PIPELINE ISSUES SERIES:

SAFETY RECORD



Bottom Line:

Pipelines are exceptionally safe, with more than 99.999% of the barrels of crude oil and petroleum products delivered by pipeline arriving at their destination safely. Since 1999, liquids pipeline incidents impacting the public or environment are down 50% and corrosion caused incidents are down 76%.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the overall pipeline safety record of the liquids pipeline industry?

The overall safety record of the pipeline industry is good. Knowing the impact even a single spill can have, pipeline operators share an industry-wide goal of zero pipeline incidents. This goal helps operators drive down the number of pipeline incidents that do occur:

- More than 99.999% of the barrels of crude oil and petroleum products delivered by pipeline arrive at their destination safely
- Pipeline incidents impacting the public or environment are down 50% since 1999
- Corrosion caused pipeline incidents are down 76% since 1999
- Pipeline incidents caused by third party damage (e.g. accidental utility crew strike) are down 78% since 1999

How much are pipeline operators spending to keep their pipelines safe?

In 2014, pipeline operators spent over \$2.2 billion evaluating, inspecting and performing maintenance on their pipeline systems. Pipeline operators reported spending \$134 million evaluating the integrity of their pipelines, \$345 million inspecting their pipelines with technologies such as ILI smart pigs, and \$1.1 billion performing followup maintenance identified through their evaluation and inspection programs. Remaining system spending went toward integrity management of storage tanks and other integrity related activities.

Pipeline operators track their safety record to know where they are doing well, where they need improvement and where to focus pipeline safety improvement programs.

+99.999%

Barrels of Crude Oil & Petroleum Products Reaching their Destination Safely by Pipeline

-50%

Decrease in Liquids Pipeline Incidents Impacting the Public or Environment Since 1999

-76%

Decrease in Corrosion Caused Liquids Pipeline Incidents Since 1999

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What programs do pipeline operators use to keep their pipelines safe?

Pipeline operators use an integrity management (IM) program to evaluate, inspect and maintain their pipelines. IM programs harness diagnostic technologies to scan operators' pipelines, and analytic software to review inspection results and isolate potential issues for maintenance. Operators then perform maintenance on their pipelines on a schedule based upon the degree of risk posed by each issue detected. The goal of the IM program is to identify and treat symptoms long before they grow into problems.



>\$2.2 Billion

Pipeline Operators Spent Evaluating, Inspecting & Maintaining their Pipelines & Facilities in 2014



1,635
In-Line Inspection
"Smart-Pig" Tool Runs in



In-line Inspection "smart pig" used to by pipeline operators to detect and diagnose pipeline issues



46,695 Mi.

Miles of Pipeline Inspected with In-Line "Smart-Pig" Tools in 2014

Source: 2014 Integrity Management Data Assembled by Survey of AOPL and API Pipeline Members

