



# 2023 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



TUESDAY, AUGUST 22	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23
7:00 – 8:00 AM <b>REGISTRATION &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS</b>	
<p>8:00 – 8:15 AM</p> <p><b>WELCOME!</b></p> <p><b>Robert Clarillos – National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives Director, Western Regional Gas Association, Inc. (Arizona Ballroom)</b></p>	<p>7:30 – 8:15 AM</p> <p><b>WAKE-UP SESSION</b></p> <p><b>Vendor Exhibit Area (Grand Coronado Ballroom Vendor Area) (Snack Shack Continental Breakfast – Two Locations by UPS Store and in the Annex Building)</b></p>
<p>8:15 – 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>Keynote Address: PHMSA Regulatory Focus for 2023 and Beyond</b></p> <p><b>Alan Mayberry – U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline &amp; Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) (Arizona Ballroom)</b></p>	<p>8:15 – 9:00 AM</p> <p><b>Small Gas Operator Perspectives on the Pipeline Safety Act Reauthorization, OQ, SHRIMP Highlights/Changes, and Other Initiatives</b> <b>Erin Kurilla - American Public Gas Association (Arizona Ballroom)</b></p> <p><b>Damage Prevention and Its Relationship to Pipeline Safety Management</b> <b>Steve Allen – Energy World Net (Pueblo Room)</b></p> <p><b>Assessing the Risk of Squeezing Activities and Reviewing the Impact of Squeezing Polyethylene Pipe</b> <b>Ryan Ragsdale – TD Williamson (Board/Yuma Room)</b></p>
	9:00 – 9:15 AM <b>BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Coronado Vendor Area)</b>



**Location:** The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch, 7700 McCormick Parkway, Scottsdale, AZ

**Registration:** Pueblo Room (off main conference area walkway)

**Vendor Set-Up:** Monday, August 21 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, Grand Coronado Ballroom Vendor Display Area

All presentations will be available for download after the conference at [www.westernregionalgas.org](http://www.westernregionalgas.org)



# 2023 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



TUESDAY, AUGUST 22	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23
<p><b>9:00 – 9:45 AM</b></p> <p><b>Pipeline Safety Rulemaking Updates and Advisories: NPRM, Final Rule and Related Regulatory Activity</b>  <b>Chris McLaren – PHMSA</b>  (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Pueblo Room)</p> <p><b>Measurement and Control Track – Gas Meter Operation, Diaphragm and Ultrasonic for Design and Application</b>  <b>Kevin Harms – Fortis BC</b>  (Board/Yuma Room)</p>	<p><b>9:15 – 10:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>PHMSA Gas Leak Detection and Repair NPRM – Review of the Proposed Rule</b>  <b>DeWitt Burdeaux – RCP Inc.</b>  (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p><b>GTI Veritas Methane Emission Metrics Project and Related Updates</b>  <b>Srijana Rai – GTI Energy (Gas Technology Institute)</b>  (Pueblo Room)</p> <p><b>Emergency Response Track - 24 Hour Watch Office for Emergency Response Overview</b>  <b>Larry Taylor &amp; Brian Burdette – Southern California Gas Company</b>  (Board/Yuma Room)</p>
<p><b>9:45 – 10:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>	<p><b>10:00 – 10:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>
<p><b>10:15 – 11:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>NAPSR-PHMSA Distribution Team Updates for Operators</b>  <b>Matt Smith – Illinois Commerce Commission/NAPSR</b>  (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Leak Survey and Emissions Detection Technology Updates</b>  <b>Paul Wehnert – Heath Consultants</b>  (Pueblo Room)</p> <p><b>Measurement and Control Track – Gas Regulators, Residential and Commercial Concepts and Sizing Methods</b>  <b>Scott Henrich – Meter, Valve &amp; Control Co.</b>  (Board/Yuma Room)</p>	<p><b>10:15 – 11:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>Hydrogen Blending and Risk Analysis Project</b>  <b>Speaker TBD – Southern California Gas Co.</b>  (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Emergency Response Track - Responding to Natural Disasters</b>  <b>Rich Hinrichs – San Diego Gas and Electric</b>  (Pueblo Room)</p> <p><b>PHMSA Western Region Updates, Inspection Results, Compliance Actions</b>  <b>Tom Finch – PHMSA Western Region</b>  (Board/Yuma Room)</p>
<p><b>11:00 – 11:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>	<p><b>11:00 – 11:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>



# 2023 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



<b>TUESDAY, AUGUST 22</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23</b>
---------------------------	-----------------------------

**11:15 AM – 12:00 PM**

**PHMSA Accident Investigation Division – Incident Updates & Reports; How Operators Can Work with PHMSA When Incidents Occur**  
**Chris Ruhl – PHMSA Accident and Investigation Division**  
 (Arizona Ballroom)

**GTI Energy Project Updates**  
**Dennis Jarneke – GTI Energy (Gas Technology Institute)**  
 (Pueblo Room)

**Measurement and Control Track – Regulators; Regulator Station and Commercial Applications**  
**Howard Lyon – Tri Pacific Co.**  
 (Board/Yuma Room)

**11:15 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Field Evaluation of the Cosmic Eye Satellite Based Pipeline Right-of-Way Monitoring System**  
**Steve Gauthier – Energy Experts International**  
 (Arizona Ballroom)

**CGA Damage Prevention institute Metrics/Updates and Other CGA Committee Proceedings**  
**Louis Panzer – North Carolina 811**  
 (Pueblo Room)

**Emergency Response Track – Overview of Emergency Response Workshop held at Southwest Gas February 2023**  
**Jeff Goodson - Southwest Gas Corporation**  
 (Board/Yuma Room)

**12:00 – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK (Arizona Room, Raffle in Coronado)**

**12:00 – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK (Arizona Room, Raffle in Coronado)**

**1:30 – 2:15 PM**

**Pipeline Safety Additional Rulemaking Topics and Questions**  
**Chris McLaren – PHMSA, Matt Smith, Illinois Commerce Commission**  
 (Arizona Ballroom)

**Topic TBD**  
**Al Giordano - Entrust Solutions – EN Engineering**  
 (Pueblo Room)

**Measurement and Control Track – Regulator Station and Industrial Station Design and Concepts for Distribution Systems**  
**Howard Lyon – Tri Pacific Co.**  
 (Yuma Room)

**New Leak Detection and Emission Quantification Technology 2023 – Finding the Best Fit for Natural Gas Utilities**  
**Alnoor Ebrahim – Southern Cross/Sparus Holdings Inc.**  
 (Board Room)

**1:30 – 2:15 PM**

**AGA Updates: Hydrogen Blending Projects, PSMS Portal, 2024 Reauthorization Status, New Publications and Updates**  
**Christina Sames - American Gas Association**  
 (Arizona Ballroom)

**Topic TBD**  
**Speaker TBD**  
 (Pueblo Room)

**Preparing for an Inspection of the Gas Transmission Mega-Rule Requirements**  
**Warren Miller – Industrial Training Services**  
 (Pueblo Room 2)



# 2023 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



TUESDAY, AUGUST 22	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23
<p data-bbox="117 240 961 269"><b>2:15 - 2:30 PM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p> <p data-bbox="117 282 296 311"><b>2:30 - 3:15 PM</b></p> <p data-bbox="117 345 926 467"><b>National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Pipeline Incident and Investigation Updates</b> <b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p data-bbox="117 501 863 591"><b>Incident Investigation/Emergency Response Lessons Learned</b> <b>Tony Tetto - AEGIS Loss Control</b> (Pueblo Room)</p> <p data-bbox="117 625 982 747"><b>Measurement and Control Track - Overpressure Protection Design and Field Applications</b> <b>Dan Snodgrass - Unisource Energy Services</b> (Board/Yuma Room)</p>	<p data-bbox="1062 240 1892 269"><b>2:15 - 2:30 PM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p> <p data-bbox="1062 282 1283 311"><b>2:30 PM - 3:15 PM</b></p> <p data-bbox="1062 345 1797 435"><b>The Advantages of Mid-IR Technology for Methane Detection</b> <b>Tim Goolsby - SkySkopes/LASEN</b> (Arizona Ballroom)</p> <p data-bbox="1062 469 1677 558"><b>PHMSA D&amp;A &amp; Significant OQ Changes (State-Level)</b> <b>Dennis Kuhn - Astar</b> (Pueblo Room)</p> <p data-bbox="1062 592 1881 714"><b>AZ 811 Updates on Locate Ticket Coordination, Unknown Lines, and Reports from One Call Systems International</b> <b>Sandy Holmes - AZ811 Center</b> (Board/Yuma Room)</p>
<p data-bbox="117 813 961 842"><b>3:15 - 3:45 PM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>	<p data-bbox="1062 813 1961 842"><b>3:15 PM ADJOURNMENT &amp; GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE (Coronado Vendor Area)</b></p>

DRAFT



# 2023 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



**TUESDAY, AUGUST 22**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23**

**3:45 - 4:30 PM**

**Pipeline Safety Trust – Damage Prevention Reviews, Recent Initiatives**

**Bill Caram – Pipeline Safety Trust**

(Arizona Ballroom)

**Incident Investigation/Emergency Response Workshop/Overview**

**David Zak – AEGIS Loss Control**

(Pueblo Room)

**Measurement and Control Track – Odorization Concepts, Design,  
Monitoring Challenges**

**Sam Hegje – Tri Pacific**

(Board/Yuma Room)

**4:30 - 6:00 PM**

**GET ACQUAINTED NETWORKING RECEPTION – Grand Coronado  
Ballroom Vendor Area**

**Join us in the vendor exhibit area for light fare and cocktails as well as our main event door prize raffle drawings! Visit the vendors to collect your chances to win some great prizes including laptop computers, gift cards, outdoor gear, and much more!**

**GRAND DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE**

**Please join us in the Grand Coronado Ballroom for a chance to win a MacBook laptop computer or Microsoft Surface Pro, or equivalent (subject to availability due to supply chain shortages), a name brand mini tablet, and more! You must be present to win, and your name badge will be your potentially winning ticket!**

Note: The agenda is still under construction and will be updated periodically.