USDOT PHMSA

PIPELINE TRANSPORTATION: HYDROGEN AND EMERGING FUELS R&D PUBLIC MEETING AND FORUM -UTILIZATION OF INSPECTION TOOLS ON HYDROGEN PIPELINES



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BACKGROUND

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- 20 countries have a national hydrogen strategy
- Additionally, another >30 countries are discussing policy action
- According to PHMSA, there are >1800 miles of hydrogen in the USA¹
- Europe has >1,000 miles of hydrogen pipeline
- There are a number of In-Line Inspection (ILI) service providers that can inspect hydrogen pipelines, even up to 100%
- Some natural gas to hydrogen conversions are underway or planned



EFFECTS OF HYDROGEN ON MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Damage Mechanisms

- Hydrogen embrittlement
- Hydrogen induced cracking
- Increased fatigue crack growth



Other

- Decreased weldability
- Possible strength reduction
- Lower grade pipe material less susceptible than higher grades

HYDROGEN CONVERSION AND INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT

HYDROGEN INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Holistic Approach



HYDROGEN INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Data >> to >> Information >> to >> Decision



HYDROGEN INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Let's turn it around;

What **Decisions** need to be made, what **Information** is required, so then what **Data** needs to be collected?



A PHASED APPROACH FOR TRANSITIONING TO HYDROGEN PIPELINES



DEVELOPMENT OF A HYDROGEN CONVERSION STRATEGY



ESTABLISH CURRENT PIPELINE CONDITION



ASSESSMENT AND CONVERSION PREPARATION



HYDROGEN PIPELINE INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT PLAN



IMP FRAMEWORK AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR ILI OF HYDROGEN PIPELINES



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INSPECTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR HYDROGEN PIPELINES

CONSIDERATIONS FOR ILI OF HYDROGEN PIPELINES

In-Line Inspection;

- Geometry
- Metal loss
- Crack
- Hard Spot
- Material Properties
- Bending Strain
- Axial Strain
- Combination(s)



CONSIDERATIONS FOR ILI OF HYDROGEN PIPELINES

Crack Detection

- Apply the latest generation of crack inspection ILI tools for detection and characterization of axial and circumferential cracking
- Process driven service adjusted to the specific requirements of each pipeline and to the needs of the individual operator
- Tools for liquids and gas service

Material Property Determination

- Identify all unknown records prior to H2 service
- ILI Assessment services address pipe and material properties, thus having a significant positive impact on the notion of having incomplete pipeline construction records.
- Determine actual strength levels. Material strength categorization services provide measurement of yield strength and accurate determination of pipe grade for each joint within the examined pipeline section.
- Combined with in-field tests can also determine chemical composition
- Find metallurgical anomalies such as hard spots

Technology Outlook

- New crack detection technologies for better detection e.g. for small surface cracks
- New material properties measurement extending to toughness
- Introduction of dedicated testing facilities and related services targeted at understanding materials behavior

INSPECTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR HYDROGEN PIPELINES

Repurposing (converting) existing assets for hydrogen service

- Threat identification;
 - Threats you are aware of already,
 - Utilize appropriate technologies to assess and identify threats susceptible to hydrogen service hard spots, mechanical damage, cracks, etc.
 - Utilize appropriate technologies to identify the "unknown unknowns" will require combinations of technologies,
- Pipeline: pipeline materials and appurtenances must be hydrogen compliant
 - Assessment of fittings bends, tees, etc.
 - Girth-, Seam-Weld and their associated anomalies
 - and Pipe Material properties
- Inspection intervals what inspection intervals will be required for hydrogen pipelines?

INSPECTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR HYDROGEN PIPELINES

Repurposing (converting) existing assets for hydrogen service

- Experience
 - Successful inspections of 100% hydrogen
- Conventional tools or combinations of technology can be run before H2 service
- Post H2 service
 - ILI tools are available: modified magnets, brushes, seals, wear resistance components, wiring, etc.
- Operations
 - Cleaning specification tools available to use but need to define cleanliness measures, dew point, etc.
 - Better control of operational parameters volumes, pressures, and subsequent ILI tool dynamics and associated speeds
 - Enhanced risk assessments and safety requirements

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRY RESEARCH: GUIDANCE FROM CODES AND STANDARDS FOR HYDROGEN PIPELINES

- Current guidance has been more focused on petrochemical applications rather than long distance transmission systems
- Current regulations focus on natural gas (methane) and not H2 or H2/methane blends
- A whole new approach may be needed in terms of safety management given the properties of H2, e.g. how often to inspect, 5, 7 or less years
- Many of the aspects covered in these documents are being pursued in research communities in order to understand hydrogen's compatibility with existing pipeline infrastructure



INDUSTRY RESEARCH: CONSIDERATIONS

- Understanding the effects of hydrogen on the material properties of the girth-, seam-welds and how to assess
- Weldability, proving a successful "hot" weld for line pipe and/or needed fittings
- Pursuing "Pilot Projects"/"Use Cases" whereby a natural gas pipeline is converted to hydrogen service and the Lessons Learned, etc. documented for industry consumption

Thank you for joining this presentation.