

April 2022



## Education

### **47th GPA Midstream School of Gas Chromatography registration opens**

Registration is open for the GPA Midstream School of Gas Chromatography, scheduled for Aug. 8 - 12, at the University of Tulsa (Oklahoma).

GPA Midstream's Analysis, Test Methods and Product Specifications committee manages, directs and conducts the annual school focused on benefiting chromatograph operators, measurement technicians and engineers involved with these analytical techniques. The instruction covers basic gas and gas liquid chromatography with an introduction to extended analysis.

All the reference materials needed for the school are included in the registration fee and are for the students to keep. Early bird registration by July 11 costs \$800 for GPA Midstream and GPSA members, and \$1,100 for non-members. Standard registration rates apply after July 11, costing \$100 more for each group.

The 5-day school consists of a combination of lectures, demonstrations and chromatograph operation, with an emphasis being placed on hands-on machine demonstration and operation. Both natural gas and natural gas liquid samples are analyzed.

The instructors and vendors who make the school happen are technicians, chemists and product specialists that teach these classes on a 100 percent voluntary basis. On average, each instructor has more than 20 years of industry experience.

[Learn more and register.](#)

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## Convention

### **Convention speakers needed for specific topics; apply by May 8**

Although the call for papers has closed for the 2022 convention, Sept. 11 – 14

in San Antonio, members of the Program Committee have requested additional abstracts related to specific topics outlined below. If you'd like to apply, please note that the online submission form will close automatically at midnight on May 9, so please apply by May 8 to be considered. All who have applied, including those responding to the additional call, should receive an answer by mid- to late-May.

Topics requested:

- Environmental Forum
  - Alternative monitoring technologies
  - Methane mitigation techniques/lessons learned
  - Environmental regulatory outlook
  - SEC rulemaking on climate disclosure
  - Carbon capture utilization and storage
  - Navigating environmental justice
  - Understanding carbon offset market
- Pipeline Safety Forum
  - Topics related to the new gas gathering rule. Examples:
    - MAOP and PIR
    - Leak surveys (for gathering lines)
- Safety & Reliability Forum
  - PSM Mechanical Integrity Program topics focusing on safety and reliability
  - Predictive failure analysis (including preventative maintenance) of pressure vessels
  - Integration of employee/public safety and equipment reliability through the design, startup and operations of midstream assets
- Treating Forum
  - Treating topics in general
  - LNG pre-treatment (example: heavy hydrocarbon removal)

[Apply here](#), and again, please note the May 8 deadline.

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### **Connect with 2022 convention attendees**

Registration for 2022 GPA Midstream Convention sponsorship opportunities has opened, and we're also taking requests for hospitality space.

To download the 2022 GPA Midstream Sponsorship Opportunities Packet and sign up for opportunities online, visit:

[GPAmidstreamconvention.org/sponsor-2022](https://GPAmidstreamconvention.org/sponsor-2022)

If you'd like to host a hospitality this year, we are also taking requests for public hospitality space and suites. The deadline to make your request is May 20, and we require that you use our online request forms. Please keep in mind that GPA Midstream cannot guarantee space nor specific rooms to any company, but we are committed to making our best attempt to accommodate each company's request. To learn more about the difference between public space and suites and to access the request forms for each, visit:

[GPAmidstreamconvention.org/2022-hospitality](https://GPAmidstreamconvention.org/2022-hospitality)

Registration for the conference will open on June 8; the hotel room block will open on the same day. Thank you for your interest and support. We're looking forward to a great event!

For more information, contact April Sailsbury:  
(918) 694-7215 cell  
[asailsbury@GPAMidstream.org](mailto:asailsbury@GPAMidstream.org)

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## Awards

### **Reminder: GPA Midstream and GPSA Environmental Excellence Award applications due June 8**

GPA Midstream's Environmental Excellence Award recognizes GPA Midstream companies demonstrating initiative and/or leadership in managing their environmental affairs in midstream sector activities and GPSA companies that develop successful, innovative environmental solutions. Companies must apply for this project-based award by June 8 to be considered.

GPA Midstream will announce award winners in July. Award winners will also have an opportunity to present their projects at the GPA Midstream Convention so others may benefit from their best practices.

GPA Midstream members have two award categories:

- GPA Midstream member companies classified as O1 and O2 will compete for the Division 1 award.
- All other GPA Midstream member companies, including international companies and businesses that have GPA Midstream Associate memberships, will compete for the Division II award.

All GPSA member companies will compete for a single GPSA award.

[Download the official Environmental Excellence Award application here](#)

For more information, contact GPA Midstream Vice President of Government Affairs [Matt Hite](#).

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### **New Award for Sustainability, coming soon**

GPA Midstream and GPSA members will soon be able to apply for the new Award for Sustainability. Look for an email within the next two weeks with the award criteria and application form.

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## Government Affairs

**GPA Midstream and API challenge PHMSA with favorable outcome**

With regulators busy changing rules and definitions to make it harder to operate or get permits for gathering lines, GPA Midstream Association and the American Petroleum Institute (API) had a much-needed administrative victory in April.

In March, the organizations jointly challenged a federal rule that was amended without following proper procedures for public comment. The late change in the proposed rule would impact regulations on GPA Midstream members' hazardous liquid gathering lines.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) published the interim final rule in the Federal Register on Dec. 27, 2021, to expand the definition of coastal waters, beaches and Great Lakes.

This came on the heels of the long-standing understanding that the rule wouldn't apply to hazardous liquid gathering lines. Instead of honoring that exemption, the agency amended the rule with the claim that a congressional rule allowed them to make the changes without the usual public comment period.

We alerted them to our concerns, and both the DOT and the Department of Justice agreed that the agency overstepped and reversed some of their proposed rules.

PHMSA's April 14 letter of denial of a review and motion to stay says "until that finalized rule becomes effective, PHMSA will exercise its discretion to refrain from taking enforcement action alleging violations" of the challenged portion of the rule.

The agency also said it was taking the comments of GPA Midstream and others into account in issuing a new report on the interim final rule.

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## **GPA Midstream to comment on Nationwide Permit 12**

A streamlined permitting process for certain oil and gas pipeline projects is under review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – a move that could take away the relative ease of getting approvals for certain larger projects.

The Nationwide Permit 12, or NWP 12, has since 1977 allowed for little delay or paperwork for some activities in certain federal waters and wetlands where adverse effects are considered minimal.

In January 2021, the new version of NWP 12 removed more pre-construction notifications requirements but added another requirement for oil or natural gas pipelines more than 250 miles long.

Under President Biden's executive order later that same month, agencies were instructed to include environmental justice in a review of existing regulations. The Corps of Engineers is applying that criteria to NWP 12 well in advance of its March 2026 expiration.

Comments from the public and those on tribal lands are due by May 27. The

GPA Midstream Natural Resources Subcommittee is already working on comments. Please contact [Matt Hite](#) if you are interested in joining this effort.

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## Research/Technical

### Results of recent technical ballots

Voting closed on one GPA Midstream Technical Program ballot since the March eBrief. Results of the ballot are as follows:

**Workgroup Charter – *Responsibly Sourced Gas Standard for the Upstream/Midstream Hydrocarbon Value Chain***: 5 Approve, 1 Negative, 0 Abstain

We greatly appreciate everyone's participation. Stakeholders discussed this item at the GPA Midstream Technical Conference earlier this month and agreed the best path forward is to draft, then ballot, a new charter for this work. An updated workgroup charter ballot on this topic will be issued by the GHG Measurement and Abatement Committee. For more information about GPA Midstream's technical committees and to learn how your organization can get involved, contact GPA Midstream Vice President of Technical Services [Martin Erne](#).

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### GPA Midstream publishes one technical publication, one research report

GPA Midstream recently published one technical publication and one research report, outlined below. As a reminder, technical publications and research reports are free to GPA Midstream and GPSA members and are accessible through the members-only Data Book and Publications Cloud. Any employee of member companies may access the cloud by visiting [GPAmidstream.org/login](#) and creating a free account by using your work email address for access. Once you create an account, log in and click on Cloud-Based Data Book and Publications. All others wishing to receive copies of GPA Midstream publications can visit the [GPAmidstream.org Publications page](#). Non-members may contact Technical Program Assistant [Kristy Morrison](#) to purchase RR-252, or other reports.

- **GPA Midstream TP-34: *Wet Gas Sampling Testing – Performance of Dry Gas Sampling Methods for Wet Gas Applications*** – The objective of this work was to evaluate and quantify the performance of a dry gas sampling method in obtaining representative samples of wet gas stream.
  - **GPA Midstream Research Report 252: *NGL Color: Source, Analysis and Removal*** – This project was commissioned to help GPA Midstream members understand how to manage color in their facilities. The first phase of the project placed emphasis on two aspects of the issue: analytical methods for color determination and identification of color removal technologies.
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**GPA Midstream Technical Veteran Program encourages continued**

## committee involvement

GPA Midstream introduced the Midstream Technical Veteran (MTV) program in 2021 to encourage midstream retirees that were active and engaged in GPA Midstream technical activities during their employment to stay involved after retirement.

The program offers recent retirees complimentary registration and \$300/day honorarium to support committee activities at the GPA Midstream Convention, plus complimentary registration and \$150/day honorarium to support committee activities outside of the convention. [Learn more about the program.](#)

To apply, complete the [MTV candidates application](#) and return to [Martin Erne](#) by May 6. Those planning to retire during this period may apply after they officially retire.

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## GPA Midstream hosts successful Technical Conference, awards volunteers

Earlier this month, GPA Midstream hosted its second Technical Conference in Oklahoma City, bringing together 250 midstream professionals focused on the association's technical activities.

GPA Midstream recognized the following technical program volunteers during a conference awards luncheon:

- **Jay Ardrey**, ONEOK, for leading the new Integrity Committee as vice chair
- **Brian Booth**, Enterprise Products, for leading the effort on the Operators Daily Checklists and Plant Operations Test Manual
- **Dale Embry**, ConocoPhillips, for updating the joint API document, GPA 8117
- **Matt Holmes**, Quorum Software, for leading the workgroup that developed the new GPA 2172 spreadsheet
- **Joe Landes**, retired from SPL, for petitioning to join, and looking out for GPA Midstream's interests in, the Wet Gas Study co-funded with API
- **Andrew Parker**, SPL, for driving the establishment of the newest technical committee, the GHG Measurement and Abatement Committee (Emissions Committee) and serving as its first chair
- **Mark Scripsick**, Midcoast Energy, for volunteering to serve as vice chair of the Emissions Committee
- **Rick Seaver**, Williams, for stepping up to lead the new Integrity Committee as chair
- **Don Sextro**, Targa Resources, for leading the effort that brought to ballot the 27-year-old document, GPA 8195

- **Prasanna Swamy**, EnLink Midstream, for his work on and publishing of the Pipeline Leak Detection document

Technical Conference attendees will receive a link to conference proceedings via email on May 2 around noon. The proceedings will include copies of presentations given, the final registration list and a link to all conference photos.

GPA Midstream staff is working on plans for the 2023 conference. We look forward to announcing the 2023 dates and venue soon.

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## Chapters

### APPALACHIAN BASIN

#### Q2 Speaker Luncheon

Join Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream on May 10 at Bella Sera for the chapter's Q2 Speaker Luncheon.

Early bird registration is \$45 for chapter members and \$65 for non-members. Early bird pricing ends at midnight two weeks prior to the event. After that, the registration fee increases \$10 for members and non-members.

Online registration closes at noon the day before the event, but attendees are welcome to pay on-site at rate above.

For more information or to register, visit the [Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream website](#).

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### HOUSTON

#### May Luncheon

Houston GPA Midstream will host its next luncheon on May 11, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at The Houston Club.

Owner/operators may attend for free but must register with their company email address. Others may register for \$65 per person.

For more information and to register, visit the [Houston GPA Midstream website](#).

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### MIDCONTINENT

#### Spring Sporting Clays Tournament

Midcontinent GPA Midstream is hosting its annual sporting clays tournament

on May 20 at Silverleaf Shotgun Sports in Guthrie, Okla., from 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Registration is \$225 per person or \$900 per 4-person team.

For more information or to register, visit the [Midcontinent GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN**

### **Sporting Clay Shoot**

The Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream chapter is hosting its sporting clays event on May 6, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Kiowa Creek Sporting Club in Bennett, Colo.

Registration is \$1,000 for a 4-person team.

For more information and to register, visit the [Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **Calendar**

[Learn more about the events below here](#)

### **May**

6 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream Sporting Clays

10 - Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream Q2 Speaker Luncheon

11 - Houston GPA Midstream May Luncheon

19 - GPA Europe Conference & Workshop

20 - Midcontinent GPA Midstream Spring Sporting Clays

23 - 26 - GPA Midstream and GPSA Board Meetings

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