

Re-Writing Standard Operating Policy Using Risk-Based Methodologies

Leigh Ann Shoji-Lee, P. Eng. Vice-President, Operations June 7, 2006

Standard Operating Practices at Union Gas

- SOPs are the Company's policies for the inspection and maintenance of distribution and transmissions systems.
- The policies were historically developed using intuition, experience and engineering judgment.
- Union Gas developed and applied risk based methodologies to policy development.

Risk Assessment

- The basis of risk based analysis is to analyze the consequence and probability of a certain event occurring in order to predict the ultimate risk associated with that event.
- The results can be expressed as a risk matrix.
- The risk matrix concept is well developed in industry and is presented in the Canadian Oil and Gas Pipeline Systems Code, CSA Z662.

Risk Assessment – The Risk Matrix



Union Gas Methodology



Case Study – Valve Inspection and Maintenance

- The goal of the analysis was to bring the risk for each category covered by the SOP as close to the Company's risk threshold as is practicable.
- The consequence of a failure was derived from a qualitative analysis. The analysis included surveys of internal SMEs, surveys of other companies and the review of research documents.
- The probability of failure was derived from a quantitative analysis, which consisted primarily of consultation of historical data.

Case Study Results – Emergency Valves Risk Assessment - Emergency Valves



7

Case Study Results – Convenience Valves



Risk Assessment - Convenience Valves

Subsidiary Benefits

- Increase awareness and understanding through rollout.
- Development of a management system
- Improved data collection and IT systems.



