

# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual *Maine Natural Gas Conference*



## Safety

Moderator: Brian Marshall, Verrill

Panelists:

- Nathan Dore, Maine Public Utilities Commission
- Jerry Livengood, Bangor Natural Gas
- Jamie Garland, Maine Natural Gas
- Susan Faloon, Maine Emergency Management Agency

# Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Culture and the Regulatory Environment

*Drivers of Continuous Improvement*

Nathan Dore

*Gas Pipeline Safety Inspector*

*Maine Public Utilities Commission*

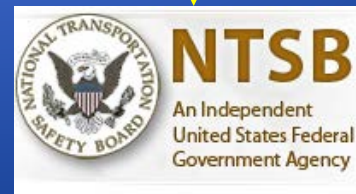
# Discussion Topics

- Pipeline Safety Enforcement – Structure and Evolution
- Ongoing Concerns
- Exceeding Minimum Standards – Regulatory and Operator Community
- Quality Management Programs and Pipeline Safety Culture
- Incident Snapshot

# Pipeline Safety Enforcement Federal – State Partnership

- State Programs obtain Certification or Agreement with US DOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
- State Programs are audited by PHMSA
  - Includes focus on NTSB Recommendations
- “*Protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of energy...*”
  - <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/about-phmsa/phmsas-mission>
- “*...Recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents.*”

-<https://www.nts.gov/about/Pages/default.aspx>



# Program Evolution Assumptions

- Natural Gas Pipeline Operating Companies must prioritize meaningful safety activities
- Enforcement Agencies must retain adequate authority to ensure compliance
- Information among industry partners and between industry and regulatory community helps identify areas of concern and promote best practices



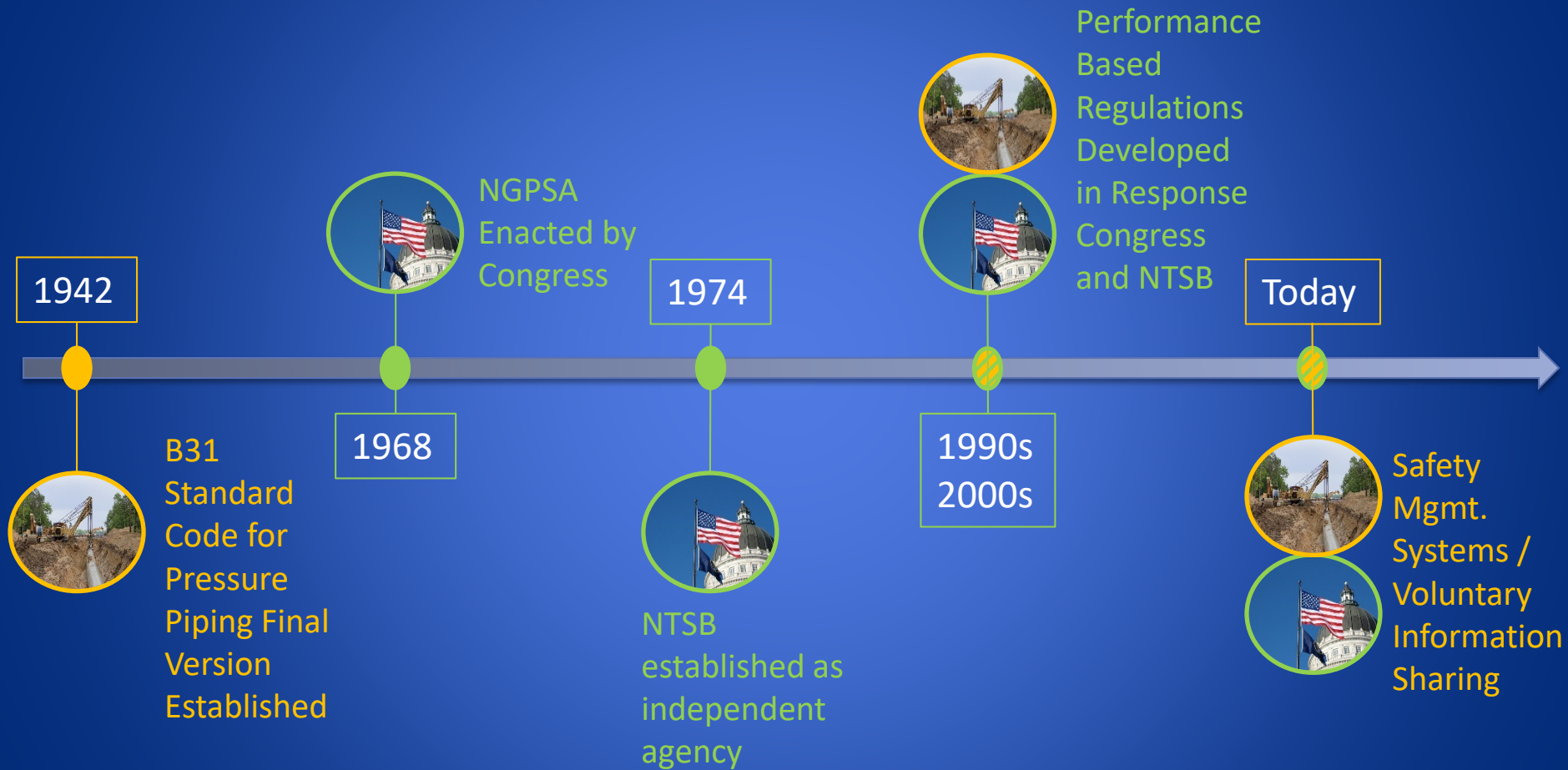


# Drivers of Safety Programs Evolution

- Major Incidents
- National Transportation Safety Board Recommendations
- Industry Initiative
- Federal, State or other Jurisdictional Enforcement Body Initiative

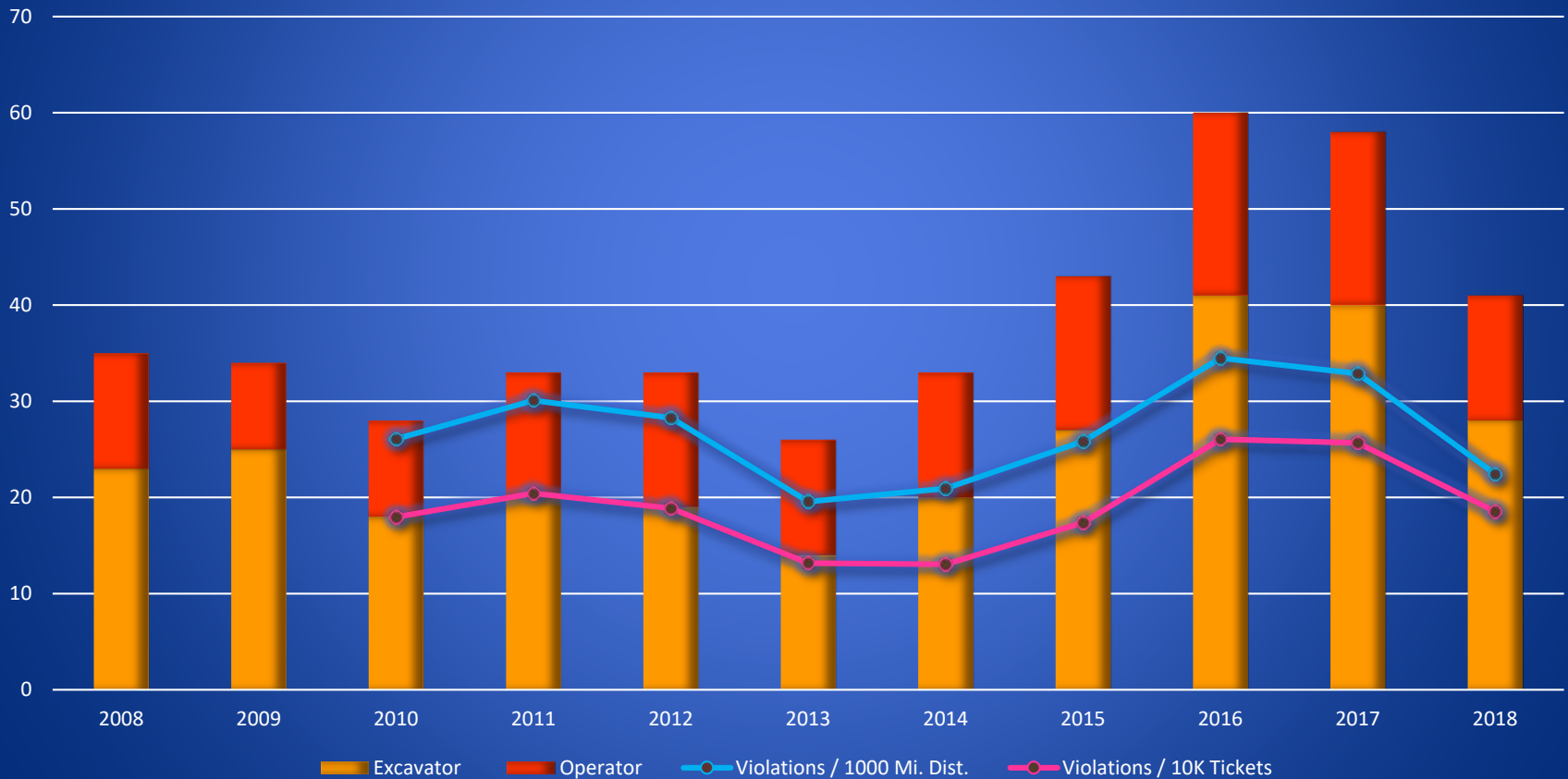


# Pipeline Safety Benchmarks



# Excavation Incidents – Maine

Chapter 895 Violations Investigated by MPUC for Gas Utilities





# Procedural Adherence

- Plastic Pipe Joining
- Knowledge of System / Adequate Risk Assessments
- Cross-Bores
- Emergency Response Preparedness



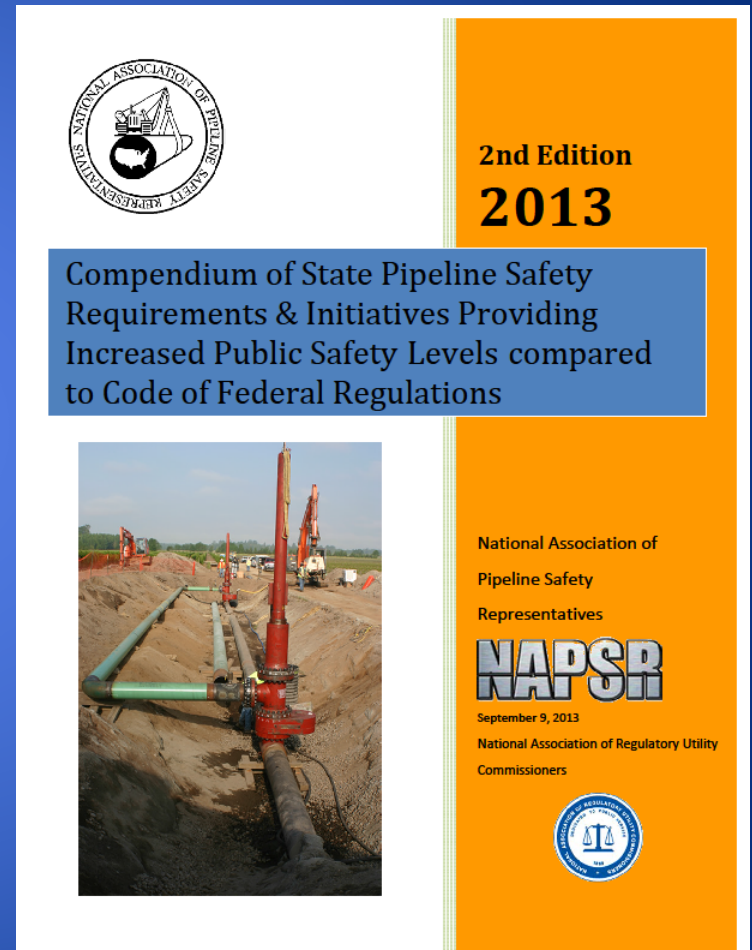
# At a Minimum

- 49 CFR Part 192: *Minimum Federal Safety Standards*
  - Additional requirements
  - Existing standard modifications
  - Adjustments to enforcement / oversight
  - Expanded timeline for results
- What Alternatives to Federal Regulatory Activities



# State Initiatives

- Over 1,300 state requirements exceed Federal Minimum Safety Standards
- Address local concerns where necessary
  - Reporting
  - Design/Installation
  - Recordkeeping
  - Direct Oversight
- Continuously Evolving



# What does “QA” mean?

“...part of Quality Management system focused on providing confidence that quality requirements will be fulfilled.” ISO 9000:2015

- Organization
- Resources
- Accountability
- Authority
- Aptitude





# Types of Programs

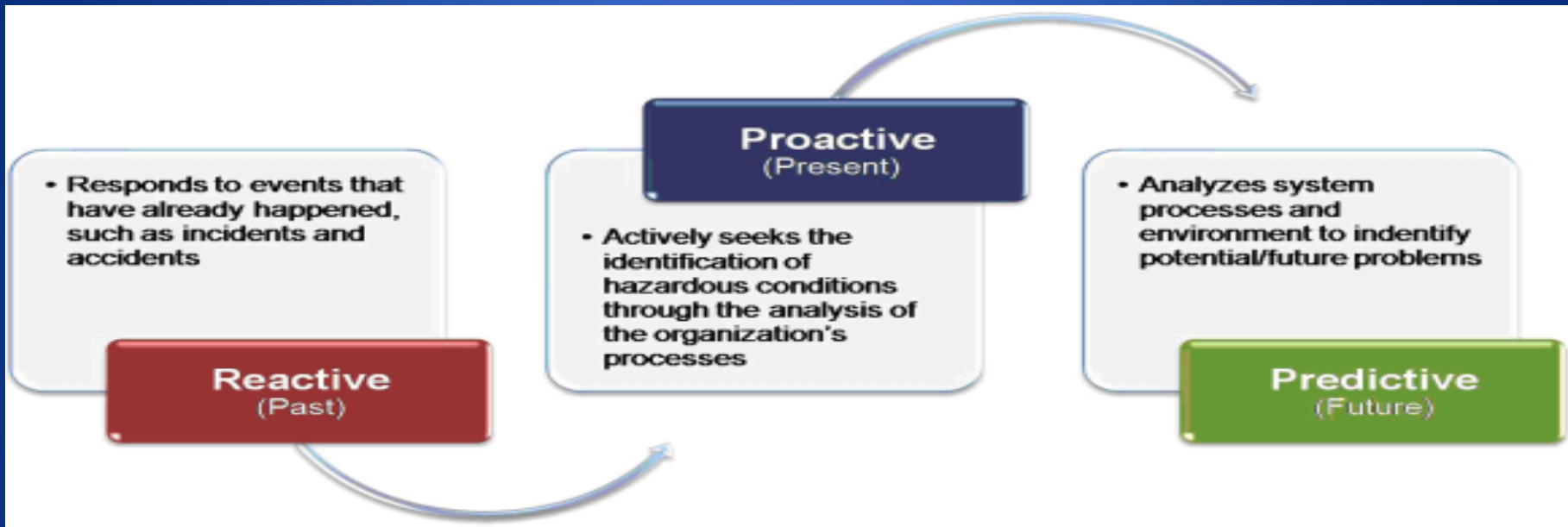
- Construction Inspection
- Records Review
- GIS Mapping / System Records Updates
- Integrity Assessments
- Procedural Review / Modification
- Onboarding / Training and Qualifications
- O&M Activities Review
- SME / Employee Participation
- Safety Management Systems

What happens with the data?





# Evolution of Safety Management



Federal Aviation Administration, "Safety Management System"

- Operator Programs
  - Organizational Sophistication
  - Leadership
  - Past experience
  - Regulatory Atmosphere
  - Resource Availability
- Regulatory Approach
  - Authority
  - Enforcement
  - Risk Analysis
  - Communication
  - Public Expectations

# Establishing Culture – Developing the Next Phase of Safety

Driven by:

- Consideration of public good
- Corporate and Regulatory values
- Industry / Brand reputation
- Regulation or voluntary initiative
- Economic incentive
- Legal liability concerns



# Establishing Culture

- Top-down approach includes:
  - Universal commitment at all levels
  - Promote sharing and engagement
  - Broadcast values consistently
  - Accountability
  - Incentivize buy-in
- Program must be:
  - Integrative
  - Accessible / Approachable at all levels
  - Useful
  - Self-Informed by Meaningful Metrics
  - Focused on achieving results



# SMS Deployment Considerations

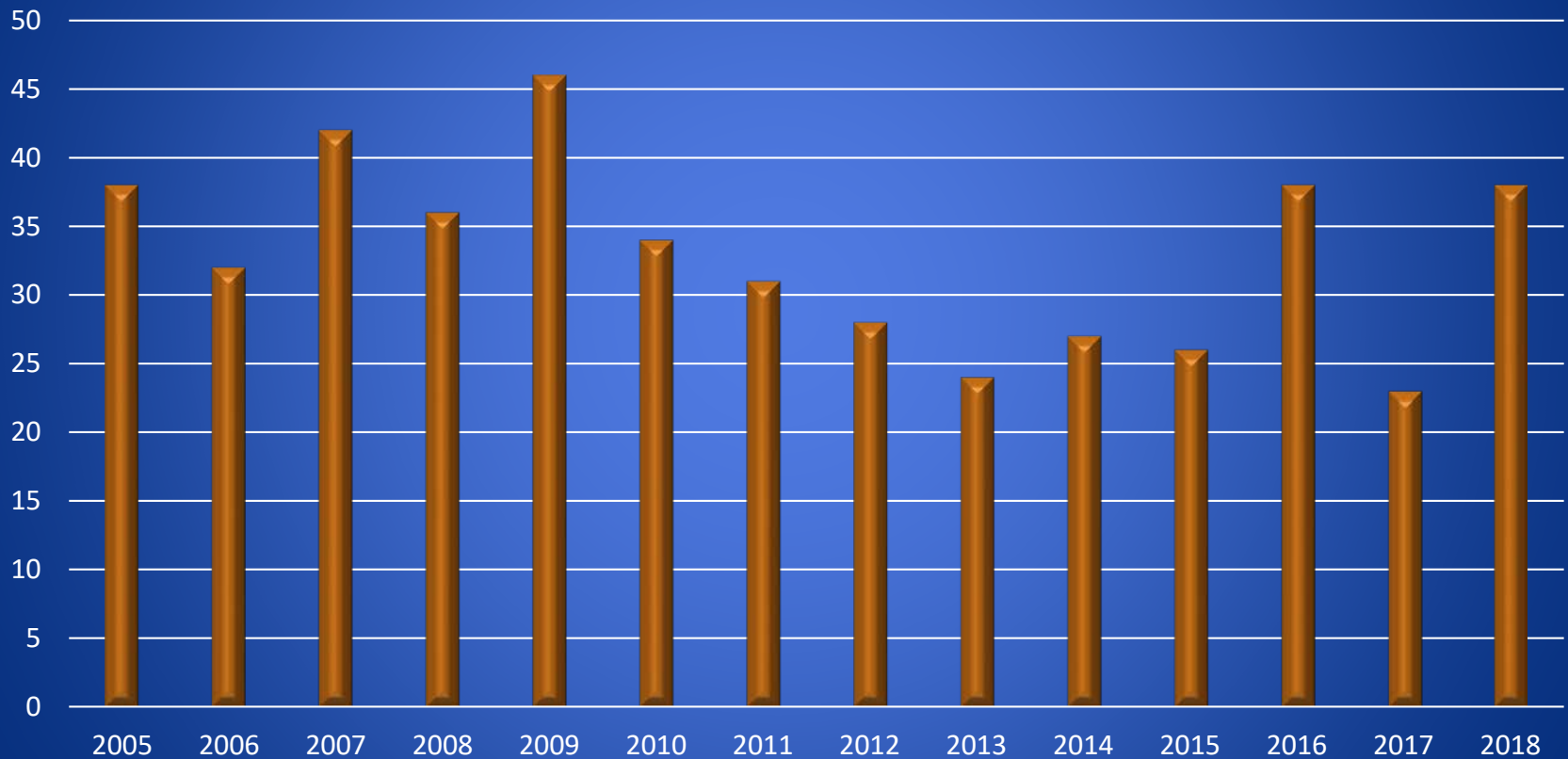
- Not Just “Corporatese”
  - Differentiation from existing performance – based programs
- Deployment for smaller operators
- Securing commitment
- Accountability





# Incident Trends Since 2005

Nationwide Distribution – Serious Incidents



Source – PHMSA Pipeline Data Mart  
“Serious” incidents include a fatality  
or overnight hospitalization.



# Nationwide Distribution Serious Incidents Averages

	Incidents	Injuries	Fatalities
3 Year Average	33	69	10
5 Year Average	30	70	12
10 Year Average	32	66	12
20 Year Average	39	63	15

Thank you

<https://www.maine.gov/mpuc>



7<sup>th</sup> Annual Maine Natural Gas Conference

## Safety Panel

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JERRY E. LIVENGOOD

OCTOBER 3, 2019

# Management Commitment

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- Management models the way forward
- Management communicates the plan and inspires a shared vision for all
- Supervisors are accountable for safety and health as part of their job
- Commit adequate resources; staff, training, and equipment

“Safe, Reliable, Cost Effective service; Moniker used by many Natural Gas Utilities (LDCs)”

# Build the Program and Process

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- Operating plans, procedures, and practices
- Adherence and understanding by all team members
- Consequence and enforcement is recognized and applied to everyone
- Give team members access to plans and contact information

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”



# Prevention and Assessment

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- Periodic audits of programs. Reviews by people qualified to recognize existing hazards and potentially significant risks
- Procedures for team members to report possible hazardous conditions
- Maintenance of equipment to prevent a hazardous condition; “Red Tag”
- Prompt investigation of accidents, near-misses, and incidents of injury

“Incident reviews, AAR...Learn from the small mistakes...All big problems start as small ones”

# Safety Training

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- Team members understand the hazards associated with a job
- Reinforce adherence to procedures and practices
- PPE requirements; Buy-in from team members on the reasons for it and how to maintain and use it properly
- Responding to AOCs; Provide refresher training and drills

“You rise to the your level of training in an stressful situation”

# Performance Tracking and Improvement

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The best safety programs include record keeping and tracking of key indicators to measure and continuously improve safety performance:

- ✓ Training
- ✓ Assessments and audits
- ✓ Near-miss reporting
- ✓ Safety meetings
- ✓ Appropriate funding
- ✓ Perception surveys

“Proper documentation...If it wasn’t written down it never happened”

<https://www.safetyproresources.com/blog/the-five-elements-of-an-effective-safety-program>



AVANGRID

Safety Panel

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# Resilient Systems “When Mistakes Happen”

# 1930 Ford Model A

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## 1930 Safety Glass Became Standard On All Ford Cars





# 2019 Volvo

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**Anti-lock brakes**  
**Stability control**  
**Front-impact airbags**  
**Side impact airbags**  
**Overhead airbags**  
**Knee airbags**  
**Pretensioners**  
**Anti-whiplash**  
**Security system**



## Guiding Rules

- 49 CFR Part 192
- MPUC Chapter 420
- Operations Manual
- Construction Manual
- DIMP Manual
- Emergency Response Plan
- Public Awareness Plan
- OQ Plan

**“Make (something) completely free from faults or defects, or as close to such a condition as possible”**

### Natural Gas Technician Rebuilding Pilot at 3am



# Natural Gas Safety Systems



## Networks Single Worker Job Brief - Gas

Employee: _____	Date: _____
CGI S/N: _____	CGI Calibration Due Date: _____
Are You OQ Qualified for Tasks Being Performed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Daily Job/Task Description _____	

### JOB SITE SAFETY QUESTIONS:

		Yes	No			Yes	No
Do I have appropriate safety equipment ( <i>hard hat, safety glasses, earplugs, vest, etc</i> )?				Is the approach to the building safe?			
Am I parking in a safe location?				Do I need hazards or strobes?			
Are vehicles locked if I'm away from them?				Will I have my cell phone with me? (Potential ignition source)			
Zero'd CGI in free air/Punch bar in vehicle.				Are there any overhead dangers (inside and outside)?			
Have I adequately stretched for the task I am about to perform?				Is there suspicious activity in the area?			
Did I perform a 360° walk around my parked vehicle prior to moving?				When leaving will I be able to pull my vehicle straight out?			
Have I properly placed out safety cones?							

Mitigation Procedures/Additional Hazard Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### EXPECTED/ANTICIPATED HAZARDS: Identify mitigation procedures and PPE!

How can I have an accident or injury on this job?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What can I do to prevent an accident or an injury?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do I need help or assistance to avoid an accident or an injury?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### HAZARD MITIGATION PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE): Check all that apply to the task

<input type="checkbox"/> Eye Protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand Protection	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety-toe Footwear
<input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cleats	<input type="checkbox"/> High Visibility Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> FR Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory Protection	
Other: _____				



### Worker Monitor Regulators with Relief Stack





**Class 2 Gloves for leak crews surveying for leaks**

**Locating meters and regulators outside of buildings**

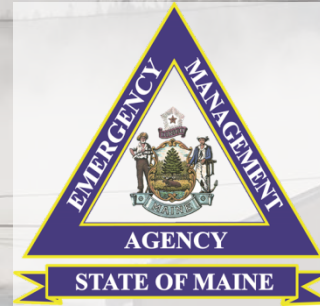
**Augmented reality for training new employees**

**“Safety is not the absence of accidents - it’s the presence of capacity”**

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# Thank You

# Emergency Management's Role During a Disaster



Susan Faloon  
Director of Special Projects/Public Information Officer  
Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)

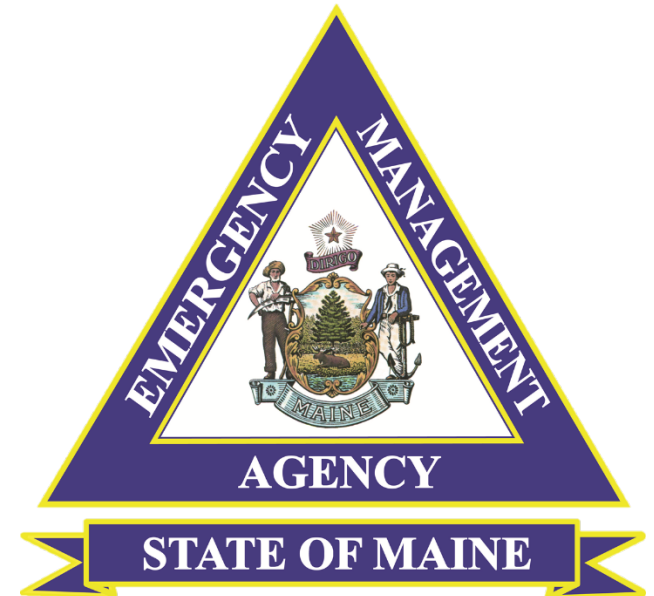




# Maine Emergency Management Agency



- Vision: A Ready and Resilient Maine
- Mission: Through leadership, coordinate the protection of life, property, environment, and economy across all-hazards by managing preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery within the State
- **An All-Hazards Approach**
- **Scalable and Flexible**
- **5 Mission Areas**
  - Prevention
  - Protection
  - Mitigation
  - Response
  - Recovery







# Emergency Management in Maine Structure

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- Federal: FEMA HQ → FEMA Region I (Boston)
- State: Governor → DVEM (Commissioner/TAG) → MEMA

State Emergency Response Team (ERT)  
Disaster Recovery Team (DRT)  
Donations Coordination Team (DCT)

- Legislature: Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee
- County: County EMAs (16)
- Local:  
Metro Areas: Portland, South Portland, Lewiston, Auburn, Augusta, Bangor & Local EMAs (495)
- Tribal: Recognized Native American partners (4)





# MEMA's Technological Hazards Program

## Hazmat, SERC (State Emergency Response Commission)

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- This program exists to protect human health and the environment, to protect emergency responders during hazardous materials incidents and to ensure the state is prepared to handle serious hazardous materials incidents.
- SERC provides training to approximately 2,000 first responders annually. This includes normal hazmat response courses along with specialized areas such as ammonia response, tank truck rollover response and other trainings that allow first responders to be better educated and operate safely.



# Incident Command System





# What Is ICS?

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## ICS:

- Is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management concept.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and agencies.
- Establishes common processes for planning and management of resources.
- Allows for integration within a common organizational structure.



**FEMA**

# When Is ICS Used?

ICS can be used to manage:

- Natural hazards.
- Technological hazards.
- Human-caused hazards.
- Planned events.



**FEMA**

Visual 1.44  
Course Overview



# Natural Gas/Propane Incidents in Maine

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- June, 2013-A Yarmouth man died when his condo exploded following a propane explosion. Three others were injured.
- February, 2013-A 68-year old woman died in Bath when a propane explosion leveled a home in that city. Several others were injured.
- March, 2015-A Cape Elizabeth man escaped injury after a propane explosion at his home. A leak in a propane line is blamed for the incident.
- September, 2019-A Farmington blast kills a long-time fire captain and injures seven others. The cause is believed to have been a propane leak, but is still under investigation.

***“I’ve done a number of LP explosions in buildings over the years, and this is the worst one that I have seen as far as structural damage and neighborhood damage,” Sgt. Ken Grimes of the State Fire Marshal’s Office said.***





# MEMA Response to Farmington Explosion

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- Partially activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) with representation from several key state agencies in attendance to gather situational awareness.
- Deployed a mass care liaison to Farmington to assess any immediate mass care needs on behalf of the Agency.
- The SEOC stood ready to meet any requests for assistance expressed by our partners at Franklin County Emergency Management Agency (EMA).
- The mass care liaison, the American Red Cross and several other partners secured and coordinate financial assistance and disaster behavioral health services for impacted residents.
- Contacted United Way and Franklin County EMA to offer additional technical support for donations management and the coordination of Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD).
- Assisted with coordinating media inquiries related to response and recovery.





# Questions?

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Susan Faloon  
Public Information Officer  
Maine Emergency Management Agency

[www.MainePrepares.com](http://www.MainePrepares.com)

Connect with MEMA on social media:

[www.facebook.com/MaineEMA/](https://www.facebook.com/MaineEMA/)



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