and the time you have shared with us, and of course greatly appreciate your friendships. In 2024 we look forward to supporting our members as the industry continues to transition to new energy sources. Our very best wishes for a healthy, safe and re-energised new year!

Retirement Message from the IPLOCA Newsletter Editor

After editing 36 newsletters over nine years, Caroline Caravellas has decided to retire and free up time to travel for her own pleasure and enjoy the company of her grandsons. She said, "It has been an enriching experience. I have

increased my knowledge base of the pipeline industry 100 fold and, more importantly, will cherish many encounters and friendships; after all, that is where all the joy lies, in cultivating human relationships!"

Warm Welcome to our New Membership Manager



Eszter Czirjak joined IPLOCA in November 2023 as Membership Manager and has experience working for media organisations and international NGOs. She has Swiss and Hungarian nationality and speaks English, French and Hungarian. Before coming to IPLOCA, Eszter worked as a journalist for public service

news organisation Swissinfo. Prior to this, she was external relations manager for a Geneva-based NGO, the European Broadcasting Union. During her career she has worked for Swiss, American and Hungarian media organisations.

Outgoing Executive Secretary Celebrates 15 Years with IPLOCA



During the Final Banquet in Vancouver, Kelly Osborn announced that the Board had decided to give Juan Arzuaga a special gift in recognition of the fact that he has always taken good care in selecting the wines to be served at IPLOCA events. They decided to offer a bottle of wine for each of the past 15 IPLOCA Conventions.

Below is a brief description of the wines and the related event for each destination:

- **2009 San Francisco:** Chardonnay offered on the tour to Francis Ford Coppola's winery.
- **2010 Venice:** Amarone della Valpolicella at the Board of Directors (BoD) Dinner in Palazzo Pisani Moretta.

- **2011 Beijing:** China Great Wall at the President's Dinner (PD) in the Great Hall of the People on Tiananmen Square.
- **2012 Istanbul:** Merlot 2011 at the BoD Dinner in the vintage Halas Boat.
- **2013 Washington DC:** Cabernet Sauvignon from the U.S.A. at the BoD Dinner in the Hay-Adams hotel.
- **2014 Abu Dhabi:** Merlot from Chile at the BoD Dinner in the Shangri-La restaurant, Pearls and Caviar.
- **2015 Singapore:** Australian Shiraz at the BoD Dinner in the Royal Albatross Carrabelle tall ship.
- **2016 Paris:** French Margaux at the BoD Dinner held in the Eiffel Tower.
- **2017 Mexico:** Cabernet from Mexico at the BoD Dinner in San Angel Inn.
- **2018 London:** Salice Salentino from Italy at the PD held at the Guildhall.
- **2019 Bangkok:** Malbec from Argentina at the BoD Dinner at the Blue Elephant.
- **2020 Geneva (virtual):** Bourgogne from France at the PD in Restaurant Parc des Eaux Vives.
- **2021 Athens (virtual):** Dry white wine during lunch held after the virtual AGM.
- **2022 Prague:** Italian Merlot at the PD held at Prague Castle.
- **2023 Vancouver:** Canadian Malbec offered by IPLOCA President Kelly Osborn and consumed there...

Board Meeting Update

18-23 September 2023

Vancouver, Canada



The President welcomed the Board to the Annual Convention in Vancouver and stated that it had been a good year with a lot of major decisions and actions taken. The following highlights the main discussions and decisions made during their meetings at the Convention.

Safety Moment

Bruno Pomaré explained that he had seen another incident on LinkedIn that involved an excavator and an overhead power line during a pipeline project. Despite the many procedures and management tools to prevent these types of incidents, they keep happening. This was the theme for the HSE Workshop in Munich on 24 October: Improving Corporate Safety Memory, with very good speakers from the CSRA and Caterpillar on what kind of tools can be implemented to make sure these incidents do not happen.

Minutes of the Lisbon Board Meeting

The minutes of the previous Board Meeting were reviewed, and comments were made on the action items. It was noted that still very few new documents had been received for the HSE Shared Experiences Platform.

Treasurer's Report

Adam Wynne Hughes mentioned that the auditors had done a great job auditing IPLOCA's figures on time but the report came in very late compared to the usual Swiss standards, due to new remote working procedures since COVID. The Board unanimously approved the audited accounts. Overall, this third quarter is slightly under what was expected, mainly due to the scholarship funds and foreign currency exchanges. The new membership fees are expected to have a positive impact on next year's figures. After this Convention, Adam recommended a debate to evaluate if this is the natural number of attendees, considering that, at the

time of the meeting, only around 140 fees were paid out of 410 registrations and how to cut the cost of the Convention, or how to increase the revenues.

Membership

IPLOCA's membership stood at 86 Regular Members, 106 Associate Members and 32 Corresponding Members.

The following membership applications had been approved:

- **AJ Lucas Services Pty Ltd.**, Australia – Regular Member
- **Akzo Nobel Powder Coatings GmbH**, Germany – Associate Member
- **AME Consulting Ltd.**, Canada – Associate Member
- **Arcbyt, Inc. dba Petra**, U.S.A. – Associate Member
- **De Romein Group**, The Netherlands – Regular Member
- **Omnisens S.A.**, Switzerland – Associate Member
- **Tesmec S.p.A.**, Italy – Associate Member
- **UAB "DS-1"**, Lithuania – Regular Member
- **Van Leeuwen Trenchless Technologies**, The Netherlands – Regular Member

The following resignations had been received (as of 2023):

- Asia Pipelines Company Ltd.
- CGT S.p.A.
- NDT Corrosion Control Services Co.
- Visser & Smit Hanab B.V.

The following company has changed its name (with effect from end of May 2023):

- Kalpataru Power Transmission Limited to **Kalpataru Projects International Limited**

Convention Programme for 2024

After reviewing the results of the Vancouver Convention Questionnaire, a final decision will be made at the December Board Meeting on the number of days to be dedicated to the cultural programme in Sorrento, especially given all the possibilities offered by this destination. The Convention theme will also be defined in December, as well as the selection of speakers.

AGM and Changes to the By-laws

As per the By-laws, the agenda was sent to members 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. It included the Year in Review by the outgoing President; the Treasurer's Report and re-appointment of the auditors; the approval of the amendments to the By-laws; the membership fee increase; the 2023-2024 Board nomination results and ratification; and the 2023-2024 objectives presented by the incoming President.

Scholarship Programme

Saji Khoury presented a draft cover letter on the Scholarship Programme that will be sent to Board Members to distribute

to their employees. The next step is to digitalise the application questionnaire so that it can be sent out in January 2024. The sponsorship budget will be confirmed during the next Board Meeting and Saji was thanked and applauded for his great contribution.

Convening of the 2023-2024 Board of Directors

On the Friday of the Convention week, the retiring President, Kelly Osborn stated that it had been an interesting year and thanked the Board for all their hard work and contribution. He then thanked the board members who had finished their terms and the retiring directors left the room. The 2023-2024 Board convened. The retiring President, Kelly Osborn, tabled the 2023-2024 officers' names and the Board voted unanimously to appoint Roberto Castelli as President, Yasar Giregiz as 1st Vice President, Saji Khoury as 2nd Vice President and Adam Wynne Hughes as Treasurer.

Elected Directors

- **America North:** Dean Cowling (Michels Corporation), Kent Wilfur (Gulf Interstate Engineering Company)
- **East & Far East:** David Lukas (AJ Lucas Services Pty Ltd., Risal Mahmud (PEAL)
- **Europe Central:** Giovanni Muriana (MAX STREICHER S.p.A., Marcin Przywara (Gascontrol Polska Sp. z o.o.)
- **Europe Eastern:** Mustafa Kopuz (Tekfen Insaat Ve Tesisat, Yasar Giregiz (Fernas Construction Company)
- **Europe Mediterranean:** Roberto Castelli (Bonatti S.p.A.)
- Bruno Pomaré (Spiecapag)
- **Europe Northwest:** Andrew Ball (J. Murphy & Sons Limited), Adam Wynne Hughes (CRC Evans)
- **Latin America:** Pablo Brottier (SACDE)
- **Middle East & Africa:** Saji Khoury (CCC)
- **Associate Members:** Edgar Chavez (ALLU Group), Gian Marco Dondi (SCAIP S.p.A.), Sean McNally (PLM International)



Incoming President Roberto Castelli presented Kelly Osborn with his presidential pin

Appointment of Directors and Directors-at-Large

There being vacant seats in two regions due to a lack of candidates during the nomination process, Roberto Castelli proposed the appointment of Leonardo Gravina (SICIM) and Tim Zboya (Bechtel) for Middle East & Africa and Latin America, respectively. These candidates were unanimously accepted by the Board. The names of the proposed Directors-at-Large were tabled by Roberto Castelli. The Board then voted unanimously to appoint Doug Bailey (Caterpillar), Bill Solomon (Vacuworx), Roger Spee (CRC Evans), Andrew Stuart (Winn & Coales Int.) and Gerben Wansink (Maats Pipeline Professionals).

Committees

The 2023-2024 Board will run six committees and one project as follows:

HSE & CSR Committee

Chair: Bruno Pomaré. Leadership: Sean McNally, Giovanni Muriana, Marcin Przywara, Tim Zboya

Innovation Committee

Chair: Gerben Wansink. Leadership: Doug Bailey, Edgar Chavez, Leonardo Gravina, Kent Wilfur

Energy Transition Committee

Chair: Andrew Ball. Leadership: Pablo Brottier, Dean Cowling, Gian Marco Dondi, David Lukas

Membership Committee

Chair: Bill Solomon. Leadership: Yasar Giregiz, Kelly Osborn, Roger Spee, Andrew Stuart

Scholarship Committee

Chair: Saji Khoury. Leadership: Gian Marco Dondi, Sean McNally, Kelly Osborn, Gerben Wansink, Adam Wynne Hughes

Convention & Board Meeting Project

Project Lead: Roger Spee

Speakers Committee

Speakers being highly important for Board Meetings and the Annual Convention, Roberto Castelli proposed to set up this new committee, with the following members: Chair: Roger Spee. Leadership: Andrew Ball, Roberto Castelli, Leonardo Gravina, Giovanni Muriana, Kelly Osborn

Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held from **6 to 9 December** in Milan, Italy, replacing Cairo, Egypt (due to the current unrest in the region).

New Directors

on the 2023-2024 IPLOCA Board

We warmly welcome the following directors, as a result of the 2023-2024 elections and nominations.



Pablo W. Brottier
Director for Latin America

Pablo is Corporate Executive Director at SACDE in Argentina since 2017 and has strongly contributed to the change of its organisational culture. He has also led the growth of the company by negotiating and

executing contracts for about USD 4.0 billion during the last five years. Pablo has more than 33 years of experience in the engineering and construction industry in Latin America. Previously, he worked for Odebrecht Engineering and Construction (OEC) (Brazil) as Regional Business Development Director for the oil & gas sector and as Project Director. Before that, he served for more than 17 years at Techint Engineering and Construction Company (Argentina). He lives in Buenos Aires with his wife, Maria and his four children, and likes running and playing golf.



David Lukas
Director for East & Far East

David is Managing Director of AJ Lucas Services Pty Ltd (AJLS) which provides specialised energy and infrastructure services in Australia, primarily known for its expertise in drilling, pipelines and facilities.

Proudly the third generation owner-manager of AJLS, he is passionate about energy and sustainability in the modern and rapidly changing world.

He has delivered drilling and pipeline projects through the life cycle from inception, design, construction and commissioning. He is also a Founder of Eastern States Energy Pty Ltd an independent oil and gas developer in Australia. Previously he founded Smart Energy Services after gaining experience in construction, finance and law. David holds a Bachelor's degree in Business from the University of Technology, Sydney, and undertook postgraduate studies in Law, Applied Finance and Electricity Derivatives.

He lives in Sydney with his wife Julia and their three children. His weekends are devoted to his family by watching and coaching his children playing sport.



R. Dean Cowling
Director for America North

Dean is President of Michels International Holdings Inc., which provides clients around the world with construction solutions in the heavy civil, energy, energy transition and renewables, foundations, marine,

transportation, water, and wastewater industries. He has held senior leadership positions in the pipeline, power, and construction industries over his 33 years' career including business development, major project development and implementation, operations, construction, executive leadership and governance. Dean currently serves as a member of the Business Council of Alberta.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan and attended Advanced Management programmes at the Richard Ivey School of Business and Harvard Business School. He lives in Calgary, Canada where he enjoys spending time with his family and partaking in outdoor recreational activities.



Risal Mahmud
Director for East & Far East

Risal is Managing Director at PEAL Engineering and Construction Ltd. based in Dhaka, Bangladesh since 2011, where he is also a shareholder. He has been overseeing business development and

operations of various construction projects in different parts of Bangladesh. After graduating with a Bachelor's degree in Engineering (Electrical) from the University of Sydney, Australia in 2009, he gained electrical engineering experience at Wartsila Bangladesh Limited and Capital Board Mills Limited. Risal is currently undertaking a Master's degree of Liberal Arts, Management and Government at Harvard University.

He is a citizen of both Bangladesh and New Zealand and lives in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He is married to Parisa and they are first-time parents since September. Risal is actively involved with philanthropic and community work, and is a cricket enthusiast.



Sean McNally
Director for Associate Members

Sean is the Director of Business Development for PipeLine Machinery International (PLM), Caterpillar's global pipeline dealer. He supports an international sales, product support, and operations team with regional offices strategically

located in The Netherlands, Australia, and China. He has over 20 years of international business experience with successful global P&L assignments ranging from restructurings to start-ups & growth initiatives in Asia, Europe, and the U.S.A.

He has lived & worked in Taiwan, Germany, United States and The Netherlands. Sean has a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Miami University, Oxford, OH where he also played Division 1 football/soccer. He currently lives in The Hague, The Netherlands with his wife Anri and their two children. In his free time he likes to snow ski & mountain bike.



Giovanni Muriana Triberio
Director for Central Europe

Giovanni is Managing Director at MAX STREICHER S.p.A. and has been in this role since 2012. He has a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering followed by 20+ years of international experience in the oil, gas & energy industry.

He graduated from the Politecnico in Turin, after studying at the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris. He started his career in France and then continued on to Kazakhstan, working on a project for the development of the Tengiz Oil Field. He then moved on to some major pipeline activities in Germany, eventually getting promoted to Area Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, operating directly from Congo as Resident Manager.

He joined MAX STREICHER S.p.A. in 2011 and the German group gave him the responsibility for strengthening the company and boosting business development efforts abroad. In this time, the Italian company has considerably grown both in the domestic market and in various foreign countries.

Giovanni speaks Italian, French and English, and lives with Viktorya in Parma, Italy. In his spare time, he enjoys running and playing tennis.



Marcin Przywara
Director of Europe Central

Marcin is co-owner and President of the Management Board of Gascontrol Polska Sp. z o. o. and Gascontrol s.r.o., as well as GC Group Havirov Czech Republic. The company he founded specialises in

high-pressure gas pipelines, LNG and CNG stations, high-class gas compressor stations and represents various foreign companies in the Central European market. During his studies at the Silesian University of Technology, he specialised in gas energy. He completed postgraduate studies at Virton in Belgium and Krakow. For many years, he was an active member of the Management Board of the Polish Chamber of Gas, and co-author of the "Code of Good Practices", describing the relationships of participants in the investment process.

He has been active in the gas industry for over 20 years. Marcin speaks Polish, Czech and English. He currently lives in southern Poland with his wife Ewelina and three children. In his free time, he likes cycling and cooking. He has always been an avid sports fan, which is why he supports young talents in this field.



Kent Wilfur
Director for America North

Kent is President and CEO of Gulf Companies, a leading provider of engineering, construction management and technical services based in Houston, Texas. He is responsible for the strategic direction for Gulf, leading

the efforts of its senior management team in delivering exceptional service to its clients. Prior to this role, he worked for TC Energy as Vice President with overall accountability for the execution of the Coastal GasLink pipeline.

He has extensive experience in the energy industry, leading teams and transforming organisations. Kent holds an MBA from Richard Ivey School of Business and a Bachelor of Applied Science, Mechanical Engineering from the University of British Columbia. He lives in Houston, Texas with his wife Denise, and they have two children: one attending medical school and the other at engineering school. In his free time he enjoys working on cars with his son, golfing and travelling with his wife.

Membership Centre

New Regular Member



Van Leeuwen
Trenchless Technologies

As a leading specialist in the field of trenchless technology, **Van Leeuwen**

Trenchless Technology stands

for innovation, practical solutions,

thorough preparation and precise execution of each project. Their market position is primarily based on their flexibility and the inventive quality of their employees.

It is no surprise, therefore, that they have gained their reputation as the company that keeps on going, where others quit. Innovative thinking, courage, and "plain dare" have led Van Leeuwen Trenchless Technology (VLTT) to its current level of quality and position.

VLTT has, by nature, a strong focus on creating solutions, and in situations where their competitors might give up, they are prepared to go the extra mile.

Van Leeuwen Trenchless Technologies

Ampereweg 17
3442 AB Woerden
The Netherlands
T +31 615 87 94 20
info@vlst.com
www.vlst.com

New Associate Members



Experts in Functional Powder Coatings

AkzoNobel Powder Coatings GmbH

based in Reutlingen, Germany has been continuously developing and manufacturing powder coatings for functional markets worldwide under the Resicoat® brand for more than 50 years.

For the pipeline industry they offer fusion bonded epoxy powders for internal and external corrosion protection: FBE, Primers for 3-Layer systems, Dual Layer FBE systems, as well as solutions for elevated service temperatures and low application temperature. They engineer their powder coatings to meet clients' specific needs and they are an international operation with production sites worldwide.

Akzo Nobel Powder Coatings GmbH

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PETRA is at the forefront of revolutionising underground utility construction. Motivated by the devastation caused by natural disasters on overground utilities, Petra's vision is to safeguard communities by lowering the cost of burying critical infrastructure.

Petra has developed the world's most advanced and eco-friendly trenchless technology, designed to navigate even the most challenging terrain – ranging from hard rock to cobblestones and dense clays. Its flagship product, the Petra Platform AI-1™, is a state-of-the-art trenchless multi-tool robot, enabling efficient, precise, and green tunneling for underground utility construction, with swappable modules to address any type of geology.

Unifying R&D, manufacturing, and construction services, Petra guarantees cost and operational efficiencies unparalleled in the sector. They also offer construction services and rental options for their groundbreaking technologies.

Petra Inc.

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www.petra.cc

New Corresponding Member



Pembina Pipeline Corporation is a leading energy transportation and midstream service provider that has served North America's energy industry for more than 65 years.

Pembina owns an integrated network of hydrocarbon liquids and natural gas pipelines, gas gathering and processing facilities, oil and natural gas liquids infrastructure and logistics services, and an export terminals business.

Through its integrated value chain, it seeks to provide safe and reliable energy solutions that connect producers and consumers across the world, support a more sustainable future and benefit its customers, investors, employees and communities.

Pembina Pipeline Corporation

4000, 585 - 8th Avenue S.W.
Calgary AB T2P 1G1
Canada
www.pembina.com

New Honorary Member



One of the highest honours that IPLOCA is able to bestow on any individual is that of Honorary Member. In order to receive this honour a person must have performed distinguished services to the onshore or offshore oil & gas industry and/or to the Association.

Born in Mercedes, Corrientes Argentina in November 1956, Juan Maria Arzuaga is celebrating his 15th year as Executive Secretary of IPLOCA, having worked as such since 15 September 2008. He is retiring from his role at the end of December this year.

Since becoming Swiss citizens, Juan and his wife Alejandra Maria Noceti plan to stay in Europe spending time between their places in Switzerland and Spain. Almost coinciding with his retirement, Juan and Ale (as she is known) will be celebrating 40 years of marriage on 29 December 2023. Juan always mentions that he started dating Ale when she was 14 years old and married her when she was 23. In his words, "That proves how patient she has been and how much we love each other."

Juan was previously President of Techint E&C Inc. Canada, in Calgary, and has been running IPLOCA since the retirement of Luc Henriod. When Juan was appointed he was well known to IPLOCA as a former IPLOCA director for the Americas.

Juan had worked with Techint in South America, Mexico and Canada in progressively senior roles since 1982. He became Pipeline Business Unit Director in 1996 based in Buenos Aires and was promoted to International Pipeline Business Unit President in 2000. In 2005 Juan became Managing Director of Techint SA de CV, Mexico City.

Upon approval of a Business Plan presented to the owners of the Techint group a subsidiary E&C company was established in Calgary, Alberta. Juan developed the new

Canadian Techint company from scratch, being awarded five construction contracts with a total value of USD 450 million during the first year of operations.

After living many unforgettable experiences with IPLOCA, Juan and Ale were really moved in Vancouver when Juan was nominated Honorary Member. Juan mentions how much he was surprised by this kind gesture from the Board since this distinction is normally reserved for representatives of IPLOCA members. On top of such recognition they were also very surprised when CRC Evans and Caterpillar offered them the traditional gifts presented every year to the IPLOCA Presidents.

Juan and Ale say that with IPLOCA they have gained a long list of good friends all over the world with whom they now plan to spend, whenever possible, many more good times!



Changes in Membership Fees

Over recent years increasing costs have eroded the Association's finances and since the membership fees have remained the same since 2008, it was agreed to increase them as of 2024.

The membership fees payable, as of this coming year, will be: CHF 6,250 for Regular Members, and CHF 5,000 for Associate Members

IPLOCA Membership

As of 30 November, IPLOCA's membership stands at:

- 84 Regular Members
- 106 Associate Members
- 33 Corresponding Members
- 4 Academic Members
- 8 Honorary Members

Member News

Bezemers Winches Involved in Positioning Maasdeltatunnel

Winch supplier, Bezemer, supplied six linear winches, capable of providing a total of 3300 metric tonnes of pulling force to work simultaneously on one project, the positioning of the second tunnel element of the Maasdeltatunnel. This tunnel crosses the river Scheur, creating a new river crossing in the Rotterdam region and improving accessibility. The tunnel element consists of two tubes with three lanes each and has a total length of 205 m and a weight of 56,000 tons. To control this volume and weight in the currents of the river, six linear winches were utilised, with pulling capacities varying from 400 to 800 tonnes.



The element had to be positioned between the already submerged 1st element and the entrance ramp on the north side. This means that the 205 m element should be placed accurately to the centimetre. Once in this position, the tunnel element was gradually submerged by pumping water into its ballast tanks. The winches continuously made small adjustments to the element's position until it was perfectly aligned. The project shows the versatile deployment of Bezemer's linear winches, which are often used for offshore work but are also very suitable for various applications in infrastructural projects. The Maasdeltatunnel will open at the end of 2024.

Bin Quraya Awarded Construction of Jafurah Downstream Pipeline Phase II

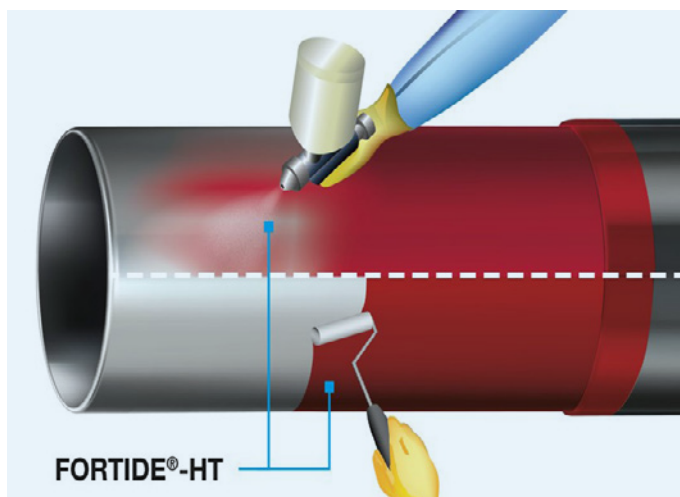
Bin Quraya Co. Ltd has been awarded the LSTK contract for the engineering, procurement and construction of the Jafurah Development Programme Phase II in Saudi Arabia, including infrastructure facilities as a part of a programme to increase the gas capacity to 3.2 BSCFD for the in-Kingdom energy growing demands. Jafurah is the largest unconventional non-associated gas field in the Kingdom, with a volume



estimated at 200 trillion cubic feet of rich raw gas, which will also provide a valuable feedstock for the petrochemical industries. The development signed in September 2023 is scheduled to be completed in January 2027. The design supports the expansion of the gas surface facilities to process fractionated products and along 452 km pipeline from 42" to 8". These include eight pipelines to transfer sales gas and other products comprising feedstocks; C2+NGL and sales gas supply. The major challenges are related to the construction of pipelines for associated and fractionated products from the new grassroots RNG facility to existing terminals at Jubail and disposition into Arab light crude oil; and, propane and butane to Juaymah NGL and natural gasoline (NG A-180) to Ras Tanura. Ethane will be transferred to Jubail Interface-II and pentane plus colored bodies will be injected into the AL crude oil pipeline: JT-1 Qatif GOSP-1.

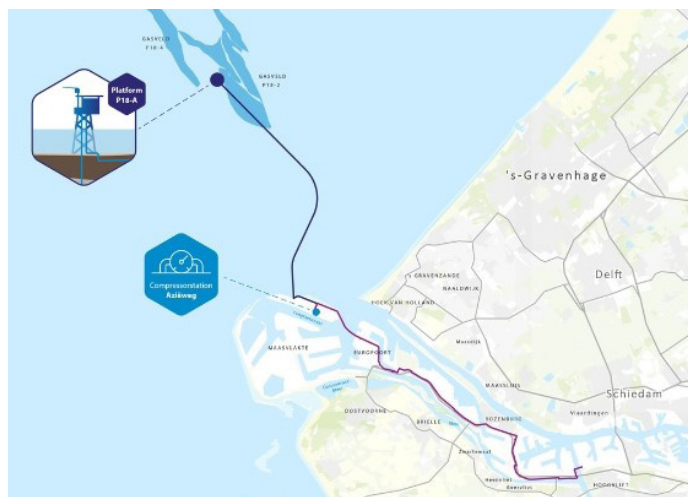
DENSO's New Addition to Range of Corrosion Protection Systems

Under the brand name, FORTIDE®, DENSO Group Germany is expanding its range of corrosion protection systems to include high-performance epoxy coatings. To meet the diverse, ever-increasing demands of pipeline construction, FORTIDE® offers durable corrosion protection for a wide



range of applications in tough conditions. FORTIDE®-HT is ideal for use at the highest operating temperatures up to +150 °C. Other FORTIDE® variants are specially designed for moist surfaces or as internal coatings for tanks or pipelines. All FORTIDE® products comply with the international standard ISO 21809-3 and are unified by the DENSO quality guarantee and are 100 percent made in Germany.

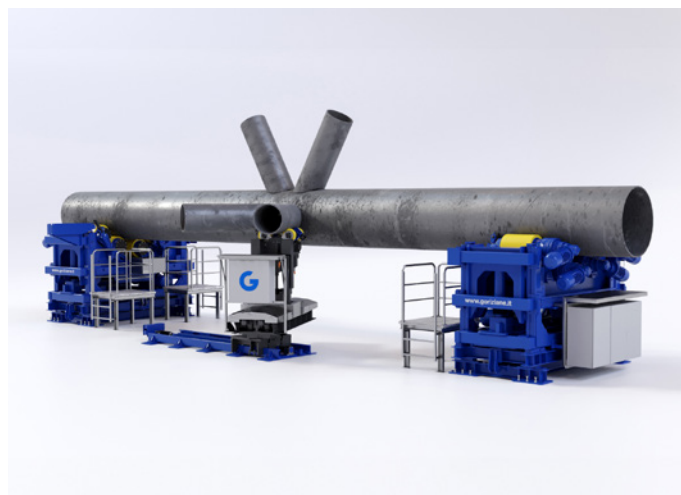
Denys Scheduled to Begin Porthos Infrastructure Construction in 2024



Porthos has taken a final investment decision to develop the first major CO₂ transport and storage system in The Netherlands. Denys was selected for the engineering and construction of the onshore transport pipeline, which is a steel pipeline with a diameter of 42" and almost 30 kilometres in length. It will be mainly installed in the existing pipeline strip along the A15 via Botlek-Vondelingenplaat to the Maasvlakte. After the engineering period and the positive evaluation of the ecological assessment by the Council State in August, construction of the Porthos infrastructure is ready to start in Rotterdam in 2024. Porthos' and Denys' teams are currently preparing construction works, which are scheduled to take place over the coming two years. From 2026, CO₂ will be stored under the North Sea. The European Union has recognised Porthos as a "Project of Common Interest" and awarded the project a subsidy of € 102 million. As a sustainable builder, Denys is proud to be able to take on this challenge with the Porthos team and to have earned the trust to help achieve this important step in the Dutch climate targets.

G-FIT Increases Productivity, Quality & Safety, with Less Manpower

The production of the Goriziane-Fabrication Innovation Technology (G-FIT) automatic stub fit-up system for jackets fabrication for a prestigious Southeast Asian company, is going smoothly and is on time. G-FIT, plus the real-to-real



stub cutting system - that relieves the yard from tedious and time-consuming grinding adjustment - and the automatic tack welding, complete the node and leg fabrication decisive processes. The system is equipped with laser and digitalisation of stubs and legs loaded into a best-fit analysis software that simulate the joining of the two items and produce a 3D model with real properties. Once the stub is loaded onto the machine, the communication between the system begins. The laser system tracks and guides the stub to the final fit-up position. The combination of high precision measurement laser, powerful analysis & communication software and the seven degrees of freedom stub positioner, permits the achievement of productivity, precision, repeatability, quality, and safety requirements. Goriziane is already supporting several prestigious EPC companies to develop an efficient and up-to-date series production line for floaters by integrating the experience of the G-FIT technology with the fit-up automation. The automation of the fit-up, is the key for increasing the series production capability of jackets and floaters.

Herrenknecht Tunnelling for Sewage Superhighway Completed

A milestone for the epoch-making "Deep Tunnel Sewerage System" (DTSS) project in Singapore was reached: the five contractors have completed tunnelling works for the second construction phase of the gigantic sewer pipe system. The final breakthrough took place in July 2023. A total of 19 Herrenknecht tunnel boring machines (TBMs) had excavated and lined some 49 km of tunnel since 2019. In addition, a Herrenknecht Vertical Shaft Sinking Machine (VSM) was used. Among the challenges for machines and miners was the city state's complex geology. The Jurong Formation, for example, consists of sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, limestone, dolomite and some conglomerate, which are extremely folded due to tectonic plate movements. As a result, diverse rock types with different weathering grades often alternate along a tunnel alignment and even in the



cross section of a tunnel. In close cooperation with the customers, the design of the TBM was therefore adapted to the complex geological conditions. Herrenknecht has been using its tunnelling technology for a quarter of a century in Singapore, with TBMs being used again and again at numerous jobsites for subway and electricity tunnels.

ISCO Supplied HDPE Pipe in Emergency Situation

Nestled in the North Bay region of San Francisco, idyllic Benicia, California boasts a population of just under 30,000 people. On 29 March 2023 the cumulative effects of winter rains caused a landslide near Interstate 680. A frontage road and multiple infrastructure assets were affected, including a break in the primary raw water line to the city's water treatment plant. A portion of that 36-inch steel pipe that provides 80% of Benicia's water was displaced. After an emergency declaration and water restrictions, ISCO supplied 1,400 linear feet of 12-inch HDPE pipe, fused together a temporary bypass, and connected the dual fabricated HDPE bypass to the two 30-inch diameter steel manifolds at locations north and south of the landslide. The first phase was completed within eight days of the initial call to action. By 20h00 that day, raw water delivered from the Putah South



Canal pump station reached the Benicia water treatment plant. In phase two of the temporary bypass, two additional 12-inch HDPE lines were installed in May to help meet the higher demand for water in the summer months. It was a village-like approach to mitigate the effects of the landslide on the people of Benicia, and help them return to their bucolic normality.

Jindal SAW Supplies Submerged Arc Welded Water Pipes to Saudi Arabia



Jindal SAW Ltd (JSL), India has been awarded a prestigious order for the supply of 80" X 20.62 mm HSAW linepipes from the new urban development area of NEOM, Saudi Arabia. NEOM is developing a ski resort in the mountains of Trajona and the water pumped by these pipes will be used for developing an artificial reservoir. The total length of the pipeline is about 210 km. The pipes will be supplied in 18-meter lengths with both external 3LPE and internal Food Grade epoxy coating. The pipes will be manufactured at the company's facility in Samaghogha, Mundra, India and the coating shall be done in-house. The delivery of these pipes will be undertaken in about 18 months and will involve shipping in at least 22 Supramax vessels to Port Duba, Western Saudi Arabia. The steel for this project is being procured from JSW, India an associate company. JSL has already completed manufacturing and delivery of about 110 km in nine shipments, well within contractual delivery schedule. The line laying is expected to start in early 2024.

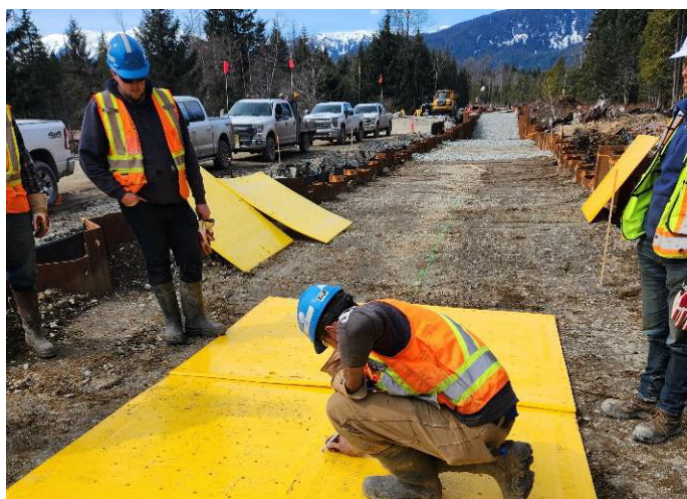
Noksel España Becomes Leader in Hydrogen Industry

At the forefront of technological innovation, Noksel España is leading the entry into the new hydrogen era in its country, being the first national company with the capacity and verified know-how for the production of pipes that allow the conduction of up to 100% hydrogen in gas. Therefore, the company has carried out a project for another large European



company dedicated to energy infrastructures, for which it has manufactured steel pipes with helical welding designed specifically for the transport of hydrogen in a gaseous state at a pressure of 80 bars. These pipes are made of L415ME steel, with an outer diameter of 26" (660 mm) and thicknesses of 11.9 mm and 15.9 mm. In addition, they have also been manufactured in L450ME steel, with an outer diameter of 36" (914 mm) and a thickness of 19.6 mm. This entire project has been managed in accordance with the ISO 3183 standard and has been completed with tolerance tests in accordance with the ASME B31.12 standard. In this way, Noksel España is contributing to the development of a green, safe and efficient infrastructure.

OVERPIPE Plates Installed on Coastal GasLink Pipeline Canada



In April 2023, OVERPIPE plates were installed to protect sections of the Coastal GasLink Pipeline in British Columbia, Canada. It is one of the largest, if not the largest, infrastructure projects in Canada at this time and is the first LNG project in Canada. Travelling through Canada's Rocky Mountains, OVERPIPE plates offered a resilient and easy-to-install system for protecting the pipeline, environment, and local communities as well. The Coastal GasLink project faced

high levels of public scrutiny regarding the environmental impact of the construction and use of the pipeline, necessitating the implementation of uncompromising safety and hazard control measures. OVERPIPE was selected to protect the pipe against 3rd party damage. OVERPIPE plates are manufactured from durable and recyclable HDPE: they are impenetrable to impacts from 32-ton excavators and connect end-to-end to create a continuous protective barrier above the pipeline. They are compatible with cathodic protection systems and can be manufactured with custom warning text, ensuring future-proof protection over the entire life of the pipeline. OVERPIPE plates are quick to install and no specialist lifting machinery is required. They can also be reused after a pipeline has been uncovered for maintenance.

SCAIP Focuses on Promoting Sustainability



SCAIP redesigned and added solar panels to its production facility to cover most of its power needs for manufacturing or approximately 80% of the total energy consumption at the factory and offices, a big step towards having a zero-carbon footprint. SCAIP has also been consistently working towards integrating hybrid or fully electric options into its lines of machines, as well as reducing the use of hydraulic oil as much as possible. The company also started focusing on building machinery for the construction of renewables. In the last three years, three new lines of machines have been developed. These include two models of pile drivers for the construction of solar energy farms: the SDR-108, a large pile driver used to sink piles of up to 20 feet in length, and the SDR-90, a smaller variant used in smaller projects or for road barrier construction. The other machines developed for the renewables sector are the SRT-250 Slinger, and the SPD-140. The SRT-250 SL is a flatbed tractor fitted with a hopper-feeder that feeds material onto a conveyor belt, enabling operators to cover up cable trenches with imported material with minimal loss/spillage over traditional methods. The SPD-140 is a smaller version of a self-loading padding machine, to fill in cable trenches that can use the excavated soil to cover up.

Seal for Life Uses ARO Systems in Indian Hydrocarbon Industry

The Indian hydrocarbon pipeline industry, which includes both cross country transmission pipelines and city gas distribution pipelines, has witnessed in the past 5 years a substantial increase in the pipelines being laid by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) methodology or any other trenchless method. This is being done in varied terrains of India, thus subjecting the main line coating, which is pre-dominantly 3-layer polyethylene (3LPE), to becoming highly vulnerable to coating damages due to a much higher degree of abrasion, gouge and impact forces which otherwise is not the characteristic of a pipeline laid in a trench.



Many of the reputed asset owners in India are now, as a conscious step to safeguard the main line coating, including Abrasion Resistant Overlay (ARO Coatings) as part of their specifications of pipe laying through “trenchless” methodology. The Seal for Life-Powercrete ARO systems shall be one of the key technologies serving this purpose and shall be applied as a ARO system for pipelines laid by HDD, micro-tunnelling and Direct Pipe Method for diameters up to 50 inches.

Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline Project Investment in Renewable Energy

Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline Project (TANAP), with its solar energy investment programme, continues to support the settlements around Above Ground Installations (AGIs) along its route during the operation period. With reference to TANAP’s Sustainability Year theme, the Kavakköy Solar Energy System Project was implemented with Kavakköy municipality in Gelibolu/Çanakkale (a population of approximately 1,900 people) near the TANAP MS3 Metering Station. Through 120 solar panels located on the roof of Kavakköy Belediyesi covered market place and with 50kW installed power, the aim is to produce approximately 94,000 kWh of energy annually



and decrease the energy expenses of the municipality. In addition, the facility is connected to the national grid to transfer excess electricity. TANAP is delighted to keep implementing such projects beneficial to the settlements around its AGIs and serving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

Vacuworx Celebrates 25 Years of Business



Since 1999, Vacuworx has been designing and manufacturing vacuum lifting systems to help create safer working environments on jobsites. Early on, Vacuworx centered only on a few product types, including its flagship RC Series lifters. The foundation for the product line was being laid as major advancements in protective coating technologies were having tremendous impacts on traditional methods used to handle oil and gas pipes. The company and the industries it serves have come a long way since then. As a result, Vacuworx and the product line have diversified to match louder calls for greater safety, throughput, and speed across a range of sectors that value staying safe while mitigating unnecessary downtime. The company is proud to help meet the needs of lifting and handling professionals operating in a wide variety of sectors, including oil and gas pipelines.

The Vermeer Fully Electric HDD Jobsite

The most advanced countries in the world must achieve the ambitious goal of transforming their economies into carbon-neutral economies, by reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases and by transitioning the energy industry from fossil sources to renewable sources. Electrification of non-road stationary industrial machineries represents an effective way to help reduce the environmental footprint and to increase the efficiency of these kind of machines, including horizontal directional drilling (HDD) machines. The implementation of the electric direct-drive technology on all components of the HDD jobsite (drill, mixer/reclaimer and high-pressure pump), leads to the minimisation of the environmental footprint and emissions (pollutants, noise, etc.). Speed of operations and responsiveness of the drill, combo mixer/reclaimer and high-pressure pump, together with the automatisisation of almost all operations of the drill, result in maximised productivity. The compactness of the systems minimises transportation



costs and logistic problems. A fully electric HDD is also a power-on-demand machine, this means that it consumes only the energy it needs when it needs. When comparing a traditional diesel-hydraulic with a fully electric HDD machine powered by a diesel generator, the higher efficiency of the fully electric system and the power-on-demand may result in less fuel consumption during the same duty cycle.

World Federation of Pipe Line Industry Associations

Members of the WFPIA (World Federation of Pipe Line Industry Associations) met during IPLOCA's Annual Convention in Vancouver.

The main topics discussed during the meeting were related to the energy transition, electrical transition, hydrogen and

carbon capture projects and water projects that are coming up mainly in Australia. Other themes that were covered included the energy shortage in Europe due to the conflicts in Ukraine, the political changes and elections in certain countries that might generate change of policies, the reduction of large diameter pipeline projects mainly in Canada and the U.S.A., and the shortage of labour in some countries.

The next WFPIA meeting is scheduled to take place at the PLCA Convention in Nassau, Bahamas on 31 January.



From left to right – back row: Kevin O'Donnell (PLCAC), Rob Darden (DCA), Adam Wynne Hughes (PIG) representing Kate Lazenby, Elizabeth Worrell (PLCA), Georges Hage (IPLOCA), Andrew Ball (PIG), Robert Bell (PLCA). Front row: Donna McDowall (APGA), Wes W. Waschuk (PLCAC), Ray Swerdfeger (DCA), Kelly Osborn (IPLOCA), Juan Arzuaga (IPLOCA).



Vancouver, Canada

Annual Convention Retrospective

Around 400 IPLOCA members and guests had the pleasure of meeting up once again at the Annual Convention, which took place in Vancouver, Canada, from 11 to 15 September with the theme: ‘Together – Delivering Sustainable Energy Infrastructure’.

This year, the programme incorporated three days of Open General Meetings. An excellent line-up of speakers included the Former Haisla First Nation Chief as opening speaker, who talked about the First Nations development in British Columbia, and the former activist and past President of Greenpeace Canada, expressing his views regarding climate change and global warming. Further information on all the guest speakers can be found on page 27.

The week also featured numerous social functions and cultural tours. The cultural programme offered delegates the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful city of Vancouver, such as Stanley Park and Granville Island with its popular market; the charming marine life right on the doorstep

of the city with a sea safari trip on a zodiac, exploring the spectacular scenery and wildlife of the British Columbia coast; and a visit to two iconic Vancouver landmarks – Grouse Mountain and the Capilano Suspension Bridge. Particular thanks go once again to our sponsors, without whom an event of such stature would not be possible.





Maats/Liebherr Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament was held at Furry Creek Golf Club, approximately 45 minutes from Vancouver. For those of you who are long time supporters of the golf tournament, you may remember Furry Creek also hosted our tournament in 2005. The course certainly hasn't got any easier over the past 18 years!

We would like to give a special mention and many congratulations to Roberto Castelli who hit a **hole in one** on the 16th hole: only the second hole in one in the 23-year history of the golf tournament! Maats and Liebherr would like to thank everyone for their support, and we look forward to seeing you in Sorrento, Italy in 2024.

All the Best to Linda Carter on her Retirement

All you golfers will remember the smiling face of Linda Carter who has so expertly (and seemingly seamlessly) organised a grand total of 23 IPLOCA golf tournaments! Her first tournament was in Salzburg in 2001 for PIH and the last one for PIH was in Beijing in 2011 when she left

Congratulations to all trophy winners, namely:

First Place: Darryl Sandquist, Matt Alliston, Sean Haberer

Second Place: Dean Lowry, Brent Thompson, Sean McNally

Third Place: Roberto Castelli, Robert Linder, Andrea Colombo, Pablo Brottier

Nearest the Pin Men: Darryl Sandquist

Nearest the Pin Ladies: Gabrielle Halatschek

Longest Drive Ladies: Loredana Pernici

Longest Drive Men: Colin Finn



the company, although she didn't attend the convention in Beijing but worked behind the scenes, making arrangements with the golf course etc. Linda's first tournament for Maats was in 2012 in Istanbul; then after the convention in Washington they jointly sponsored with Liebherr.

Linda has made many great friends during the past 23 years, and in Linda's own words, she "will miss you all, and she will take away some really great memories"!

Surprise Honorary Member

At the Final Banquet, Juan Arzuaga was surprised to find himself called up by the Incoming Executive Secretary, Georges Hage, to receive a special honour.

The IPLOCA Honorary Membership is in recognition of Juan's distinguished service to the pipeline industry during an extensive career and with particular reference to his outstanding service to the Association in the role of Executive Secretary. Further details on Juan's background may be found on page 11 of this newsletter.

Photo Gallery

The photos on the following pages, along with many others, will be available on a convention photo USB, sponsored by HABAU and PPS, to be mailed out to all attendees in December.

Save the Date

The 56th Annual Convention

Sorrento, Italy from 9 to 13 September 2024













Open General Meetings



Business Opportunities

Poster Sessions were held during the coffee breaks at the Open General Meetings, allowing people the time to visit and ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere. These sessions were given by Caterpillar, CRC Evans, Denso GmbH, LCS Cable Cranes GmbH, PipeSak Incorporated, Vermeer Corporation and Winn & Coales International.

Ten-minute B2B meetings were hosted by Bechtel Pipeline, Fluor Corporation, Gascontrol Polska sp. z o.o., Grupo Desarrollo Infraestructura – GDI, Gulf Interstate Engineering Co. - GIE, Herrenknecht AG, Spiecapag, and TC Energy, and were fully booked.

Annual General Meeting

IPLOCA President Kelly Osborn presented his 'Year in Review' during the Annual General Meeting, and was pleased to confirm that, amongst other objectives, the Board had successfully selected and brought onboard the new Executive Secretary, and had developed a financial plan to ensure the Association's future ability to serve the

membership. The results of the 2023-2024 Board of Directors nominations were ratified. The IPLOCA audited accounts for 2022 were also approved and the auditors re-appointed for the 2023 financial year.

Amendments to the IPLOCA By-laws were proposed and considered approved since no objections were raised. Current membership fees have been unchanged since 2008, and the Association needs to address this, since over the last 15 years increasing costs have eroded its finances. The membership fees payable for 2024 will be: CHF 6,250 for Regular Members, and CHF 5,000 for Associate Members.

The Board had also proposed to open up the Executive Committee to active representatives of all members, not just Regular Members, and allow for a serving director to become President should the Board decide they are the most suitable and available candidate.

The incoming President, Roberto Castelli, closed the meeting with his objectives for the coming term.



Guest Speakers at the Vancouver Convention

Many thanks to our guest speakers for their contribution during the OGMs on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Copies of their presentations are available at www.iploca.com/presentations.



Katrina Cooper

Director, Social Investment & CSR, RSK Group plc

Getting the Biggest Bang for your Buck



Justin Ganschow

Manager, Caterpillar Safety Services

Creating Connectivity in a Divided World



Jonathan Green

President – Geneva Energy Forum (GEF)

We Need to Talk About Transition: Providing Affordable, Dependable and Sustainable Energy



Mike Koski

Vice President – Engineering & Construction, Pembina Pipeline Corporation

Pembina, Growth and Sustainability



Andy McDowell

President, Gulf Energy Information

Global Midstream Update



Dr. Patrick Moore

Consultant

There is NO Climate Emergency!



Kevin Olson

Director, Design Engineering, Fluor Canada Ltd.

Managing Risks on Major Pipeline Projects



Carlo Orsenigo

Business Development, Semptra

North America Energy Integration



Ellis Ross

Former Haisla First Nation Chief, BC MLA Government

The LNG/First Nations Development in British Columbia



Amerigo Silvestri

Chief Project Officer, Trans Mountain

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project



Terri Steeves

COO, TC Energy Mexico

Our Safety Journey, One Step at a Time, Not in a Straight Line

Presentation of Awards in Vancouver



The IPLOCA awards are intended to reward those companies that are in the lead in their search for excellence.

IPLOCA recognises its members' efforts in these specific domains, while being a source for new ideas. The winners and runners-up for four awards were presented in Vancouver. Bruno Pomaré, HSE & CSR Committee Chair presented three of the awards.

The list of submissions received and further information on the entries are available on our website at: www.iploca.com/awards.

The 2023 IPLOCA Health and Safety Award sponsored by TC Energy

The award recognises members' initiatives aimed at improving health and safety in the pipeline industry.

The Adjudication Committee nominated **SICIM S.p.A.** for its Bending Safe Hook Support, because it is simple, innovative and eliminates a main safety risk; it is a bottom-up innovation coming from operations; and it shows management commitment.

The company said, "We are proud to have received this award, an important international recognition for innovations aimed at improving employees' safety conditions." To design the Safe Hook Support, SICIM monitored, for an extensive period, all high potential accidents and near misses linked to pipe bending activities and came up with a device that provides the bending machine operator with a new pipe hooking system that dramatically reduces the risk of working

at heights. The operator does not need any assistance and can manage the bending activity without abandoning his designated safe position.

The runners-up were:

Caterpillar, for its Cat® Command, enhancing jobsite safety. Operator safety is paramount to improving overall pipeline jobsite safety performance. Caterpillar is committed to providing the most efficient and reliable remote-control solutions to the construction equipment industry. Instead of using available third-party remote-control options, Caterpillar developed the CAT Command that is fully integrated with CAT machines' electronic and hydraulic systems for quick response, smooth controls and fully supported by CAT dealers globally. It enables remote machine operation, keeping users out of harm's way.

MAX STREICHER GmbH for its Safer Lowering-in Process by using the refurbished pipe layer. Among all the pipe layers in the pipeline industry, the Komatsu Pipe Layer D355C is one of the most popular machines in the field due to its safe, high workload during the lowering-in process and stability. These machines will not be taken out of service but will be modernised and prepared for projects in a resource-friendly and economical way. This modernisation focuses on all HSEQ matters and on compliance with all current regulations. The company said, receiving this award has been "a major boost for employee morale and performance as this is perceived by employees as a rewarding result of their proactive contributions, making them proud of their part in the success achieved. It has absolutely further improved our teamwork and our safety culture."

NPCC for its Emergency Evacuation Tracking System (EETS).





The 2023 IPLOCA Corporate Social Responsibility Award

sponsored by TotalEnergies

The award is presented every second year in recognition of an exemplary success in voluntarily improving the quality of life of the local community and society at large.

The Adjudication Committee nominated **Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC)** for its initiative, Building Resilience and Self Reliance of Young Women Farmers, because the initiative shows capacity building and a fruitful partnership with a local NGO. The impact of the initiative is very precise and measured properly, and shows an understanding of the need of a very local community component.

The runners-up were:

Kalpataru Power Transmission Limited for various projects supported and implemented under its CSR policy in the field of healthcare (including preventive, promotive & curative), promoting education, skill training, and rural development.

Spiecapag Intech Construcao e Montagem Ltd. for its ecological bricks. The aim was to make use of the waste



(sludge) from the directional drilling process through the practice of recycling, thus reducing the impact on the environment and acting for social improvement. Feeling proud of this achievement, the company said, "Receiving an award that recognises our commitment to the community around our projects made us feel that we are on the right track. The legacy we leave in our community is much more than just a pipeline: it's a dream come true, helping the underprivileged to build their homes with the ecological bricks we have developed through our production process."



The 2023 IPLOCA New Technologies Award

sponsored by BP

This award is given in recognition of a significant achievement in the development of new pipeline technologies.

The Adjudication Committee decided to present the award to **PipeSak** for its PipeDefender® Engineered Pipeline Lagging protection system – proven to withstand repeated impacts of large, angular rocks up to 27kg (60lbs). By eliminating the need for wood lagging, concrete coating and sand padding, labour and overall installation costs are dramatically reduced. This lightweight, interlocking solution is available for all pipe diameters, can be trimmed on-site to accommodate tight bends, and works with cathodic protection systems. PipeDefender® is also easy to handle and install in all climates.

The runner-up was **Bonatti S.p.A.**, for its fully mechanised system in trench welding. This newly introduced work strategy aims to improve safety, efficiency, and quality in pipeline construction where in-trench stove pipe construction sequence is the only applicable construction



method. In-trench activity represents a significant productivity constraint which frequently impacts construction efficiency. Manual activities are key cost drivers in construction, whereas automation can deliver benefits in terms of safety, weld quality and productivity. Health and safety issues associated with working in-trench present significant challenges which justify the automation of the process. "Obtaining this recognition is a great source of pride for Bonatti and for all the colleagues who worked on the project and helped to enhance the safety of their fellow pipeliners at work."

The award is presented in recognition of members' initiatives, all of which are aimed at improving the quality of design, the quality of materials and the quality of execution.



The Adjudication Committee decided to present the award to **Saipem**, for their initiative "REFLEX": the Saipem Knowledge Management Digital Solution, because lessons learned were fully implemented into improvement initiatives.

One runner-up was selected: **LogIC SAS** for its Digitised Quality Management (QCM) system. The QCM application represents a significant advancement in real-time monitoring of pipeline construction, ensuring compliance

with regulatory, technical, and client requirements. The application aims to eliminate the manual management of quality traceability, a task that is often labour-intensive and prone to human errors. The application is configured for each project before the start of work and used on tablets or smartphones in the field by team leaders. QCM enables construction operators to capture crucial data, ranging from dimensional measurements to visual observations, at every phase of pipeline construction. This data is geolocated and instantly analysed, with any deviations promptly notified for immediate action. The company said, "As a small business, this recognition from major players in the pipeline industry is a source of immense pride. It highlights our commitment to innovation and continuous improvement in the field of pipeline construction."

Submissions for 2024

Thank you to all those members who participated in the 2023 awards.

We encourage all members to prepare and submit entries for 2024, which, in addition to the IPLOCA Health & Safety Award sponsored by TC Energy, will include the IPLOCA Environmental Award sponsored by Shell, and the IPLOCA Excellence in Project Execution Award.

Submissions are required by April 2024 and further information is available on www.iploca.com.

Post-convention Questionnaire

We are grateful to the delegates and spouses who took the time to complete and submit the post-convention questionnaire.

Around 30% of convention attendees responded to the questionnaire this year. The information received is important to help us further improve future conventions and gives participants the opportunity to express their opinion and convey their suggestions on any part of the programme.

We encourage more attendees to provide us with their feedback after future events. Overall, the convention programme was greatly appreciated, with the business meetings and social events being mostly rated as excellent or good.

98% of respondents said they were able to network as expected and 91% said they would recommend the convention to other colleagues. Respondents once again confirmed their interest in having presentations on the work of IPLOCA's committees and many of them would like to see more presentations on future new projects, new technologies and energy transition. Most of them indicated they are likely to attend next year's convention in Sorrento, Italy.

About 96% of attendees who answered the questionnaire used the app which represents a similar percentage to the previous convention in Prague. The comments received regarding the app were very positive, with a few suggestions to help us improve it further in the future.

Around two-thirds liked the new format of this convention including three business days instead of two, but around 50% of all respondents would prefer to go back to the original format of two business and three cultural days.

Health, Safety, the Environment & CSR

News from the HSE & CSR Committee



Mustafa Aslan retired last September from both Tekfen and the HSE & CSR Committee, having joined the committee on 25 April 2022.

Baris Kavukcu, also working for Tekfen, will replace Mustafa and will be officially introduced to the Committee in April 2024 as he couldn't join the meeting in Munich. A Turkish national, Baris has 18 years of experience with major international oil & gas projects on project management, quality and HES management and project completion/handover.

A combined workshop with PLCA - still to be confirmed – is being planned for **October/November 2024** in Houston. The theme will be: "Man/Machinery Interface", working safely with machines.

Update on the HSE & CSR Workshop in Munich

The workshop, held on 24 October, was led by Diana Anghel from Caterpillar Safety Services, Fred Sherratt from the Construction Safety Research Alliance (CSRA) and Logan Perry from the University of Nebraska.

IPLOCA warmly thanks Benet Chan and Kevin Parker for their help with the organisation, and special thanks go to the members of the HSE & CSR Committee who sponsored this workshop, namely Denys, RSK, SICIM, Spiecapag and MAX STREICHER.

The morning provided the opportunity for attendees to hear about the latest learnings on how organisations can 'learn' from past incidents/events and how companies can

improve their safety culture and reduce serious injury or fatality (SIF) events.

In the afternoon, participants split into breakout rooms to work with the following questions:

1. How can we better determine what good risk perception looks like?
2. What work tasks could we reorganise to enable direct controls for the most common STKY (Stuff that Kills You) hazards?
3. How can we improve safety in cross-cultural / multicultural work environments?
4. In what ways are we learning about safety and how can we improve?

Answers to these questions may be found on the event's webpage: www.iploca.com/event/iploca-hse-workshop-2023.



Innovation

Novel Construction Fall Session

The Fall Novel Construction Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn – Westpark hotel in Munich, Germany, on Wednesday, 25 and Thursday, 26 October.

More than 75 delegates from across the world participated in the event. The week's programme also included the HSE Workshop about improving corporate safety memory (see page 31). On Wednesday morning, presentations were made by IPLOCA members and guest speakers on their innovative developments and initiatives with the aim of improving pipeline design and construction. The following subjects were presented:

- **Bending Machine Safe Hook Support - IPLOCA Health & Safety Award Winner 2023**
Guido Soffiantini & Vincenzo Petrone, SICIM S.p.A.
- **Hydrogen Goes Public**
Josef Wittenzellner, MAX STREICHER GmbH
- **Near Surface Geophysics in Onshore Pipeline Design – Petrobras' Experience**
Ana Cecilia Soares, Petrobras
- **Fast, Safe, and Low-Risk Construction of Internally Coated Pipelines***
Ryan Sears, Lined Pipe Systems

- **Hyperloop Ambitions through the Mass Production of Large Diameter Hyperloop Tubes**
Mehmet Orgen, Erciyas Steel Pipe
 - **Pipeline Monitoring using Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing - State of the Art and Basic Concepts**
Cristian Grecco, Omnisens SA
 - **MONTIPower – Environmentally Friendly Technologies for Surface Preparation***
Martin Durcik, MONTI Werkzeuge GmbH
- * Articles on these initiatives follow this report.

Copies of all the presentations are available at:
www.iploca.com/iploca-novel-construction-fall-session-2023.

On Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning, group work sessions and presentations took place to review the existing and the new chapters that need to be completed, as well as additional subjects to be developed for "The Road to Success" app. We thank everyone who participated in this Fall Meeting.

If you would like to take part in the Novel Construction Initiative, please contact the appropriate group leader or gregoire.demontmollin@iploca.com.

We look forward to our next session which is planned for **24 April 2024**. The location and hotel are yet to be defined.

Working Groups	Leader (Company)	Email
Earthworks & Crossings	Ana Cecilia Soares (Petrobras)	ana.soares@petrobras.com.br
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New Trends & Innovation	Mustafa Abusalah (C.C.C.)	mabusalah@ccc.net
Coatings	Somaieh Salehpour (Seal for Life)	somaieh.salehpour@sealforlife.com
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Logistics	Jean-Baptiste Rousseau (Spiecapag)	jean-baptiste.rousseau@spiecapag.com
Energy Transition	Andrew Ball (J. Murphy & Sons)	andrewball@murphygroup.co.uk

Fast, Safe, and Low-Risk Construction of Internally Coated Pipelines

Ryan Sears, CEO, Lined Pipe Systems, U.S.A.

Imagine a pipeline project with dozens of 500+m pipe strings left alongside the trench, and tie-in crews more than 40km behind the mainline welding crew.

You might wonder why they don't simply lower the strings into the trench, do the tie-ins, and bury the pipe? The reason is that workers still need to enter the strings and

perform the painstakingly slow, error-prone, and dangerous process of manually coating the interior of each weld joint. This is the reality for several desalinated water pipelines being constructed right now. But other contractors have learned it doesn't have to be this way. Lined Pipe Systems' FlexSleeve® allows for standard, fast construction of internally coated pipelines and greatly reduces liabilities to

schedule, joint quality, and safety. FlexSleeve® is a corrosion and heat resistant internal sleeve that prevents liquids from corroding the bare steel of the weld zone. It's inserted into pipe ends during construction and it eliminates the need to abrasive blast, clean, coat, and inspect the interior of each joint. Once the welding is done, the joint interior is protected and ready to go.

Contractors that have experienced the nightmare of manual or robotic internal joint coatings are quick to understand FlexSleeve's advantages and how the increased construction speed saves them money. One such contractor, OECI of Brazil, built a 28" dia. (DN700) x 92km water line and started off patching the joint interiors manually. After using FlexSleeve their productivity increased by 28%. OECI's Procurement Manager, Gustavo Magalhaes, said, "Now at the end of the project we are asking ourselves what if we had invested in more FlexSleeves sooner? The results would have been even better."

FlexSleeve® has also been tested for use with automatic welding using Qapqa's external automatic welding system and a specialised internal lineup clamp. FlexSleeve serves as a backing ring and increases root pass speeds by more than 50% compared to welds without backing. No other construction method for internally coated pipelines comes close to matching the productivity levels of FlexSleeve®. Besides construction speed, FlexSleeve® eliminates significant quality risks. The process involved in achieving proper quality for a coating that will be subject to immersion at high pressure involves far more than many contractors realise.

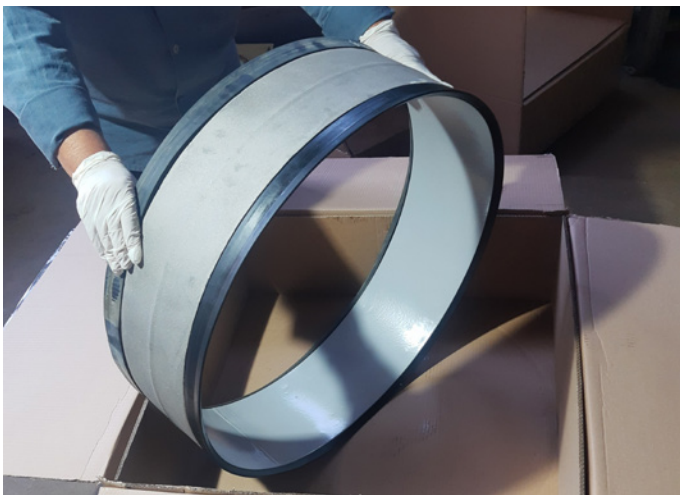
Surface preparation includes grinding removal of irregular weld penetration, abrasive blasting, and cleanup of all dust for perfect cleanliness. The slightest speck of dust, sweat, etc. will usually lead to a coating failure down the line. Applying sufficient coating thickness is very challenging with a single coat. Paint curing times in widely varying steel temperatures



often cause quality issues and delays. And all coatings must be inspected after the paint has cured. Compare that to FlexSleeve, where the coating is applied and 100% inspected in an environmentally-controlled shop setting.

Last but not least FlexSleeve® eliminates safety risks. Pipelines are a confined space and entry into long pipe strings for coating application presents serious safety hazards including toxic & flammable fumes, and difficult extraction of injured personnel – risks that can lead to fatalities if not managed properly. Internal weld sleeves have been successfully used in small diameter upstream oil & gas pipelines for more than 25 years in highly corrosive applications. The lightweight and flexible FlexSleeve® expands the use of internal weld sleeves to larger diameters with out-of-round pipe ends.

FlexSleeves have been used in pipelines transporting domestic water, produced water, and process water for the oil & gas and mining industries in North and South America. They are currently available in diameters up to 60" (DN1500), and larger diameter projects are being evaluated. Lined Pipe Systems is headquartered near Houston, Texas and has a manufacturing facility in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.



Environmentally Friendly Technologies for Surface Preparation

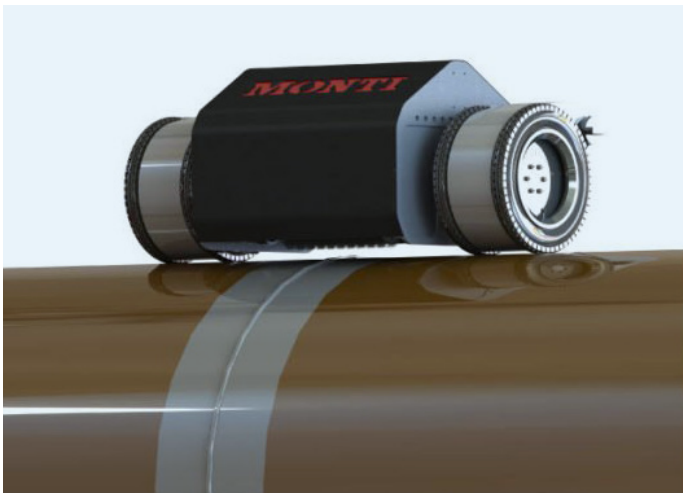
Martin Durcik, Sales Manager, Central Europe, MONTI® Werkzeuge GmbH, Germany



During our presentation at the Novel Construction Session in October in Munich Germany, we demonstrated the advantages of the Bristle Blaster® method which is considered to be a substitute for open grit blasting of under-and above ground pipelines, flanges, valves and fieldjoints.

The method cannot, however, be considered a substitute for close cycle grit blasting over larger areas where it cannot compete on the production rate. In the field, in open air, more and more asset owners or other regulations demand alternatives to avoid abrasive materials' waste for CO₂ emissions reasons, for example.

The main advantage of the Bristle Blaster® method is that, there is no comparison possible versus grinders, needle guns, sanders, polishers or steelbrushes, since using Bristle Blaster®, you can remove corrosion, mill scale, polyethylene, glue, FBE and other pipeline coatings, in accordance with the highest cleanliness ISO 8501-1 Sa 2.5.



The surface texture/anchor profile is >50-120µm Rz (2-4.7 mils) and the used belts can be re-used or recycled. It is a straightforward method by using special patented belts. There are no scratches, there is no hammering effect and no smearing. After checking the cleanliness, this environmentally friendly and grit-free process results in a very thorough cleanliness at the bottom of the newly generated valleys of the surface profile. Once checking for chloride contamination it is a fact that the recoating window is much longer versus loose abrasive cleaning methods in case of rehabilitation and repair jobs.

Currently Utility Network Services from Wales utilises grit blasting when undertaking pipework paint preparation, corrosion removal and coating damage assessment work. This can be cumbersome, produces waste and requires a two-person team to undertake it safely. The use of the Bristle Blaster® for the above activities is cheaper, produces little waste and can achieve the same results as grit blasting, five times faster, for small surface areas. The unit can be purchased in either 110V/230V cordless and electric, pneumatic and waterdriven versions. For fieldjoints, MONTIPower® offers tailor-made solutions based on the Prepper Q4® concept.

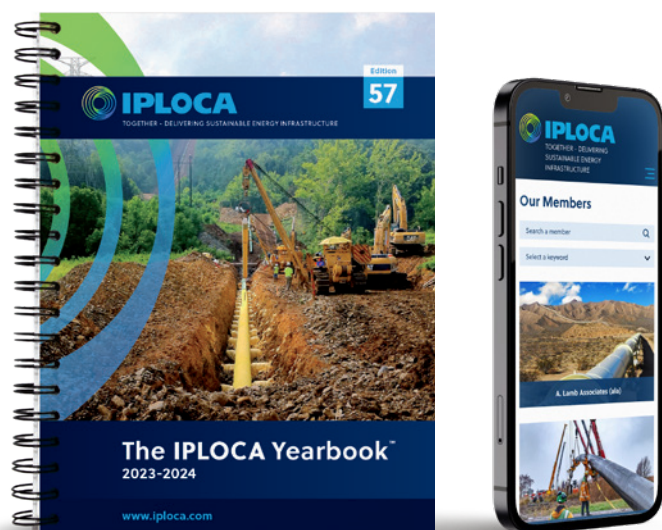


Another well-known European utility company did research on coating adhesion and cyclic corrosion tests for three different surface preparation methods using power wire brushing, grit blasting and Bristle Blaster®. Power wire brushes can deliver SSPC SP 11 bare metal finishes; however, surface conditions

ultimately lead to adhesion failure of the coatings due to poor anchor profiles or no ability to remove mill scale.

In contrast, bristle blasting removes coatings and affords an anchor pattern giving surface profiles similar to grit blasting. Corrosion tests were made under laboratory conditions after applying different coating systems on test specimens. Pull-off tests showed improved corrosion resistance for bristle blasting due to the deeper cleanliness in the valleys of the profile and the surface profile amplitude.

IPLOCA Yearbook 2023-2024



At the end of November the 57th edition of the IPLOCA Yearbook was distributed worldwide to the desks and in the field offices of pipeline companies.

The IPLOCA Yearbook is available in hardcopy and online at www.iploca.com/yearbook. Do not hesitate to provide us with the addresses of the persons to whom you wish us to send a copy. Additional printed copies can be obtained on request from www.iploca-yearbook.com.

We are confident this edition will meet your expectations once again but we always welcome and appreciate your feedback and suggestions. Listing changes can be done on the IPLOCA website via the link to your company's account that IPLOCA's Key Representative received: www.iploca.com/login. For more information please contact support@iploca.com

We wish all our readers a joyful, festive season with the prospect of a safe and healthy New Year.

Peter Schoonenberg, Publisher IPLOCA Yearbook

Important IPLOCA Dates

Member News for IPLOCA March Newsletter

31 January – Deadline for submissions
newsletter@iploca.com

Member News for IPLOCA June Newsletter

30 April – Deadline for submissions
newsletter@iploca.com

Upcoming Events

2024

PLCA 76th Annual Convention

30 January - 3 February – Nassau, Bahamas, U.S.A.
www.plca.org

DCA 63rd Annual Convention

12-17 February – Kohala Coast, HI, U.S.A.
www.dcaweb.org

IPLOCA America North Regional Meeting

6 March – San Diego, U.S.A.
www.iploca.com/events/regional-meetings



PIG - The Pipeline Industries Guild 66th Annual Dinner

12 March – London, U.K.
www.pipeguild.com

Pipeline Technology Conference

8-11 April – Berlin, Germany
www.pipeline-conference.com

Hannover Messe

22-26 April – Hannover, Germany
www.hannovermesse.de

IPLOCA Novel Construction Spring Session

24-25 April – Location TBC
www.iploca.com/events/novel-construction-sessions



Offshore Technology Conference

6-9 May – Houston, TX, U.S.A.
2024.otcnet.org

PLCAC 70th Annual Convention

12-17 May – Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada
pipeline.ca



IPLOCA Scholarship Programme

Applications open 1 January, 2024 for the IPLOCA Scholarship Programme. Children and grandchildren of employees of IPLOCA Regular and Associate Members are eligible to apply via the online form on the IPLOCA website.

The scholarships are not limited to specific educational pursuits, but are open to all fields of study. Saji Khoury of CCC, and member of the IPLOCA Board of Directors, leads the selection process committee. We encourage all members to publicise the scholarship opportunity as widely as possible within their organisations.

More information on the programme is available at www.iploca.com/committees/scholarship-programme.



IPLOCA Media Partners

IPLOCA members can sign up for the Pipeline & Gas Journal free monthly digital newsletter and keep abreast with industry-specific resources and events. As a benefit of membership, IPLOCA members have the possibility to

post industry articles through any of our Media Partners, as listed below, including **Benjamin Media** and **Palladian Publications**.

Should you have an interesting article you would like to share, please contact: eszter.czirjak@iploca.com.

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