

Celebrating
IPLOCA



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March 2026

IPLOCA Newsletter

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IPLOCA Mission

IPLOCA's mission is to support the delivery of sustainable energy infrastructure, including pipeline construction, by providing a forum for sharing knowledge globally, facilitating business opportunities and innovation, and promoting the highest standards in business ethics, as well as in health, safety, the environment, and corporate social responsibility.

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IPLOCA Newsletter

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Editor

Eszter Czirjak

newsletter@iploca.com

Lay-out & advertising

Peter Schoonenberg

peter@pedemex.nl

IPLOCA Yearbook

Extra copies

www.iploca-yearbook.com

Advertising

Peter Schoonenberg

peter@pedemex.nl

Company listing changes

www.iploca.com/login

support@iploca.com

IPLOCA Secretariat

IPLOCA

Chemin des Papillons 4

1216 Cointrin / Geneva

Switzerland

+41 22 306 02 30

info@iploca.com

www.iploca.com

Letter from the President



Dear Members,

Looking ahead to a landmark year for our Association, I am proud to share that IPLOCA turns 60 in 2026. This remarkable milestone is not only a celebration of our history, but also an opportunity to look forward to a vibrant future. It is truly a milestone worthy of celebration, so start getting ready for a special year filled with memorable moments!

To kick off the year, we hope to see many of you at our upcoming Regional Meeting in Houston on 11 March 2026, where we already have over 170 participants registered. The programme promises a strong lineup of speakers covering a wide range of topics relevant to our industry and current market trends. Your participation and engagement are what make these gatherings so valuable.

Soon after, we look forward to welcoming you to the Novel Construction Spring Session in Mallorca on 15–16 April. For the first time ever, we are organising a dedicated NextGen Day on 14 April, giving our young professionals the opportunity to meet in person, network, and build stronger connections, particularly since most of their interaction so far has taken place online due to the international nature of our Association. I am counting on you to encourage your NextGen members to attend; they are the future of our industry!

In June, we will hold a Regional Meeting in Paris, followed by our Board Meeting. Paris holds special significance for IPLOCA, as it is where our Association was originally incorporated in June 1966, exactly 60 years ago! This gathering will allow us to reflect on our heritage while continuing to shape our vision for the decades ahead.

I would also like to encourage all members to submit entries for the 2026 IPLOCA Awards. This year, members may submit applications for all six categories: Health & Safety, CSR, Environmental, Quality, New Technologies and Excellence in Project Execution. The more submissions we receive, the stronger and more credible our competition becomes, so your participation is essential to maintaining the integrity and prestige of these awards.

I am pleased to share that this year we will award 12 scholarships to talented young students. While there has been a slight delay in opening the application window, this is due to important improvements being made to streamline the review process for our Scholarship Committee. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we took our time to make this process more efficient and fairer for all applicants.

On another front, our Executive Director Georges Hage and I attended the Distribution Contractors Association's 65th Annual Convention, held in February in Miami. These global engagements continue to reinforce our commitment to industry collaboration and knowledge sharing.

As we step into this 60th anniversary year, I look forward to meeting many of you at our various events. Thank you for your continued support, enthusiasm, and dedication to the IPLOCA community. Please know that I remain at your disposal for anything you may need.

I'm looking forward to seeing you soon, and I hope 2026 is treating you well so far!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Saji Khoury', with a long, sweeping underline.

Saji Khoury

IPLOCA President 2025-2026



Celebrating 60 Years of IPLOCA: Built on Trust, Shaped by Members



In 2026, IPLOCA proudly marks a remarkable milestone: 60 years of connecting, supporting and advancing the global pipeline construction industry and delivering sustainable energy infrastructure.

What began six decades ago as a shared vision among pioneering contractors has grown into a truly international association, representing members across continents, cultures and generations. Over these 60 years, IPLOCA has evolved alongside the industry itself, adapting to new technologies, higher safety and environmental standards, expanding social responsibilities, changing energy landscapes and an increasingly interconnected world.

Throughout this journey, IPLOCA has remained firmly grounded in its core purpose: to serve as a trusted platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing and mutual support. From technical exchange and safety initiatives to Annual Conventions, Regional Meetings, HSE Workshops, Novel Construction Sessions and broader industry engagement, IPLOCA has consistently worked to create tangible value for its members and to strengthen the pipeline sector worldwide.

This anniversary is not only a celebration of longevity, but also of resilience and continued relevance. Over six decades, IPLOCA has successfully navigated economic cycles, market shifts and global challenges by staying true to its founding principles while embracing innovation, progress and change. The enduring strength of the Association has always come from its members, their expertise, commitment and willingness to share knowledge for the benefit of the wider industry.

Above all, this milestone is an opportunity to say thank you.

Thank you to our members, past and present, for their continued trust, engagement and support over the last 60 years. Your active participation and shared values have been the foundation upon which IPLOCA has been built and sustained.

Thank you to the many Board members, leaders and committee participants who, across six decades, have dedicated their time, vision and expertise to guiding the Association. Their stewardship, strategic direction and commitment to collaboration have played a decisive role in shaping IPLOCA's growth and standing within the global industry.

And a special thank you to the IPLOCA team, past and present, whose professionalism, dedication and behind the scenes efforts ensure that the Association operates effectively, delivers meaningful initiatives and continues to serve its members with excellence. Their contribution is essential to turning vision into action and maintaining the high standards IPLOCA is known for.

As we celebrate 60 years of IPLOCA, we do so with pride in our history and confidence in the future. Together with our members, leadership and team, we look forward to continuing this journey, strengthening connections, supporting excellence and shaping the next chapter of the pipeline construction industry for many years to come.

Georges Hage

IPLOCA Executive Director

News from Geneva

60th Anniversary Logo

A major milestone calls for celebration! We are thrilled to unveil the new logo we will be using this year to mark IPLOCA's 60th anniversary.

Members of the Association are warmly invited to feature it in their communications throughout 2026 as we celebrate six decades of achievement together.

[Request the logo here](#)



Board Meeting Update

4-5 December 2025 - Doha, Qatar

The following summarises the key discussions and decisions from the meeting.

Opening remarks from the President

Saji Khoury, IPLOCA Board of Directors President, opened the meeting.

Safety Moment - Leading by example

Giovanni Muriana, HSE & CSR Committee Chair, highlighted the critical role of leadership in shaping safety culture. He noted that safe behaviour by management is more influential than any written procedure. The way leaders act directly affects how workers perceive and prioritise safety. Site visits, consistent use of PPE, and addressing at-risk behaviours are simple yet powerful actions that set the standard for the entire organisation.

2026 Annual Convention in Athens, Greece

IPLOCA Executive Director Georges Hage briefed the Board on the 2026 Annual Convention, confirming that the theme and format will remain the same as in 2025. Tour ticket prices will rise from EUR 30 to EUR 40, with all proceeds going to the IPLOCA Scholarship Fund. Speaker selection is underway, and for the first time, NextGen Network members will have the opportunity to address the convention.

HSE & CSR Committee

Giovanni Muriana presented the committee report. He shared the committee's recommendations about IPLOCA's awards. The Board decided that all six awards will be presented each year. If fewer than three nominations are received, an award will not be given that year. The Board also confirmed that a company may receive only one award per year.

The HSE & CSR Committee will meet on 14 April in Mallorca, Spain. Going forward, the HSE Workshop and the Novel Construction Session will be combined into a single event. The programme will begin with a half-day HSE Workshop, followed by a day and a half of the Novel Session. The Board has decided to introduce a EUR 50 registration fee for the event.

Energy Transition Committee

Alejandro Maluf, Chair of the Energy Transition Committee, presented the committee report. The committee's new role is to monitor news and research marketplaces for the benefit of IPLOCA members. Topics include the transportation and storage of captured carbon, hydrogen, ammonia, methanol, SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel), and other emerging materials. Related news will be published on IPLOCA's website, and a short report on recent developments, authored by Bill Olson of Gulf Companies, will be included in the newsletter twice a year.

Innovation Committee

In the absence of the Committee Chair Somaieh Salehpour, Georges Hage presented the committee report. The Novel Construction Fall Session in Budapest, Hungary, attracted 85 attendees and featured 12 presentations, all of which are now available on IPLOCA NEST. Going forward, the Standards & Compliance Regulatory Group will support the four other working groups. The upcoming Novel Construction Spring Session will take place on 15–16 April in Mallorca, Spain.

Membership Committee

Marcin Przywara, Chair of the Membership Committee, presented the report. The Board has launched a new informal focus group to attract members in the East and Far East region, led by Michael Fakhoury with support from Andre DeCastro, David Lucas, Matthew O'Connell, Marcin Przywara, and Jichang Zhang. The group plans to engage prospects through regional associations, including APGA, the Japan Gas Association, and others.

Scholarship Programme

Saji Khoury, Chair of the Scholarship Programme, presented the report. Applications will close on 15 April. A total of 12 scholarships will be awarded: one per region across eight regions, one for an Associate Member, and three for the top overall scorers.

Applications are evaluated on a 100-point scale, covering grade transcripts, goal statements, recommendation letters, work experience, activities and awards. CCC's IT team is exploring ways to use technology to make it easier for Board members to score the applications.



Doha's Golden Mosque

NextGen Network Project

Saji Khoury, Chair of the NextGen Network, presented the report. The network now has 56 members, with the highest participation from Associate Members, followed by the America North and Europe Northwest regions.

A Speaker Committee has been created to invite industry leaders to the network's online sessions, and short videos showcasing the daily life of young professionals will be shared on IPLOCA's LinkedIn page. The network will also host online happy hours to help members connect. In addition, a dedicated platform has been created on the website with access to NextGen members only.

Plans are being developed to introduce a special award or panel discussion at the Convention to highlight NextGen contributions. The network plans to organise a NextGen-only day on 14 April, alongside the Novel Construction Spring Session in Mallorca, featuring company presentations, networking opportunities, cultural and social activities.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Bruno Pomaré, presented the report, which included the 2025 forecast and the proposed 2026 budget. He noted that the year-end result is expected to be positive, with cash flow at the end of 2025 showing improvement compared to 2024. He also emphasized the importance of ensuring that every event is fully funded.

Membership Status Report

Eszter Czirjak, IPLOCA Membership Manager, presented the Membership Status report.

At the time of the Board meeting, IPLOCA had 234 members, including 75 Regular Members, 111 Associate Members, 34 Corresponding Members, 6 Academic Members, and 8 Honorary Members.

The Board approved the following new membership requests:

- **AMPO Arabia** (Associate Member)
- **COATEC SRL** (Associate Member)
- **LK2 Srl** (Associate Member)

Pipeline Pioneers

Jason LaValley presented the plan for members to purchase a PDF copy of Issue 1 of the booklet Pipeline Pioneers before the end-of-year holidays. The booklet has been translated into seven languages. IPLOCA's Skills & Resources Group has started development work on Issue 2. The goal is to introduce young people to a variety of professions within the industry.

2025 Annual Convention feedback survey

Georges Hage presented the convention feedback survey results. With a 29.5% response rate, 99% of respondents confirmed the event's importance, and 94% plan to attend in 2026. Highlights included registration, venue, networking,

and the 2-day business format, while the main concern was long bus journeys to cultural tour sites.

Upcoming Annual Conventions

The 2026 Annual Convention will be held in Athens, Greece, from 28 September to 2 October, followed by the 2027 Convention in Washington D.C., US.

Regional Meetings

The IPLOCA America North Regional Meeting will be held on 11 March 2026 in Houston at the Hyatt Regency Houston West. The IPLOCA Europe Mediterranean Regional Meeting will take place on 17 June in Paris at the Pullman Paris Tour Eiffel hotel.

IPLOCA will celebrate its 60th anniversary with events throughout the year. The Board and the Secretariat look forward to marking this milestone with members at a special celebration during the Convention in September.

Membership Centre

New Associate Members



Commitment made of steel

AMPO is a worldwide leader in highly engineered valves and integrated smart solutions for the most severe services across multiple sectors, with maximum efficiency and minimum maintenance costs.

The company offers the widest range of highly engineered valves on the market, as well as integrated smart solutions and services. With 1,000 talented employees, AMPO has 5 manufacturing and servicing facilities worldwide, including its own integrated foundry.

AMPO

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T +34 943 188 000
www.ampo.com



Founded in 1996, **Coatec s.r.l.** is a privately owned company specialising in solutions for the oil, gas, and water pipeline industry. Coatec's product portfolio includes anti-corrosion tapes, heat-shrink sleeves, and pipe leakage repair kits, designed to ensure durability and reliability in critical infrastructure.

Coatec Altene s.r.l.

Vittorio Veneto 71/73
21050 Lonate Ceppino
Italy
T +39 0331 879817
info@coatec.it
www.coatec-altene.com




Valvitalia is an Italian multinational group specialising in the design, manufacture, and distribution of valves, actuators, fittings, and gas systems for the energy industry, as well as fire protection solutions for the marine, railway, and infrastructure sectors.

Thanks to a strategy of targeted acquisitions, the Group has expanded its product offering and consolidated its international presence, becoming one of the major players in the international valve market. Today, Valvitalia operates seven plants, five in Italy and two abroad (China and the UK), while its products are distributed in 115 countries. The Group currently employs approximately 900 people.

Valvitalia S.p.A.

Via Tortona, 69
27055 Rivanazzano Terme (PV)
Italy
T +39 0383 945911
info@valvitalia.com
www.valvitalia.com/it/

New Corresponding Member

 **Open Grid Europe GmbH** enables the flow of gaseous molecules. The company creates and maintains a modern, safe and efficient infrastructure for natural gas, hydrogen and CO₂. OGE's pipeline network, with a length of more than 12,000 kilometres, is fundamental to Germany's energy supply and ensures the prosperity of society.

As the market-leading gas transmission system operator, OGE is a pioneer, driver and enabler of the energy transition and climate neutrality. The company sees itself as a transformation consultant and service provider for

industry, power plants, distribution system operators, and partners from production and politics. The OGE Group is also a future-proof, modern workplace for more than 2,000 people. In the interests of its employees and shareholders, it continually adapts its business model to ensure long-term profitable development.

Open Grid Europe GmbH

Kallenbergstr. 5
45141 Essen
Germany
T +49 201 3642-0
info@oge.net
www.oge.net

Member News

5C-Tech secures new mainline welding contract and completes key pipeline projects



After successfully completing mainline welding on a section of the Etzel–Wardenburg (EWA) 48" pipeline project in Germany, 5C-Tech has been awarded the full mainline welding subcontract for a 40-km section of the Wardenburg–Drohne (WAD) 40" pipeline project. Both projects are for Open Grid Europe (OGE) and are part of the future European hydrogen pipeline network.

Furthermore, 5C-Tech has completed mainline welding on the 60-km Khor Mor – Chemchemical 36" pipeline in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, finalising the project within three months, from September to mid-December 2025. FRIEDRICH VORWERK and 5C-Tech combine decades of experience with innovative technology to deliver tomorrow's networks, meeting the highest standards of quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness.

Bin Quraya delivers Zuluf Water Supply and Disposal Project for Saudi Aramco

Bin Quraya has successfully completed the Zuluf Water Supply and Disposal Project in the Eastern Region of Saudi Arabia, awarded in January 2022. The project involved the construction of extensive pipeline networks and auxiliary facilities, including eight 24-inch lateral pipelines totalling 23 km, two 48-inch manifolds, and a 42-inch trunk line spanning 60 km. Additional works involved four water drainage pipeline sections equipped with scraper launchers and receivers, along with three support buildings dedicated to operations, maintenance, and security. As part of the project, fifty water supply wells were drilled across eight sites to ensure reliable and sustainable water availability. In parallel, Bin Quraya delivered advanced process automation and communication systems for the Zuluf Central Processing Facility (ZCPF). These systems included GSM towers, overhead power lines, remote terminal units, a fiber optic ring network, power transformers,



and high-capacity switchgear. The project utilised Digital Twin Technology in accordance with Saudi Aramco best practices. This technology involves creating a digital model of a physical object that is integrated with real-time data collected through sensors and the Internet of Things (IoT). Based on this real-time data, the digital twin can perform active simulations, showing the effects on the physical asset in real time. The project was completed safely, with 5 million work hours logged without any lost-time injuries.

Caterpillar teams with NVIDIA to revolutionize heavy industry with physical AI and robotics



Caterpillar announced an expanded collaboration with NVIDIA to accelerate the development of next-generation AI-powered solutions for customers, dealers, and employees. According to Caterpillar CEO Joe Creed, AI is reshaping physical operations across job sites, factories and offices, and the partnership will help Caterpillar address its customers' toughest challenges. NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang noted that the companies are working together across the full spectrum of industrial AI: from autonomous construction fleets to the data centres powering the next industrial revolution. Caterpillar is investing to equip its machines for an AI-enabled future using the NVIDIA Jetson Thor platform, which supports real-time inference for Cat construction, mining and power equipment. This foundation enables features such as intelligent in-cab assistants, AI-driven recommendations to further support autonomy, and fleetwide machine intelligence powered by machine learning, computer vision and edge computing that processes sensor data in real time. At CES 2026 in January, Caterpillar introduced the Cat AI Assistant, built using NVIDIA's Riva speech models to provide personalized recommendations, voice-activated troubleshooting and access to Caterpillar's Helios data platform. The partnership also extends to manufacturing, where Caterpillar is using NVIDIA's AI Factory and Omniverse technologies to improve forecasting, scheduling and digital-twin simulation, advancing safer, more resilient production systems.

C.A.T. strengthens Gulf Region footprint with new awards and milestones



In Saudi Arabia, C.A.T. received multiple recognitions from Saudi Aramco and regional bodies for safety performance, execution excellence, and workforce development. These included awards for the safe completion of the first 100 gas wells at North Jafurah and achieving 5 million safe man-hours without Lost Time Injury (LTI). C.A.T. also commenced two major LSTK EPC contracts with Saudi Aramco, strengthening its footprint in the Kingdom. These include the Safaniyah-Khursaniyah (SK-2) pipeline replacement project, involving 108 km of new 30" pipeline, and the Abqaiq-Qatif-3 and Qatif-Qaisumah-1 (AQ-3 & QQ-1) pipeline replacement projects, covering a combined 128 km of new 30" pipeline. In the UAE, C.A.T. secured two major project awards under the Sunrise Program. One covers the installation, testing, and commissioning of approximately 55 km of 48" gas pipeline between the West and Margham Plants, including six block valve stations and associated E&I&T works. The second award includes 24.2 km of flowlines and trunklines (10"-24") under the Sunrise Program and the ESTIDAMA Pipeline. Key milestones on the ESTIDAMA Sales Gas Pipeline Enhancement Project (Package 3) included auto-welding productivity exceeding 1 km/day on a 52" line, completion of 30 km of 56" pipeline in a constrained brownfield environment, and over 1 km of 52" joint coating. In Qatar, C.A.T. completed and commissioned the GTC-899 Water Pump Station for Kahramaa and achieved 4 million safe man-hours without LTI on QatarEnergy pipeline projects.

CPP's Iraq Common Seawater Supply Project enters commencement phase

The Iraq Common Seawater Supply Project (CSSP) officially began at the end of January 2026, marking the launch of this major pipeline initiative led by China Petroleum Pipeline Engineering Co., Ltd. (CPP). The CSSP is CPP's first seawater pipeline project in Iraq and a key project for the company in the Middle East. The project is contracted under

an EPCC (Engineering, Procurement, Construction, and Commissioning) model, with a total duration of 54 months. This period includes 42 months for construction and 12 months for commissioning. The pipeline network, with a total length of approximately 949 kilometres, will supply treated seawater to oilfields in southern Iraq. It is designed to efficiently replace freshwater resources, thereby addressing a key bottleneck that has been limiting stable and increased oilfield production.



The project is expected to have a far-reaching impact on Iraq's energy strategy. Following the formal contract signing in September 2025 and a successful kick-off meeting in October, the project has now efficiently progressed to the commencement phase. This progress has garnered high recognition from the client, Basra Oil Company (BOC), and demonstrates CPP's efficient execution capabilities in complex international projects.

CRC Evans strengthens market leadership with major contract award on Package 9



CRC Evans has been awarded a new contract to support Saudi Arabia's Master Gas Expansion Phase 3 (MGS III), taking on welding responsibilities for Pipeline Package 9. The scope includes constructing and welding a 56-inch diameter,

150-kilometre pipeline using the company's internal welding technology and dual-torch systems, supported by its Dammam facility. The award follows CRC Evans' previous work on MGS III Package 4, where the company delivered welding services under challenging conditions. Its performance in that phase strengthened confidence in its technical capabilities and contributed to securing this latest contract. CEO Mauro Piasere highlighted that the company's work on Package 4 demonstrated its ability to deliver in complex environments and noted that Package 9 represents the next stage in CRC Evans' involvement in the region's gas infrastructure programme. He added that the project aligns with broader energy developments associated with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, with CRC Evans' technologies and experience continuing to support long-term infrastructure needs. With a longstanding background in oil and gas and a presence in more than 100 regions, CRC Evans reports that it is continuing to expand into new areas of the energy sector, including renewables, hydrogen, and carbon-capture-related infrastructure.

DENSO Group Germany awarded field joint coating contract for TERÉGA's REVA project



SEALID® All-in-1 Tape applied on a weld seam & an elbow on TERÉGA pipelines.

TERÉGA, one of France's two leading gas network operators with a pipeline network stretching over 5,000 km, chose DENSO Group Germany's innovative corrosion protection solutions for the REVA project. The project involves replacing 71 km of an existing pipeline, built in 1974, between Villariès and Albi with a new 8-inch gas pipeline. The SEALID® All-in-1 Tape was selected to protect 1,000 weld seams, as it provides both corrosion prevention and mechanical protection in a single product with just one wrapping process, without the use of primer. By using this solution, TERÉGA is able to work twice as fast as with previous methods and reduce its carbon footprint by more than half. The project will be completed in 2026 and will represent a new milestone in sustainable and CO₂-friendly corrosion protection for pipelines.

DS1 completes new green hydrogen pipeline welding and inspection

DS1 has completed underground pipeline welding and testing works as part of the Port of Klaipėda's green hydrogen production and supply project. This initiative is considered the first hydrogen infrastructure project of its kind in Lithuania and represents an important milestone in the country's transition toward alternative clean fuels. DS1 participated in the project as a subcontractor, delivering specialised welding and inspection services for the underground pipeline system intended for hydrogen transport.



The works were performed in line with strict quality and safety requirements, applying technologies designed to ensure long-term tightness and durability under extreme operating conditions. All welded joints were subject to non-destructive testing procedures to verify integrity and reliability throughout the pipeline's service life. To confirm operational safety, the pipeline — designed for a maximum working pressure of 900 bar — was successfully pressure-tested at 1,275 bar, meeting applicable testing standards. The project supports the development of green hydrogen infrastructure at the Port of Klaipėda and aims to enable the future use of hydrogen as an alternative fuel in the maritime and transport sectors across the Baltic region.

EURETEQ develops industrial decarbonisation projects

Building on its strong expertise in pipeline engineering, EURETEQ is at the forefront of developing projects that support industrial decarbonisation. The company's activities are structured around two major areas. First, EURETEQ supports major seaports — notably Marseille, Dunkirk, and HAROPA — in developing or updating their transport-infrastructure master plans. This work enables the implementation of new projects by identifying land reserves required for works, defining intervention rules on port property and supporting long-term infrastructure planning. Second, EURETEQ assists industrial companies



such as AIR LIQUIDE, TEREQA, NaTran, FLUXYS, SPSE, VICAT, STORENGY, QAIR and H2V in the development of standards and the design of transport pipelines for CO₂ (densephase or gaseous), hydrogen, efuels and biofuels. These assignments aim to accelerate the emergence of decarbonisation projects by identifying and removing key technical and permitting barriers. The expertise developed by EURETEQ is now actively leveraged to advance industrial decarbonisation. This know-how is also made available to EPC contractors to support the construction of these infrastructures in France and abroad.

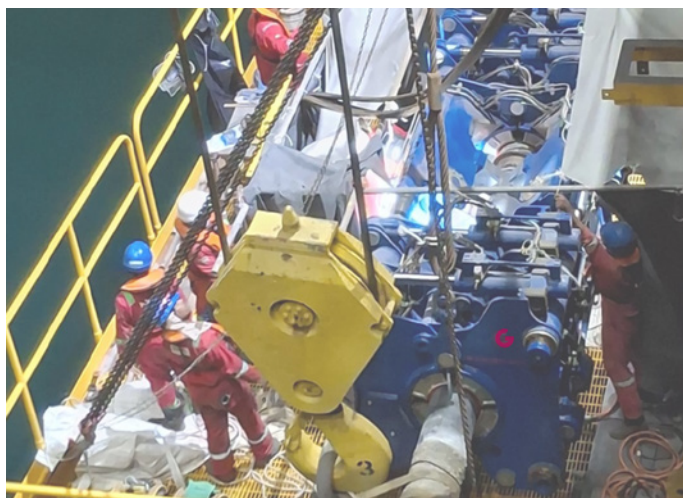
Gascontrol Polska to inspect 154-km GAZ-SYSTEM network



Gascontrol Polska is set to begin 2026 with a significant project focused on pipeline integrity management. The project involves the comprehensive In-Line Inspection (ILI) of a 154-km section of the 1,000-mm (40-inch) natural gas pipeline from Gustorzyn to Rawa Mazowiecka for the Polish TSO, GAZ-SYSTEM. The project will be executed in collaboration with PIPECARE. The scope of work is divided into three key phases to ensure high-quality data collection. Initially, cleaning and calibration runs will be performed to verify the pipeline's effective diameter and remove debris. This is followed by geometry and positioning

inspection, utilising Above Ground Markers (AGMs) and DGPS to accurately locate physical deformations and irregularities. The final stage utilises Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) technology. This high-resolution diagnostic tool identifies metal loss, corrosion pitting, and other material discontinuities. Upon completion, the project will deliver a comprehensive report featuring anomaly mapping, defect depth estimation, and prioritised repair recommendations (commonly referred to as dig-sheets). These findings will support GAZ-SYSTEM in its long-term integrity management and maintenance planning, ensuring the continued safe operation of this critical infrastructure.

Goriziane wins new Bear Cage 24–36 project in Taiwan



Goriziane has announced a new project supplying its Bear Cage 24–36 system to a major client in Taiwan. This achievement further reinforces the company’s international reach and its reputation for delivering high-quality engineered solutions tailored to the most demanding operational environments. The Bear Cage 24–36 is a robust and versatile Above Water Tie-In (AWTI) clamping system, designed for safe, efficient, and reliable tie-in operations. Covering sizes from 8” to 48”, it is trusted by customers worldwide for its durability, precision, and compliance with stringent performance, safety, and DNV standards. With work already underway, Goriziane’s engineering and production teams are collaborating closely to ensure timely delivery and seamless integration. This project reflects the continued confidence global partners place in Goriziane’s technical expertise and commitment to innovation.

Gulf Companies (GIE) acquires WSP USA’s Underground Storage Business

Gulf Companies (Gulf Interstate Engineering) announced the acquisition of WSP USA’s Underground Storage Business (UGS), a move that strengthens Gulf’s position in underground energy storage and subsurface infrastructure.



UGS is widely recognised as a leader in underground storage, with a team of about 120 experts and more than 50 years of experience. They have played a key role in the design and delivery of over 300 cavern projects across the US, including salt and hard-rock caverns used to store natural gas, NGLs, petroleum products, and emerging energy resources. Their deep technical knowledge spans cavern design, drilling, operations, and long-term maintenance. Bringing WSP USA’s UGS into Gulf Companies expands Gulf’s capabilities and supports its long-term growth in core energy markets. By combining Gulf’s strength in surface facilities with UGS’s unmatched underground expertise, Gulf Companies is better positioned to take on larger, more complex projects and deliver integrated solutions across the energy value chain. “Our teams are a natural fit,” said Kent Wilfur, President & CEO of Gulf Companies. “Together, we’re building something truly special for the future of energy infrastructure.” The UGS team will continue leading in underground storage while growing into new markets as part of Gulf Companies.

Henkel supports North Macedonia heating upgrade

As North Macedonia’s second-largest city, Bitola, transitions from coal to natural gas—utilising residual



heat to supply its newly built district heating network—the Henkel team stepped in to help ensure the city’s future heating reliability. The project employed Canusa CSC PE100 Weldable Wrap-Around Casings and IntelliFuse, now approved for use alongside traditional heat-shrink casings, offering a modern and dependable solution. Building on proven success from similar projects across Europe, the installation proceeded quickly and efficiently: over 1,580 casings were installed, including 145 repair units. The solution went beyond an upgrade to creating a new demand for higher-quality, performance-focused solutions.

Kalyon completes Danube River crossing for Tuzla-Podișor pipeline in Romania

Kalyon İnşaat has successfully completed the Danube River crossing of the Black Sea Shore – Podișor Natural Gas Pipeline Project in Romania, with the works finalised in 2025. The project is owned by Transgaz, Romania’s national gas transmission operator, and represents one of the most technically demanding sections of the overall pipeline. The Danube crossing, approximately 1,815 metres in length and 40 inches in diameter, was executed using horizontal directional drilling (HDD) beneath the riverbed, reaching depths of up to 63 metres.



The works were carried out under challenging geological and hydrogeological conditions and required precise drilling control to protect the river environment and ensure installation accuracy. In addition, Kalyon completed a 1,300-metre HDD crossing beneath the Borcea branch of the Danube, also using 40-inch diameter pipe. The Black Sea Shore – Podișor Pipeline has a total length of approximately 308 km, comprising 48-inch and 40-inch diameter sections, and is listed as a European Union Project of Common Interest (PCI). The project plays a key role in strengthening regional gas transmission capacity and European energy security.



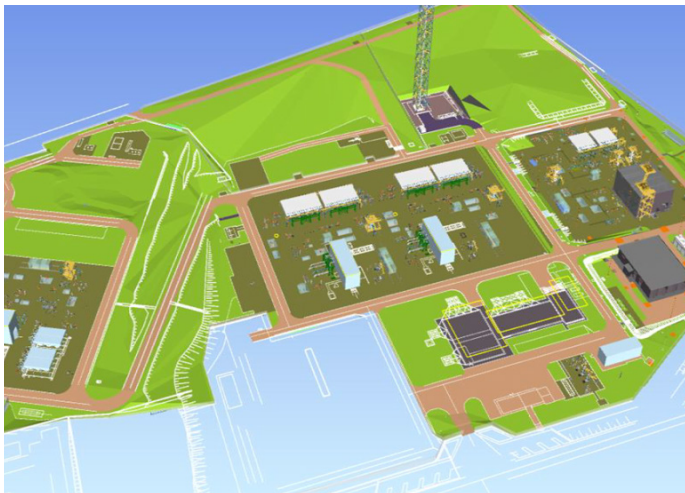
M. Al-Barghash celebrates 50 years in the industry

As M. Al-Barghash marks its 50th year of operations, the company celebrates five decades of excellence in the oil, gas, water, and energy infrastructure sector. This milestone year is made even more special by the recent awarding of key infrastructure projects, including the SPPC Sales Gas Delivery System for Hajar QIPP (Qurayyah Independent Power Plant) and the Qurayyah CC Expansion, as well as the PP-12 Expansion Fuel Gas Pipeline for the Durma Expansion Power Plant in Saudi Arabia. These projects involve the construction of dedicated gas pipelines and delivery systems to supply natural gas to the Hajar QIPP and the Qurayyah Combined-Cycle Power Plant expansion, as well as the expanded PP-12 Durma Power Plant, ensuring reliable fuel for electricity generation. These awards reflect M. Al-Barghash’s commitment to quality, safety, and technical expertise, as well as its key role in supporting critical energy developments.

MAX STREICHER S.p.A. awarded major contract for storage plant in Italy



MAX STREICHER S.p.A. has secured a major contract from Stogit for the enhancement of the Fiume Treste Gas Storage Plant in Chieti. The contract covers two parallel initiatives: the installation of a new ELCO EC5 electrocompressor unit and a



comprehensive safety upgrading programme for the existing compression facilities. The ELCO EC5 project introduces a new 13 MW, two-stage electric-driven compressor designed to optimise gas injection into the storage clusters while eliminating atmospheric emissions. The unit will support the plant's three existing turbo compressors and will be capable of handling H₂NG blends with hydrogen content up to 10%. The scope includes significant civil works - such as construction of the ELCO substation building, HVAC facilities, and foundations for gas air coolers - along with mechanical activities like piping reconstruction, installation of filtration systems, and support for precommissioning and startup. Electrical and instrumentation works will cover installation, calibration, and integration of field equipment. In parallel, the Safety Upgrading programme will modernise units TC1, TC3, and TC4 through complete replacement of machine and fuel gas piping, valves, and instrumentation, as well as civil modifications and removal of obsolete interstage filters. The decommissioned TC2 unit will be fully dismantled, with the area repurposed for new piping and fire-detection systems. The overall project is planned over a 70-month execution period starting February 2026.

Murphy Energy secures five-year gas distribution design & build framework with Cadent Gas



Murphy Energy announced that it has secured a five-year Gas Distribution Design & Build Framework for the Eastern and North London network area and regional allocation with Cadent, the UK's largest gas distribution network. Cadent manages over 80,000 miles of pipeline, delivering gas to 11 million customers nationwide. As a long-standing delivery partner, Murphy will continue to support their capital delivery portfolio and third-party interventions across the Eastern and North London networks, serving over 6.3 million homes and businesses. Together with Cadent's Capital Delivery team, Murphy will be responsible for delivering world-class, safety-critical network interventions, diversions, modifications, and upgrades, working in an integrated and collaborative way to ensure reliability and resilience for customers.

From innovation to reliability: Noksel España's sustainable quality path



Noksel España, a leading steel pipe manufacturer with an annual capacity of 150,000 tons and two high efficiency production lines, continues to strengthen its commitment to innovation, quality, and international standards. Strategically located near a major European port, the company recently launched a significant investment programme to upgrade its Non Destructive Testing (NDT) and quality control infrastructure. The programme incorporates a new Offline Ultrasonic Testing (UT) station, a new X ray inspection station, and a new Hydrostatic Test (HT) station, all designed for pipes over 18 metres. These upgrades aim to balance inspection capacity across both production lines while creating strong contingency systems that enhance production capability, operational flexibility, business continuity, and risk mitigation. The new UT station includes ten advanced probes that improve the detection of laminations and longitudinal and transverse weld seams. The additional X ray station doubles radiographic capacity, improves image quality, and removes previous bottlenecks. The upgraded HT station enables pressure testing aligned with API 5L requirements, reinforcing overall quality assurance. Together, these improvements

expand NDT capacity, increase operational efficiency, and strengthen Noksel España's position in the European and international steel pipe market, supporting hydrogen and gas pipeline projects with a focus on sustainability.



Building a safer pipeline future: PipeSak® welcomes new team member

At PipeSak®, the focus is on supporting the teams in the field and the projects that keep pipelines running safely and efficiently. As its clients' needs in pipeline construction evolve, the

company continues to grow its team, ensuring the right guidance and solutions are always available for its clients. PipeSak® recently welcomed Jay Simpson as the company's newest Inside Sales Representative. Jay brings several years of experience in both inside and outside sales and will be focused on supporting customers with practical, effective solutions for their pipeline projects. Jay's focus on long-term solutions and his commitment to strong customer relationships make him an asset to pairing the company's customers with the best pipeline protection solutions. Outside of work, Jay enjoys spending time with his wife and two young children and sneaking in a round of golf when possible! His commitment to people, combined with his professional experience, aligns closely with PipeSak®'s culture of supporting customers through every stage of a project to build safer pipelines. His addition reinforces PipeSak®'s ongoing commitment to being its clients go-to team with skilled, customer-focused professionals who can provide guidance and support where it matters most. Clients can connect with Jay Simpson and follow PipeSak on LinkedIn.

Qapqa welding technology enables productivity records in Saudi Arabia

December was a productive period at the Master Gas System 3 pipeline project in Saudi Arabia, supported by Qapqa PWT Auto XCS automatic welding systems. On 20 December, Qapqa's welding team at AlBawani Pipeline completed 35 welds on a 56-inch pipeline with a wall thickness of 17.70 mm in just 10 hours using 4 welding stations. All 35 welded joints passed Automatic Ultrasonic Testing (AUT) with zero repairs. On 23 December, Qapqa's client L&T set a new record on a different section of the Master Gas System 3, completing 71 welds in a day shift on a 56-inch pipeline with wall thicknesses of 14.27 mm and 17.70 mm using six welding stations. All 71 welded joints passed AUT with zero repairs. Why is this important? Large diameter,



heavy-wall gas pipelines require consistent weld quality in line with strict quality standards. Completing 35 and 71 welds per day proves how welding automation from Qapqa delivers higher productivity with consistent quality, even in demanding conditions. These achievements show how Qapqa's automatic welding technology enables faster project execution and sets new benchmarks for productivity in high-specification pipeline construction.

SACDE awarded major energy infrastructure projects in Argentina



Towards the end of 2025, SACDE strengthened its participation in the development of Argentina's energy infrastructure with the award of two large-scale projects related to oil storage and gas transportation. One of these is the Gas Transportation System Expansion Works of the Perito Moreno Gas Pipeline for Transportadora de Gas del Sur S.A. The project includes the addition of three new compressor stations and upgrades on four existing compression stations, increasing transportation capacity up to 14 MMm³/d (0.49 BCF/d) and reaching a maximum operational capacity of 40 MMm³/d (1.41 BCF/d). Additionally, SACDE will execute the Punta Colorada Onshore Terminal – Vaca Muerta Oil Sur for VMOS S.A. The project involves the electromechanical assembly of an oil terminal

located in Punta Colorada, Río Negro, with the objective of enabling crude oil exports through the Atlantic Ocean. As part of the VMOS system development, the scope includes the installation of equipment, systems and facilities required for terminal operations. These projects reinforce SACDE's leadership in large-scale EPC project execution in Argentina.

TAG strengthens Brazil's gas infrastructure with three strategic pipeline projects



In recent years, TAG – operator of Brazil's largest natural gas transportation network, spanning more than 4,500 km and crossing nearly 200 municipalities in ten states – has strengthened the country's gas transportation system with the completion and commissioning of three major pipeline projects. The GASFOR II pipeline, completed in 2024 and authorized to operate in 2025, spans approximately 84 km outside the densely populated area of Fortaleza, in Ceará State. The new route replaces the former GASFOR I segment, increasing system flexibility and local safety. The project generated more than 650 jobs across six municipalities, with a maximum transport capacity of 1.5 million m³/day. The TECAB Interconnection Pipeline, operational since January 2025, links NTS's gas transportation network, via the GASDUC III pipeline, to TAG's GASCAV pipeline in Cabiúnas, Rio de Janeiro State. The interconnection enhances operational efficiency and supports direct gas transfer between Brazil's major regions, fostering market integration and competitiveness. The Sergipe Terminal Connection Pipeline, a 25 km bidirectional link commissioned in October 2024, improves supply security for major power plants and bolsters competition across the integrated national system, providing a transport capacity of 14 million m³/day.

Techint E&C to build key pipeline to support Vaca Muerta's growth in Argentina

Techint Engineering & Construction has been awarded the Duplicar Norte project by Oleoductos del Valle (Oldelval),



involving the construction of a 209-km pipeline in the provinces of Neuquén and Río Negro, Argentina. The project will significantly boost crude oil transportation capacity from the Vaca Muerta formation to key refining and export hubs. The scope includes a 24-inch diameter pipeline connecting the Auca Mahuida pumping station in Neuquén with the Allen station in Río Negro, where it will tie into Oldelval's main trunk line and the Vaca Muerta Oil Sur system. Duplicar Norte involves over 150 special crossings, four fixed scraper trap stations, two mobile trap stations, and 13 valve sites. Once fully operational in 2027, the pipeline will transport up to 500,000 barrels per day. At its peak, the project will employ 850 people, including 700 directly. The pipeline will be able to transport 220,000 barrels per day in its first stage, scheduled for completion by the end of 2026. Capacity will then be expanded to 300,000 barrels per day, eventually reaching 500,000 barrels per day, with final commissioning planned for the first quarter of 2027. The project is positioned as a forward-looking solution to prevent bottlenecks in the transportation of the client's production from Vaca Muerta.

Tesmec's involvement in the Master Gas Phase III project in Saudi Arabia reaches a new milestone

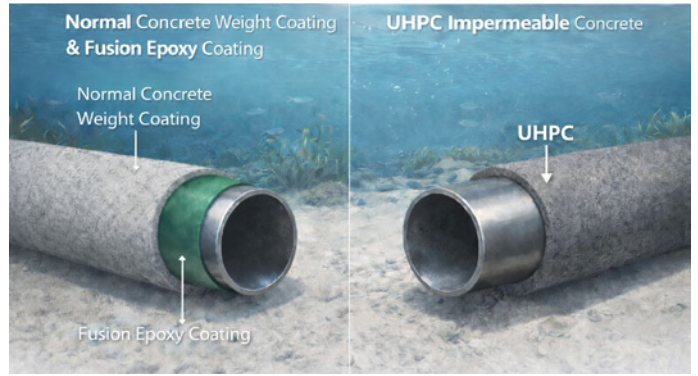
Following the deployment of the first 1875 EVO trencher, along with the smaller 1475 EVO and 1150 EVO models, another 1875 EVO will soon join the project to excavate an additional section of the pipeline route. The 1875 EVO is the most powerful trencher in the Tesmec range and the only machine on the market capable of cutting 2.15-m-wide trenches for 56" pipelines. In this project, the machines ensure the above trenching dimensions for laying 56"-diameter pipelines (mainline) and smaller-diameter lines (clusters). Tesmec Saudi Arabia's service team provides continuous operational and maintenance support, ensuring maximum performance, reliability, and uptime across highly variable and challenging geological conditions, including limestone, siltstone, granite, and basalt. As part of Tesmec's



commitment to delivering fully integrated solutions, two trenchers deployed on the project have been supplied with Vulcano Smart padding machines. Fully integrated with Tesmec technology, the Vulcano Smart enables efficient on-site production of bedding and padding material, optimising productivity, and overall project cost-efficiency. The fine material produced by the trenchers significantly enhances padding performance, increasing productivity while reducing both OPEX and CAPEX associated with padding equipment.

Texas A&M University's R&D proposal - Impermeable ultra high-performance concrete coatings for submerged pipelines

Natural gas pipelines installed in submerged environments currently rely on a layered protection system, consisting of anti-corrosion coatings, cathodic protection (CP), and external concrete weight coatings (CWCs). While CWCs provide ballast and impact resistance, they are porous and can influence CP effectiveness if the underlying fusion epoxy coating disbands, leading to pathways for potential corrosion and complicating inspection and repair. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's (TAMU-CC) Advanced Materials for Sustainable Infrastructure Lab (AMSI) is developing a new class of heavyweight ultra-high-performance concrete (UHPC) based weight coating that retains the ballast function of conventional CWCs while offering superior durability, improved crack control, and substantially reduced



lifecycle corrosion risk, and eliminates the need for the anti-corrosion epoxy layer and the complexity of its application. UHPC is expected to carry a modestly higher unit cost than normal concrete, which should be more than offset by eliminating the epoxy application. The project is expected to take 12 to 18 months. AMSI is looking for funding for this project from the pipeline construction industry. Contact Thomas Kalb, Director of the Coastal Bend Midstream Program at TAMU-CC, at thomas.kalb@tamucc.edu to discuss this R&D opportunity.

Valvitalia signs MoU to form JV with Saudi FAL Co. Ltd



Valvitalia Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a joint venture with Saudi FAL Co. Ltd, one of Saudi Arabia's leading energy operators. The move represents a strategic step in the consolidation of the Group in the energy and infrastructure market of Saudi Arabia. The agreement, signed in the Saudi capital Riyadh by Luca Ruggeri, Valvitalia's Chief Commercial Officer, and Saud Al-Shammari, Saudi FAL's General Manager, in the presence of Damiano Cotula, General Manager of Valvitalia's 3F Division, provides for the creation of a Saudi company 55% owned by Valvitalia and 45% by Saudi FAL. The joint venture will develop production activities and offer after-sales services for engineered flow control solutions, fittings and integrated systems for the energy and infrastructure sectors,

in line with Saudi Arabia's industrialisation and local content programmes. It will combine Valvitalia Group's technological and engineering expertise with Saudi FAL's manufacturing capabilities and deep-rooted industrial presence. Saudi FAL is part of the FAL Holding group, led by the Al-Athel family, which operates in finance, medicine, agriculture, real estate, and industry. With plants in Jubail and Yanbu, it manufactures and assembles automation and control systems for the region's key industrial sectors, combining local production with international standards and technical support.

Winn & Coales' Protal™ Liquid Epoxy Coatings celebrate 40th anniversary

Winn & Coales International Ltd [WCI] proudly commemorates the 40th anniversary of its Protal™ range of liquid epoxy coatings in 2026. The trusted solution for pipeline protection, Protal's 100% solids epoxies are suitable for an array of above- and below-ground corrosion prevention applications. At the time of the product line's acquisition in 1986, Protal was a well-established range of liquid coatings that was obtained to further strengthen WCI's portfolio of corrosion-resistant tape systems. In line with the company's mission of continuous improvement and innovation, WCI's North American subsidiary responded to market demand in the 1990s with the development of Protal 7200™—an advanced two-part liquid epoxy coating



designed to complement factory-applied FBE coatings. Later, Protal 7300™ was reformulated to comply with EU and UK REACH regulations and is approved for use in the National Grid Coatings Register in multiple product groups. WCI Group Chair, Chris Winn, said, "As we commemorate forty years of Protal™, we celebrate a journey defined by innovation and resilience. This milestone underscores our unwavering commitment to advancing corrosion prevention technologies and providing solutions bearing a name that our customers know and trust. Our continued investment in research and development ensures we can respond to consumer demand, manufacturing sustainable solutions for an evolving commercial landscape."



News from the Membership Committee

Marcin Przywara, Committee Chair

"At the last Board meeting in Doha, we developed and presented the Membership Committee's action plan for the 2025-2026 term. By decision of the Board, the name of the committee has been changed from 'Membership and Communication Committee' to 'Membership Committee.'

"Our goal is to expand our membership to include new entities from underrepresented regions, mainly from Africa, and the East and Far East region. For this purpose, a special group responsible for these areas has been established as part of the committee. Communication with potential new members will be handled with the support of the directors, through IPLOCA's HQ.

"The Association has also created a dedicated contact list,

which includes all members since its founding, as well as entities with which membership discussions are ongoing. This list helps improve communication both with members and within the Board.

"It is also crucial to attract innovative, young companies with distinctive technology, referred to as 'Startup Members.' Special admission criteria have been introduced for such entities, making it easier for them to become members and fully benefit from IPLOCA membership.

"We also plan to be present at trade shows and promote IPLOCA with the support of our members hosting stands at these events. One of the ideas is to place information about IPLOCA at our members' stands during various trade shows in our industry. We plan to develop a short information brochure, which we intend to distribute at these stands in cooperation with IPLOCA companies. We kindly ask all our members to support the committee's work by sending the IPLOCA Secretariat information about companies in their supply chain that are interested in joining the Association."



Athens 2026: Where History Meets Innovation

IPLOCA's 58th Annual Convention

We are delighted to invite you to Athens, Greece, for IPLOCA's 58th Annual Convention at the Athenaeum InterContinental from 28 September to 2 October 2026. Greece's strategic location at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa makes Athens an ideal setting for our international gathering.

A Week of Culture and Business

Our convention offers a balanced programme: three days exploring Greece's remarkable heritage, followed by two days of focused industry discussions and networking.

Explore Greece's Treasures (28-30 September)

Immerse yourself in the cultural marvels of Ancient Greece, while walking the streets of Athens, the cradle of democracy and Western philosophy. Stand at the Acropolis, one of the world's most recognisable monuments, and explore the nearby Acropolis Museum, where ancient sculptures and artifacts tell stories of Classical Greece. The National Archaeological Museum houses an extraordinary collection tracing Greek history from prehistory to late antiquity. Step into the Ancient Agora, where Athenians once gathered for commerce and conversation, then stroll through Plaka's



narrow streets lined with traditional shops and restaurants. Beyond the city, you can visit Ancient Corinth, an important archaeological site that reveals life in Ancient Greece, and view the impressive Corinth Canal, a remarkable engineering achievement of the 19th century that cuts through the narrow isthmus connecting mainland Greece to the Peloponnese. Take a relaxing cruise to Aegina Island and enjoy the stunning coastal scenery. For a taste of authentic Greek culture, join our cooking classes and wine tasting tours that showcase local traditions and flavours.

Business Programme (1-2 October)

Our business days bring together industry leaders to discuss the future of our sector. The Open General Meetings will address essential topics including innovation, energy transition, global trends, sustainable energy infrastructure, industry leadership, and digital transformation. The detailed programme will be announced closer to the convention date. Friday morning's programme will include the Annual General Meeting.

Don't Miss the Elections

Regular and Associate Members will vote to elect their representatives to serve on the 2026-2027 Board of Directors, if there is a vacancy, and to confirm any incumbent Directors entering their second year of office.

Connect with Industry Colleagues

Thursday's Business-to-Business (B2B) Meetings offer quick and effective networking through 10-minute sessions with host companies. Up to 10 companies can serve as hosts, while other members join the sessions of their choice.

Members who wish to host B2B meetings will be invited to indicate their interest when registering online for the convention. These meetings are particularly valuable for newcomers to IPLOCA conventions—we encourage all first-time attendees to participate.



Investing in the Next Generation

By registering for cultural tours, you help support the IPLOCA Scholarship Fund. This fund provides financial support for the education of children and grandchildren of employees of IPLOCA member companies, preparing them for successful careers.

Become a Sponsor

Sponsorship packages at Platinum, Gold, and Silver levels give your company visibility throughout the convention—in our newsletter, mobile app, website, and at the event itself. For more information, contact Isabelle Bourzeix at isabelle.bourzeix@iploca.com.

We look forward to seeing you in September 2026.

Mark your calendar!

Online registration will open on **12 May 2026** at: www.iploca.com. Early booking is recommended, as some tours have limited capacity





2026 IPLOCA Awards to be presented in Athens, Greece

Nominations are open for the 2026 IPLOCA Awards! This is your chance to shine a light on your company's best projects, initiatives, and innovative solutions that will help move the sector forward.

What are the benefits of nominating?

Selected member companies are recognised as leaders in the pipeline industry for their excellence in health and

safety, corporate social responsibility, quality, innovation, environmental stewardship, and project execution. The awards provide the best platform for companies to present their recent breakthroughs to the global pipeline community. Prizes will be presented at the Open General Meeting during the Annual Convention in Athens in September.

This year, for the first time, we are accepting nominations in all six categories. Please note that all entries must be focused on the pipeline industry and related work, and must comply with the guidelines, including submission in the appropriate format. Deadlines for submissions are approaching in March and April.



2026 IPLOCA Health & Safety Award
sponsored by Open Grid Europe
Deadline: **20 March 2026**

The Health and Safety Award is presented in recognition of members' initiatives aimed at improving health and safety in 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

- Waste management and reduction
- Spill response preparedness
- Water usage and preservation
- Soil and ground restoration
- Archaeology
- Flora and fauna



2026 IPLOCA Corporate Social Responsibility Award
sponsored by TotalEnergies
Deadline: **3 April 2026**

The Corporate Social Responsibility Award is in recognition of members' initiatives aimed at improving the living conditions of the people impacted by the pipeline industry such as:



2026 IPLOCA Environmental Award
sponsored by Shell
Deadline: **27 March 2026**

The Award is in recognition of members' initiatives aimed at reducing the impact of pipeline construction on the environment such as:

- Reduction of greenhouse gases
- Impact assessment and public consultation

- 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 that delivers a significant impact with small investment
- A long term project, intended to be continuously

supported by the company or another company, once the pipeline activity is complete



2026 IPLOCA Quality Award

sponsored by SOCAR

Deadline: 10 April 2026

The Quality Award recognises exemplary achievements in improving the quality of design, materials, and execution in the pipeline industry and related work such as:

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

contributions to innovation in the engineering, provision of equipment, and construction of pipelines through:

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



2026 IPLOCA Excellence in Project Execution Award

sponsored by IPLOCA

Deadline: 24 April 2026

The Award recognises outstanding project execution in onshore and offshore pipeline construction through:

- A technological or engineering breakthrough
- A remote and logistically difficult endeavour
- An environmental and social challenge
- Other relevant extreme difficulties



2026 IPLOCA New Technologies Award

sponsored by BP

Deadline: 17 April 2026

The New Technologies Award recognises significant

For more information, including guidelines and entry forms, please visit www.iploca.com/awards.

Health, Safety, the Environment & CSR

Action Required: 2025 HSE Statistics for All Regular Members



Why does IPLOCA collect its members' HSE statistics?

Driven by the belief that all accidents and incidents are preventable, IPLOCA collects Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) statistics from its Regular Members each year to strengthen the industry's HSE culture. The collected data allows us to generate aggregate statistics, measure HSE performance, analyse results, and identify the main causes of

recurrent issues across the industry. Statistics for the sector are shared with our members in the IPLOCA HSE Statistics Report, released every August, and key lessons learned are exchanged.

We are committed to promoting the highest standards of health and safety across the international pipeline and energy industry to protect people and the planet. To support this effort, we asked our Regular Members to submit their statistics by **1 March 2026**.

We thank all members who sent us their data. The online form, along with submission guidelines, is available at: www.iploca.com/news-media/hse-statistics. Returns should cover onshore pipeline construction sites, offshore operations, and all infrastructure-related projects.

All submissions are handled confidentially and shared only with the HSE & CSR Committee and the IPLOCA Secretariat for the purpose of producing the annual statistics report.

To be eligible to attend the 2026 Annual Convention in Athens, Regular Members must have submitted their 2025 HSE statistics and paid their 2026 membership fees.



News from the HSE & CSR Committee

Giovanni Muriana, Committee Chair

Strengthening our commitment to HSE Excellence in 2026

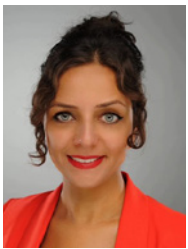
“On 28 January, the HSE & CSR Committee held its first meeting of the year, setting the direction for 2026 and defining key objectives to strengthen our collective commitment to health, safety, the environment, and social responsibility. Reflecting on the achievements and challenges of 2025, the committee identified three priority areas that will guide our actions throughout the year.

“A central focus is the timely collection of HSE statistics. All Regular Members have been asked to submit their data by 1 March. Accurate and early reporting is essential to assess performance, identify trends, and understand the

root causes of recurring issues. These insights will enable the committee to recommend targeted actions aimed at improving safety outcomes and preventing incidents across the industry.

“Another priority is revitalising the HSE Shared Experiences platform. Despite its potential, the tool remains underused. The committee encourages all members to contribute best practices, lessons learned, and relevant communications. Strengthening this knowledge sharing culture will support safer operations, enhance environmental stewardship, and promote social welfare initiatives.

“Finally, the committee aims to boost member engagement, inviting fresh ideas and active participation to make IPLOCA’s initiatives more dynamic and impactful. Our industry advances when every member contributes. Safety improves when knowledge is shared. Progress happens when we act together.”



News from the Innovation Committee

Somaieh Salehpour, Committee Chair

“As we move into a new year, the IPLOCA Innovation Committee is looking ahead with renewed energy

and a strong pipeline of initiatives. A key highlight on the horizon is our next Novel Construction Initiative event, taking place in Mallorca, Spain, on 15-16 April 2026. We are looking forward to gathering once again with

members, industry experts, and technology providers to exchange ideas, share practical experiences, and showcase innovative solutions shaping the future of pipeline construction.

“We warmly invite IPLOCA members to participate with presentations, contribute case studies, and use this opportunity to connect with peers across the value chain. Active engagement from our community is what makes these events impactful. We look forward to an exciting year ahead and to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.”



Innovation

The Novel Construction Session heads to Mallorca, Spain

Join the global midstream innovation community for two dynamic days of knowledge-sharing, networking and learning about innovative solutions in beautiful Mallorca on 15-16 April 2026.

More information, including the registration form is [available here](#).



News from the Energy Transition Committee

Alejandro Maluf, Committee Chair

We are delighted to announce that Alejandro Maluf, President of Techint E&C for Mexico and North America,

has been appointed as the new Chair of the Energy Transition Committee.

His leadership and broad industry perspective will strengthen the committee’s mission to provide IPLOCA members with clear insights into the fast evolving energy transition landscape. The Chair presented the committee’s renewed structure and ongoing activities.

“In recent months, the committee has advanced its Operating Group Roadmap, establishing regional subgroups and consolidating workstreams covering carbon capture, low carbon hydrogen, e-fuels, renewable fuels, and other emerging technologies. Each subgroup will monitor news,

market trends, and technology developments, producing regular summaries and contributing to a shared knowledge base for the pipeline and energy infrastructure community,” said Alejandro Maluf.

“Looking ahead, the committee will focus on fostering collaboration between members, drawing attention to key innovations, and supporting IPLOCA’s broader mission through targeted communication, stakeholder engagement, and highlighting topics of common interest.

“We thank all participating members for their continued involvement and invite the community to stay engaged as we enter this new phase of activity,” he said.

Don’t miss the Energy Transition Group’s first report, developed under the leadership of the new Committee Chair, on this page. The article, drawing on European developments, highlights why corridor-level planning is becoming a critical enabler of the energy transition in Latin America.

Energy Transition

Dual-use Energy Corridors: A New Planning Paradigm for Latin America

Luis A. de Benito, CEO – LDB Pipelines, LatAm Subgroup Contributor - IPLOCA Energy Transition Committee



Abstract

The convergence of hydrogen, CO₂, renewable energy systems and port-based industrial hubs is creating a new planning challenge: the need for integrated, multi-vector energy corridors. This paper argues that so-called “dual-use energy corridors” do not represent a new technological

concept, but an evolution of proven pipeline corridor planning logic applied to new energy vectors. Drawing on European developments, early structural signals in Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay, and a historical precedent from Venezuela, the article highlights why corridor-level planning is becoming a critical enabler of the energy transition in Latin America. It also outlines how IPLOCA members can contribute constructability, life-cycle cost and system-integration expertise at early stages of energy transition planning.

Introduction: from single-vector infrastructure to corridor thinking

Energy transition infrastructure is becoming inherently multi-vector. Hydrogen networks, CO₂ transport systems, port-based hubs, renewable generation clusters and electricity transmission lines are no longer developing in isolation. Instead, they are converging in the same constrained geographies: industrial clusters, coastal interfaces, and limited right-of-way (ROW) corridors.

This structural convergence is giving rise to a new planning logic: “dual-use energy corridors.” The concept does not imply a single pipeline transporting multiple fluids. Rather, it refers to coordinated corridor planning where multiple energy vectors are anticipated early to avoid future conflicts, duplicated permitting, stranded assets and sub-optimal layouts. For the

pipeline industry, this marks a fundamental shift from isolated projects to a system-level spatial framework.

Why the concept is emerging now

Europe provides a clear reference case. Hydrogen backbone initiatives and CCS hub developments are advancing in parallel, relying on a limited number of strategic corridors and landfalls. Early corridor definition becomes a system-level decision rather than a project-level detail. If corridors are planned without multi-vector foresight, later integration becomes slower, costlier and often infeasible. Hence, to the author's opinion, it is the correct moment in Latin and South America to explore this option and to consider it for future developments.

What "dual-use corridors" mean in pipeline execution terms

For pipeline contractors and IPLOCA members, the corridor concept translates into execution realities:

- ROW scarcity and interface management
- Landfall constraints
- Staged development
- Future-proofing

The corridor becomes an active design variable affecting constructability, cost, schedule and safety.

Latin America: early signals across three key countries

Latin America does not yet show explicit dual-corridor projects, but early structural signals are emerging in Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay.

Brazil: CCS-driven corridors and industrial-scale energy integration

Brazil combines large CO₂ point sources, offshore storage potential and a state-owned energy anchor. Petrobras' Strategic Plan 2024–2028+ positions CCS as a core investment area. This defines future CO₂ collection networks converging with hydrogen ambitions around ports and industrial zones. Hubs foreseen are of large magnitude. So will be the possible shared corridors which will definitely generate interest among pipelines related companies.

Chile: port-centred hydrogen and e-fuels corridors

Chile's hydrogen strategy frames hydrogen as an export vector centred on ports. Renewable clusters, derivative plants and export terminals converge into narrow coastal interfaces. This creates corridor-level challenges in ROW, landfalls and permitting. Still, the long-term low carbon fuels roadmap defined by this country, along with the continuous increase in renewables and energy storage installed capacity, gives clarity and certainty about possible shared corridors.

Argentina: an integrated gas–renewables–hydrogen–CO₂ system in formation

Argentina combines gas reserves, renewable growth and emerging PtX initiatives. Its hydrogen strategy links gas, renewables and CCUS. Short industrial hydrogen pipelines and CO₂ collection networks are more realistic than national backbones before 2030.

Uruguay: corridor definition through integrated logistics planning

Uruguay shows early corridor logic driven by integrated logistics planning rather than large anchor projects. National hydrogen studies define preliminary pipeline corridors linking production hubs, CO₂ sources and ports. Although still conceptual, these corridors anticipate shared rightofway management and multivector interaction at an early planning stage.

Engineering memory: the missing link in today's energy transition

Much of today's discourse assumes a new planning paradigm must be invented. In reality, the industry has already solved many of these challenges. A striking precedent can be observed in the industrial corridor of Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela (Figure 1). As early as the 1990s and 2000s, ten to twelve parallel trunk pipelines shared a single right-of-way, largely installed above ground on concrete sleepers.

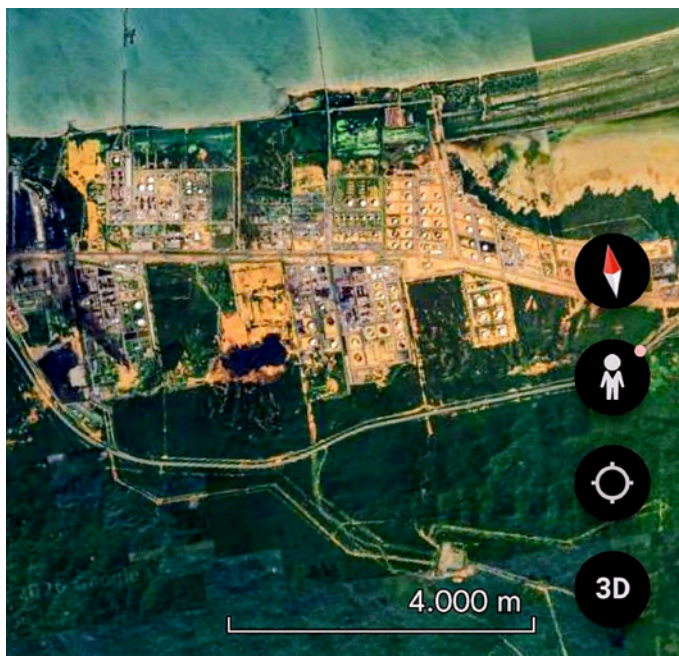


Figure 1: Puerto La Cruz Industrial Energy Corridor (Venezuela)

This configuration emerged from practical constraints: ROW scarcity, fast-track constructability, visual inspection, security access and life-cycle cost optimisation. This demonstrates that corridor sharing and above-ground solutions are proven strategies adaptable to hydrogen and CO₂ transport

systems. The transition toward dual-use corridors is not a technological leap but a logical evolution of established pipeline planning practice.

Why this is the right moment for Latin America

Major energy corridors are still open, traces are not frozen, and projects remain conceptual. This creates a unique opportunity to embed corridor-level planning logic early.

What IPLOCA members can contribute

The corridor challenge is a constructability and execution issue. IPLOCA members can contribute insights on corridor saturation, staging, landfall constraints, safety and scalability.

Conclusion

Dual-use energy corridors are becoming a practical necessity. Europe offers a reference framework, and Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay show early structural signals. For the pipeline industry, this evolution does not imply reinventing infrastructure, but rather applying established corridor planning logic to new molecules and energy vectors. In this context, the strategic asset is not the individual pipeline, but the right-of-way corridor itself. Early corridor protection and coordinated planning can prevent future

conflicts between hydrogen, CO₂ and power infrastructure, while preserving flexibility for staged development. In this setting, IPLOCA members are uniquely positioned to inject constructability, safety and lifecycle cost considerations into early energy transition planning processes.

Key Takeaways for IPLOCA Members

- Dual-use energy corridors represent an evolution of established multi-pipeline corridor practice, rather than a departure from traditional pipeline planning principles.
- The right-of-way corridor is a strategic asset in itself, requiring early protection and coordinated planning across multiple energy vectors.
- Corridor-level foresight can significantly reduce future constructability constraints, permitting conflicts and life-cycle costs associated with hydrogen, CO₂ and power infrastructure.
- Staged development and modular, above-ground solutions deserve renewed attention as practical responses to corridor saturation and execution risk.
- IPLOCA members are uniquely positioned to contribute constructability, safety and execution experience to early-stage energy transition planning, well before project layouts are frozen.



News from the Scholarship Programme

Saji Khoury, Scholarship Project Lead, IPLOCA President

“The Committee sincerely apologizes for the delay in opening the application

submissions. We took a little longer than expected to explore and implement AI-supported tools that help us make the grading process more transparent, consistent, and fair for everyone. As in previous years, a total of 12 scholarships will be awarded: one per region (across eight regions), one for Associate Members, and three for the top overall scorers.”

Apply Now! 2026 IPLOCA Scholarships

Don't miss out — apply by 15 April 2026! If you would like to be considered for a scholarship for the 2026–2027 academic year, you must complete your application no later than 15 April 2026.

The IPLOCA Scholarship Programme supports the next generation of professionals as they pursue their educational goals. A limited number of scholarships are available exclusively to children and grandchildren of employees of IPLOCA Regular and Associate Members. [More information is available here.](#)





News from the NextGen Network

Saji Khoury, NextGen Network Committee Chair, IPLOCA President

“We’re excited to announce that we will be hosting a NextGen-only day alongside the Novel Construction Spring Session in Mallorca on 14 April. The first half of the day will be dedicated to NextGen member presentations, giving everyone the opportunity to share the exciting work they’re doing in their roles and organisations. The second

half will focus on a cultural and team-building activity, designed to strengthen connections and encourage informal networking. As many NextGen members have so far only met online, this will be a great opportunity to connect in person and build stronger relationships within the group.

“Our online sessions are also going strong. Most recently, we hosted Mr. Wassim Ghadban, VP Global Innovation & Digital Engineering at Kent, who led an engaging session on ‘The Future of Work,’ a highly relevant and timely topic that sparked great discussion.”

Sister Associations

Sister Associations, the members of the World Federation of Pipe Line Industry Associations (WFPIA), meet three times a year.

Launched a decade ago, the WFPIA provides a platform for member associations to discuss common challenges, share best practices, and explore industry trends, with a special focus on health and safety, environmental protection, and the future workforce.



IPLOCA Executive Director Georges Hage attended the **Pipe Line Contractors Association’s 78th Annual Convention**, which took place from 11 to 15 February in Phoenix, Arizona, US. A meeting of the WFPIA took place at the PLCA Convention on 12 February 2026.



IPLOCA President Saji Khoury and Executive Director Georges Hage and his wife, Myrna, participated in the **Distribution Contractors Association’s 65th Annual Convention** from 23 to 27 February in Miami, US.



The **Pipeline Industries Guild’s 68th Annual Dinner** will be held on 10 March at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.



The **Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada’s 72nd Annual Convention** is scheduled to take place from 20 to 24 April in Maui, Hawaii, US.



The **Australian Pipelines and Gas Association** will hold its Annual Convention and Exhibition from 5 to 8 September in Darwin, Australia.



The **International Marine Contractors Association** organises a regular programme of meetings and events all over the world. Further details may be found on www.imca-int.com/events

Upcoming Events



11 March 2026 - Houston, US
**IPLOCA America North
Regional Meeting**



15 - 16 April 2026 - Mallorca, Spain
**Novel Construction
Spring Session**



17 June 2026 - Paris, France
**Europe Mediterranean
Regional Meeting**

Other Events

PIG – The Pipeline Industries Guild 68th Annual Dinner

10 March 2026 – London, UK
www.pipeguild.com

World Pipelines CCS Forum

18 March 2026 – London, UK
www.worldpipelines.com/ccsforum2026

6th Edition of GIC

16-18 April 2026 – Piacenza, Italy
www.gic-expo.it

PLCAC 72nd Convention

20-24 April 2026 – Maui, Hawaii, US
pipeline.ca

21st Pipeline Technology Conference (PTC)

27-30 April 2026 – Berlin, Germany
www.pipeline-conference.com

Offshore Technology Conference

4-7 May 2026 – Houston, Texas, US
2026.otcnet.org

APGA Convention and Exhibition

5-8 September 2026 – Darwin, Australia
www.apga.org.au

Gastech Exhibition & Conference

15-18 September 2026 – Bangkok, Thailand
www.gastechevent.com

Important IPLOCA Dates

Health, Safety and Environmental Statistics for 2025

1 March 2026 - Deadline for submissions
iploca.com/news-media/hse-statistics

IPLOCA Scholarship Programme Applications

15 April 2026 – Closing date for submissions
iploca.com/scholarship-programme-application

IPLOCA Awards Submissions

20 March - 24 April 2026 - Depending on the category
www.iploca.com/awards

Member News for IPLOCA June Newsletter

30 April 2026 – Deadline for submissions
newsletter@iploca.com

IPLOCA 58th Annual Convention in Athens, Greece

12 May – Registration opens
iploca.com/events/annual-convention



28 September - 2 October 2026 - Athens, Greece
IPLOCA 58th Annual Convention

IPLOCA Yearbook

2025-2026



The Yearbook is much more than a publication; it's a reflection of a shared commitment as members of the IPLOCA Association, a global community of like-minded professionals working together for the advancement of our industry.

All content from the IPLOCA Yearbook is also available online at www.iploca.com/yearbook, and additional copies can be requested at www.iploca-yearbook.com.

Calling IPLOCA Representatives to update their company information

We encourage all Key Representatives of IPLOCA member companies to take advantage of one of the features of our website, the Members Dashboard.

It allows you to edit your company profile, published on the IPLOCA website and the IPLOCA Yearbook, update your company's contact persons' information and add IPLOCA Newsletter recipients.

To do so, simply log in via the link at the top right-hand corner of our website. If you have forgotten your password or wish to create a new one, click on 'lost your password?'

Should you need any assistance please contact support@iploca.com.

IPLOCA Media Partners

As a benefit of membership, IPLOCA members have the possibility to post industry articles through any of our Media

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

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Trenchless Technology

3554 Brecksville Road
Suite 200
Richfield, OH 44286
US
T +1 330 467 7588

E info@benjaminmedia.com
trenchlesstechnology.com

Rob Krzys
President & Publisher
E robk@benjaminmedia.com

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Pipeline & Gas Journal Underground Infrastructure

8 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1440
Houston, TX 77046
US
T +1 713 529 4301

www.pgjonline.com
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John Royall
President and CEO
E john.royall@gulfenergyinfo.com

Jim Watkins
European Sales Manager
E jim.watkins@gulfenergyinfo.com

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ITALY
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Fabio Potestà
Director
E info@mediapointsrl.it

Palladian Publications

World Pipelines

15 South Street
Farnham GU9 7QU
Surrey
UK
T +44 1252 718 999

E mail@palladian-publications.com
www.palladian-publications.com
www.worldpipelines.com

Rod Hardy
Director
E rod.hardy@worldpipelines.com

Chris Lethbridge
Advertisement Manager
E chris. lethbridge@worldpipelines.com

Elizabeth Corner
Editor
E elizabeth.corner@worldpipelines.com

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