



## Pipeline Safety Management System



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration

PHMSA: Your Safety is Our Mission



# Pipeline Safety Management System

As a response to a NTSB recommendation after the Marshall, MI pipeline failure, API issued RP 1173 in 2015.

That was over 7 years ago.





# PHMSA Agrees that...



- Regulations alone may not get us to *zero incidents*.
- **SMS is the key to closing the safety gaps that cause incidents.**
- Implementation of a SMS underpinned by a culture of safety is needed to get us to our goal of no harm to people or environment.
- Voluntary adoption will provide the greatest safety benefit in the shortest time.



And then on September 13, 2018...





From NTSB report

**Figure 2.** Remnants of house where the fatality and two severe injuries occurred.



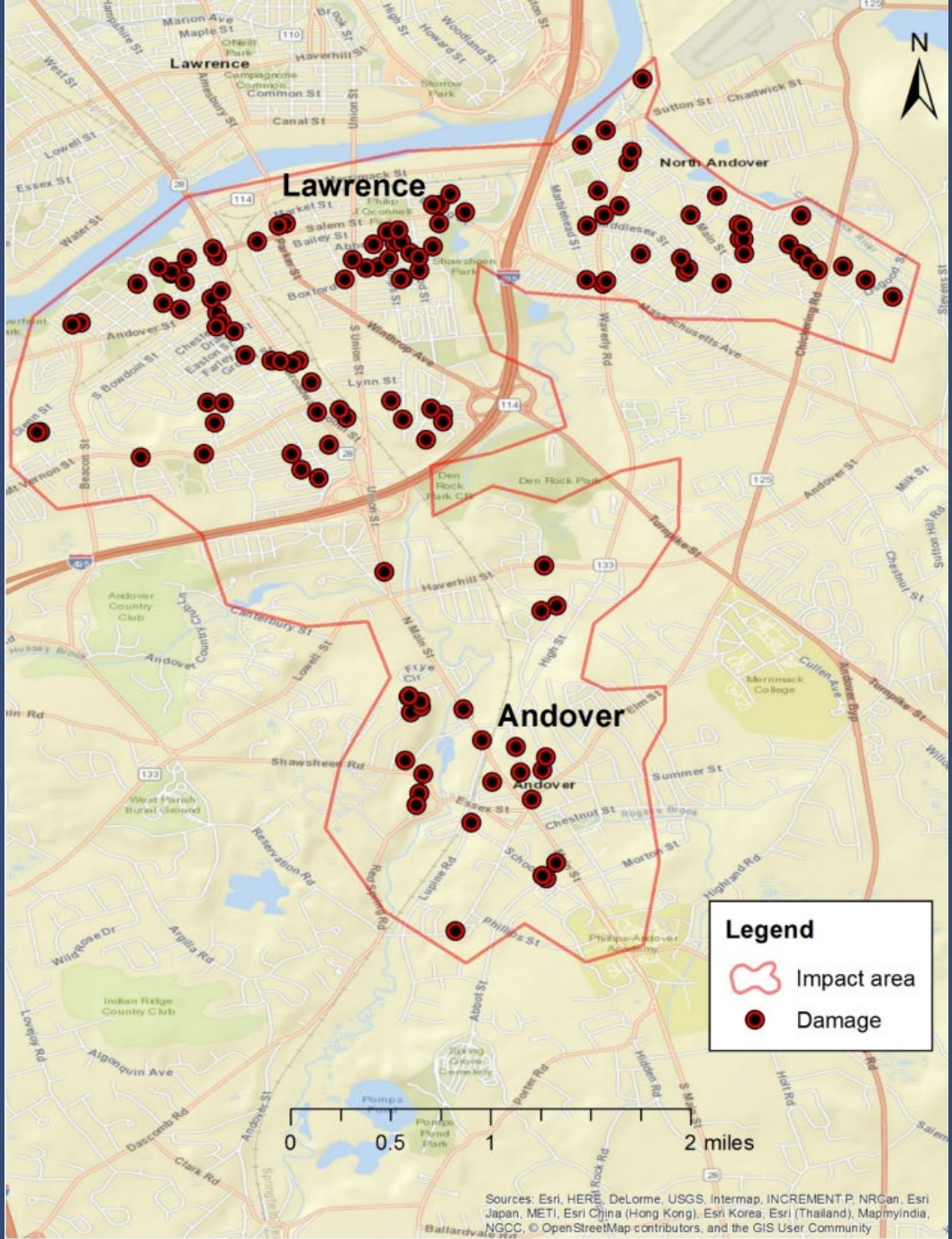
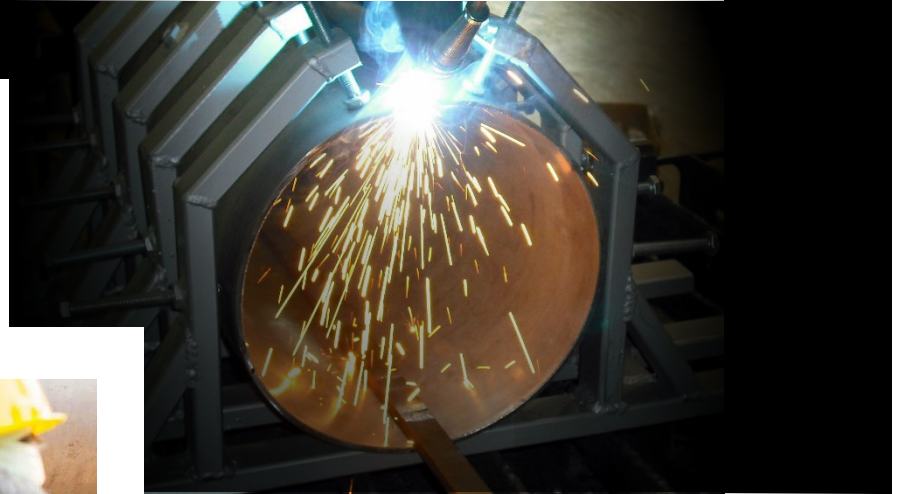


Figure 1. Map of the damaged structures in the area impacted by the overpressurization.

From NTSB report

# Current Expectations

**PHMSA's Expectation**  
Adoption of SMS by the  
pipeline industry



**Section 205 of PIPES Act**  
Mandates PHMSA submit  
a report to Congress on  
distribution operators' SMS  
implementation





# Report by December 2023

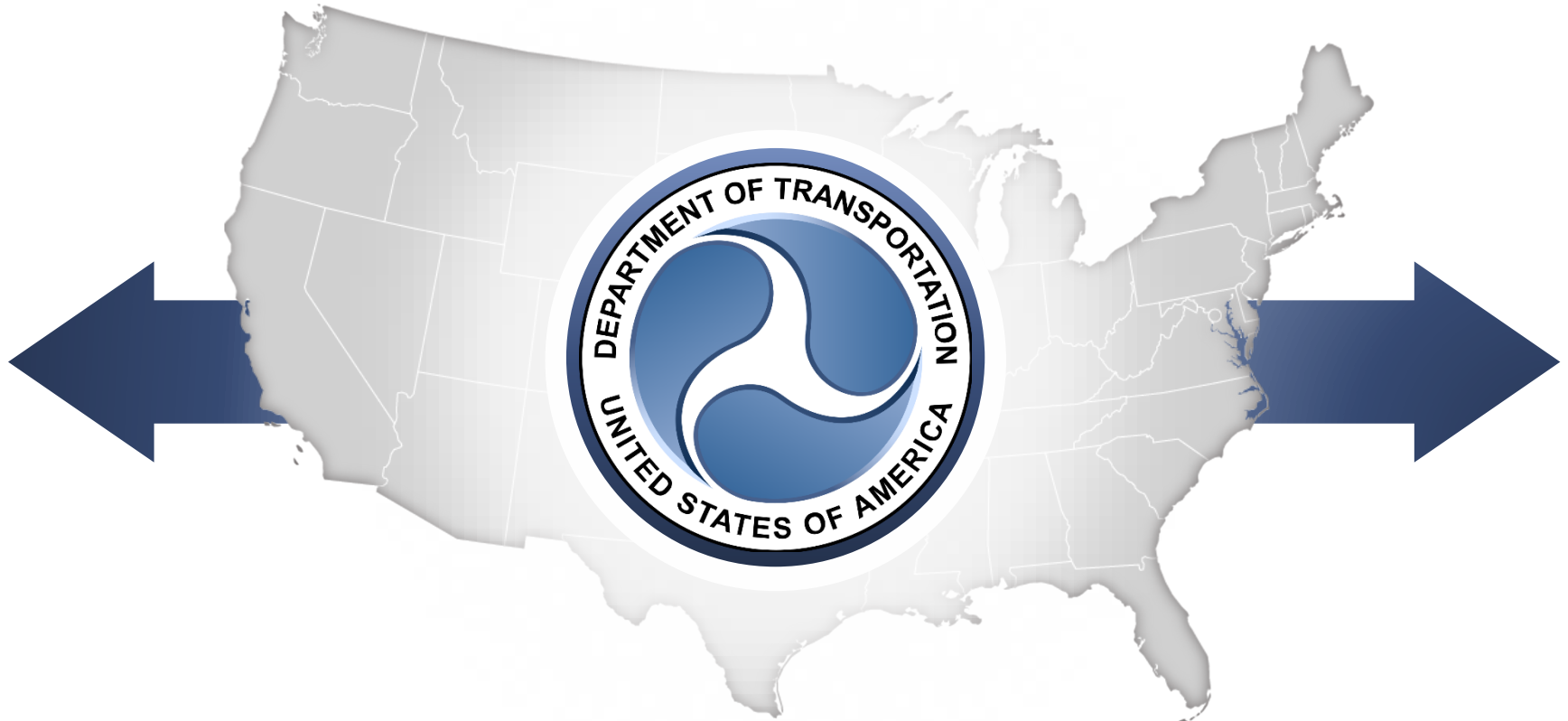


- The number of natural gas distribution operators who have implemented a SMS in accordance with RP1173.
- The progress made by operators who have implemented or are in the process of implementing a SMS.
- The feasibility of an operator implementing a SMS based on the size of the operator as measured by:
  - (A) the number of customers
  - (B) the amount of natural gas the operator transports





# Report by December 2023



Secretary shall provide guidance or recommendations that would further the adoption of SMS

Secretary and states shall promote and assess SMS frameworks developed by operators



# Where We Are Going...



*Implementation of SMS  
with an emphasis on a  
**Strong Safety Culture***



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# Safety Culture

Culture influences what people see, hear, feel, say, and do.

Most importantly, culture influences behavior which impacts decisions and actions in an organization.



Ultimately, it is this behavior that drives safety performance.



# Safety Culture

...is about weighing options and choosing the path that leads to the best outcome – even when no one is looking, and you are choosing the more difficult path.



...is about holding ourselves accountable for making good decisions.





# How Does the Safety Culture of a Regulator Impact Safety?

- 13 -



# The Office of Inspector General audited PHMSA's safety culture.

And found plenty of opportunities for improvement...

(the report is available online, btw)

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# PHMSA PLUS



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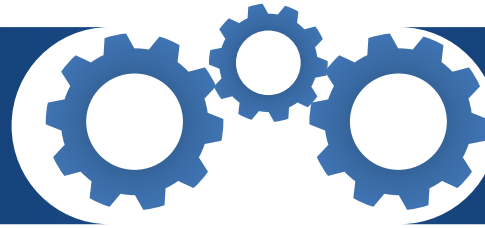
**PHMSA: Your Safety is Our Mission**



# PHMSA PLUS

P

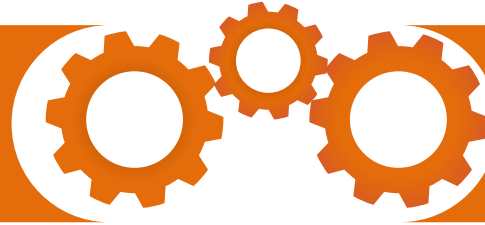
Perform at a high standard



Performing

L

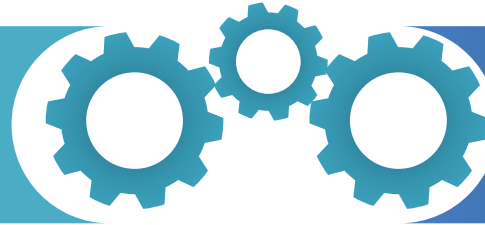
Lead by example



Leading

U

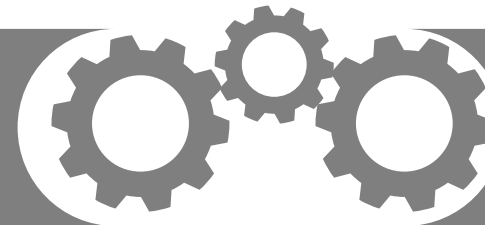
Unify all areas of PHMSA



Unifying

S

Safety is our top priority



Safety



# What is PHMSA PLUS ?



**Safety**

**Promotes**

Positive Safety Culture

**Continually Improve**

Processes & Procedures

**Framework**

PHMSA-Wide  
Management System



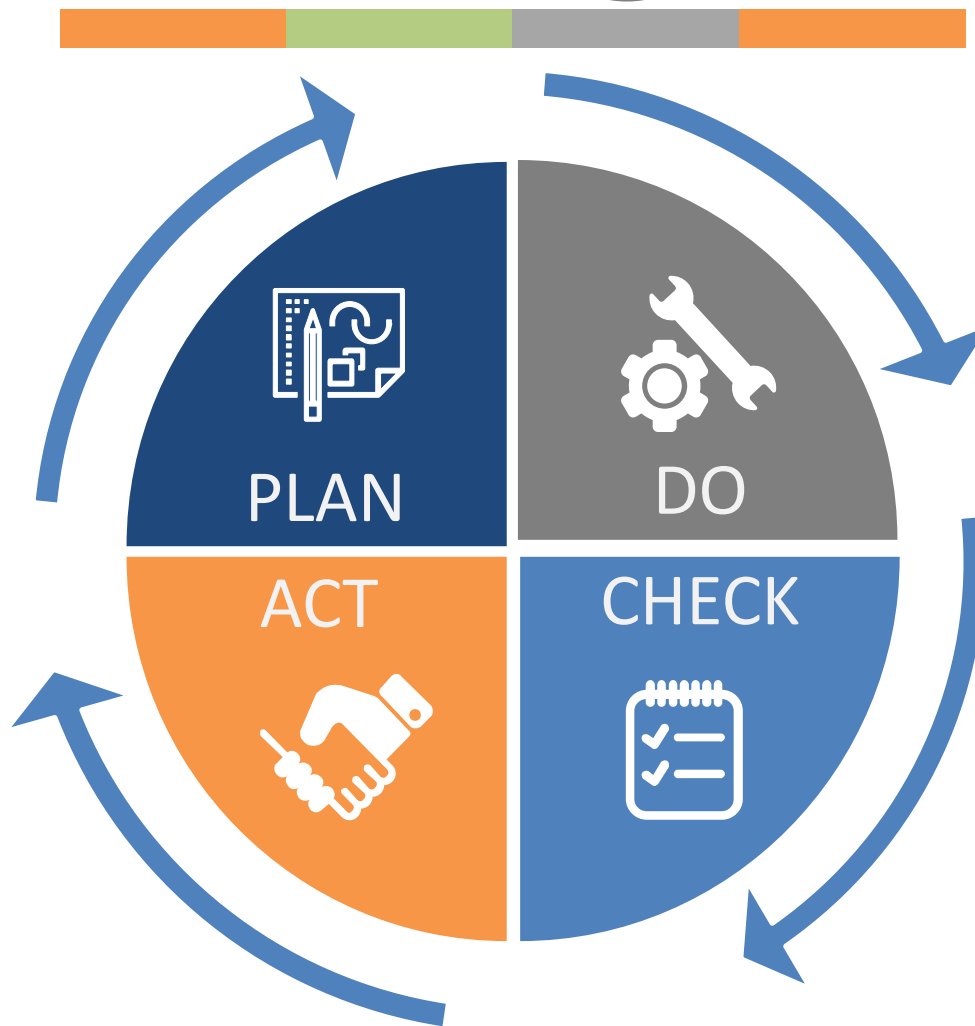


# PHMSA PLUS

## Management System Elements



# P D C A



# Safety Leadership



Everyone has a part in getting to zero.  
Be Accountable.  
Hold each other accountable.  
Stay humble.





# Questions and Answers

