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Title of paper:

Pipeline Integrity Design, Maintenance and Diagnosis – The overall strategy

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Abstract

Pipeline Integrity is a simple expression, the maintenance of pipeline integrity is something a little more complex and costly to be ensured during the entire lifetime of pipelines, tanks or other buried gas-oil-water facilities.

It is first of all a matter of culture, then a matter of human and financial resources, strict rules and regulations being the forcing guide. In our long-term experience, we have learned the lesson: first of all the prevention, then a careful maintenance to ensure the integrity of buried metallic structures. The technical organisation, which must be devoted to the design, the follow up and the implementation of Pipeline Integrity is unavoidably made by well-prepared technicians and engineers.

The paper aims to show the importance of the Organisation, the expertise and competence of the personnel devoted to pipeline integrity. The knowledge of the entire network, the correct and up-dated documentation are also fundamental in order to attain and maintain a sufficient level of safety along the entire network. Various techniques for evaluating and safeguard Pipeline Integrity are then illustrated, bearing in mind which method is better under given conditions.