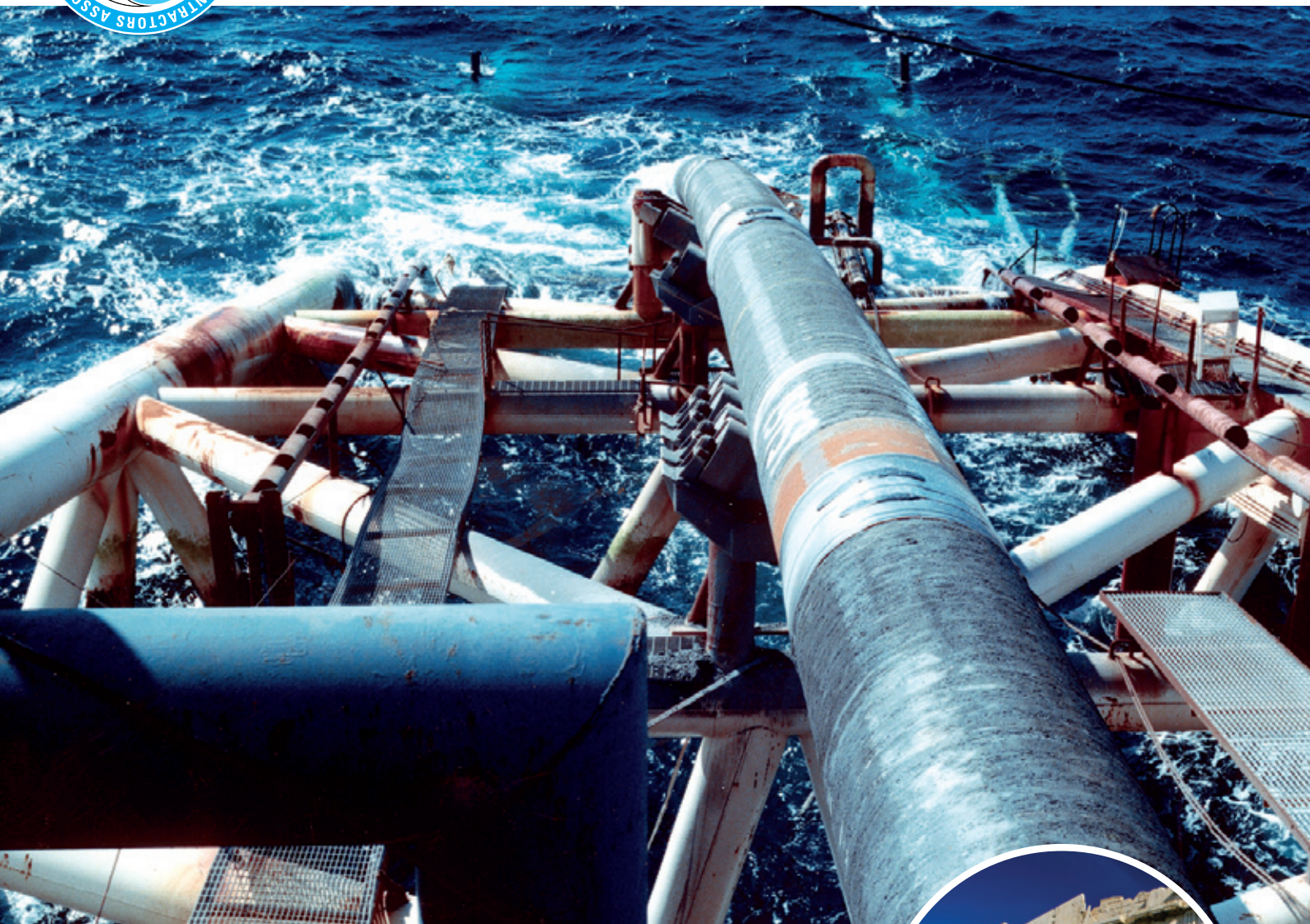




# THE IPLOCA NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2008



**Athens Convention update** page 14  
date for for the upcoming convention



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## The following is the new IPLOCA Mission for 2008 and beyond:

To provide value to members through a forum for sharing ideas, engaging the industry and its stakeholders, facilitating business opportunities and promoting the highest standards in the pipeline industry.

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## Letter from the President



**Much has happened since the last edition of the IPLOCA Newsletter was published in December.**

Firstly, I would like to congratulate our board member Adam Wynne Hughes, the Managing Director of Land and Marine in the UK, on his new appointment as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of IPLOCA. This role remained unfilled in the period immediately following the Sydney board meeting. However, at the Istanbul board meeting the directors voted unanimously to confirm his appointment, and he graciously accepted the role. Adam is a very active and valued member of the board, and I look forward to his increased participation and his involvement in the Executive Committee.

Also at the Istanbul meeting, Luc Henriod, IPLOCA Executive Secretary, announced his intention to retire in 2008. Luc has worked tirelessly in this role since 2004 when he began working as Executive Secretary. In 2005 he opened the office in Geneva following the association's move to Geneva from Gent in Belgium. He will continue to work in his current position until a successor is named, and later will serve as a consultant to IPLOCA.

At the Board level we continue to focus on four key objectives for 2008. Specifically these are to improve communications, engaging individuals and companies in determining IPLOCA's direction; promoting the common interest of members and fostering a high level safety culture across the industry; stimulating industry-wide the technology, processes and contractual relationships for pipeline projects; and securing active participation of large contractors - key IPLOCA members.

We are beginning to make inroads in all these areas, but cannot do it without your engagement and participation. This is YOUR association, and we hope you will step forward to lend your support and expertise to IPLOCA objectives for our mutual benefit.

You can find more information about the Board activities at [www.iploca.com/boardsummaries](http://www.iploca.com/boardsummaries). As always, don't hesitate to get in touch with comments and questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Reed', written in a cursive style.

**John Reed**

[jreed@hmc-heerema.com](mailto:jreed@hmc-heerema.com)

# NEWS FROM GENEVA

## Membership Invoices

We are pleased to report that most 2008 membership fees – approximately 80 percent – have been received in the Geneva office. Reminder letters have been sent to those companies whose fees are outstanding. If you have any questions about the status of your payment please direct your enquiry to [sarah.junod@iploca.com](mailto:sarah.junod@iploca.com).

**Don't forget that 2008 fees MUST be paid in order for your company to be represented in the next IPLOCA Yearbook.**

## IPLOCA Becomes an "Affiliated Organisation" with IGU

Executive Secretary Luc Henriod met in January with Torstein Indrebo, Secretary General of the International Gas Union. The outcome of the meeting was that the two organizations have signed an agreement for IPLOCA, while maintaining its own identity, to officially become an organisation affiliated with IGU. "This new initiative of affiliation should benefit both organizations," said Indrebo.

## new@iploca.com

**A website is inevitably a work in constant progress and we are now ready to move into the next phase of website and database development for IPLOCA.**

In the coming weeks you will see small but important changes at [www.iploca.com](http://www.iploca.com) both in design and organisation of the site. As always, please remember that we welcome your contributions of photos and news for the website.

## Membership Database

We are also making important refinements to our membership database to allow us to communicate more readily with individuals at member companies. As more and more individuals become engaged with IPLOCA through various work groups and initiatives, it is crucial that we keep the information current. This applies not only to "top level" information such as key executives and office addresses, as is shown in the Yearbook, but also to the more detailed information such as the email address of work group participants and your company accounting or marketing contact.

# BOARD MEETING

## Update



John and Deidre Reed enjoy a cold Istanbul

**The IPLOCA Board of Directors met in Istanbul at the end of January with participation from 16 of the 19 directors. Our Turkish members, especially Borusan, Attila Dogan Construction and Tekfen, provided a warm welcome to the Board.**

In particular we would like to thank Tekfen who hosted a special dinner complete with entertainment and personalised photograph album for each guest as a souvenir of the visit.

## Key Meeting Outcomes

### Leadership

Adam Wynne Hughes (Director, Europe Northwest, and Managing Director of Land & Marine, UK) was appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of IPLOCA.



Executive Secretary, Luc Henriod, announced his intention to retire following the Athens Convention, assuming a

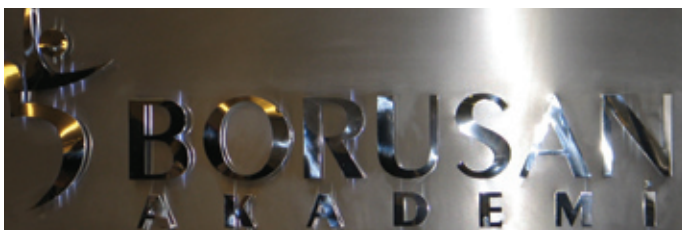
replacement has been named. An email has been sent to key Member and Associate Member representatives along with a copy of the job description inviting interested persons to send their resumé to President John Reed before the position is more widely advertised.

### Financial

Treasurer Phil Bond indicated that the balance sheet for the end of 2007 showed net assets of EUR 2,367,700, compared with EUR 2,146,253 as of the end of 2006. We are working with a break-even budget for 2008. Within this budget we have two new consultancy posts to provide additional services to members, along with costs for regional meetings and topic-specific committee meetings.

2008 Committee Membership was confirmed (see boxed item). A new addition this year will be a Training Committee, chaired by Leonid Bokhanovskiy (Stroytransgaz) with the goal of helping to increase the number of skilled personnel and encourage new entrants to the field of oil and gas pipeline construction. Clearly this is much needed in the industry at large.

## Regional Meeting - Turkey



**The day prior to the Board of Directors meeting in Istanbul, Borusan Mannesmann very kindly hosted our first IPLOCA Regional Meeting for Turkish members at one of its offices in the centre of the city.**

More than 20 people attended the meeting which opened with an introduction to IPLOCA's current objectives from President John Reed, followed by a presentation on BOTAS International Projects (Nabucco, Italy (ITGI), Iraq (ITGEP)) and Future Prospects by special guest Levent Özgül, Board Adviser (BOTAS International Limited) and Member of Nabucco Project Technical Working Group. The meeting concluded with a round table discussion and refreshments.

We extend our grateful thanks to Tayfun Iseri and Asu Uysal of Borusan Mannesmann and to Ercument Inanc of Borusan Makina for their hospitality and help in making the meeting a success. Plans for the next regional meeting (30 May in Houston) are now under way and we anticipate further meetings this year in the UK, Holland and Germany.

## 2008 Committees

The work of the Legal and Financial Committees have been combined with that of the Executive Committee. Representation by the Board of Directors and consultants on the remaining committees is as follows. Participation in technical work groups, under the leadership of the committees is encouraged from among the membership. If expertise is available within your company, please send the names of potential work group members to the chairman of the appropriate committee.

### Convention Committee

**John Reed\*** [jreed@hmc-heerema.com](mailto:jreed@hmc-heerema.com)

John Fabick IV  
Caroline Green  
Luc Henriod  
Greg Miller

### Environment Committee

**Max Hofmann\*** [m.hofmann@streicher-bau.de](mailto:m.hofmann@streicher-bau.de)

Luc Henriod  
Sue Sljivic, Consultant

### Health, Safety and Security Committee

**Max Hofmann\*** [m.hofmann@streicher-bau.de](mailto:m.hofmann@streicher-bau.de)

Luc Henriod  
David Williams  
Adam Wynne Hughes  
Representative from CAT, Lebanon  
Helen Dornan, Consultant

### New Technologies Committee

**Roberto Castelli\*** [roberto.castelli@bonatti.it](mailto:roberto.castelli@bonatti.it)

John Allcorn  
Doug Evans  
Luc Henriod  
Daniel Gasquet, Consultant  
Alain Hersent, Consultant

### Risk Sharing (Contracts) Committee

**Bruno de la Roussière\*** [delaroussiere.b@entrepose-contracting.com](mailto:delaroussiere.b@entrepose-contracting.com)

John Reed  
Luc Henriod  
Daniel Gasquet, Consultant

### Training Committee

**Leonid Bokhanovskiy\*** [yu.krasnova@stroytransgaz.com](mailto:yu.krasnova@stroytransgaz.com)

Phil Bond  
John Fabick IV  
Bob Deason  
Luc Henriod

\*Chairman

# THE MEMBERSHIP PAGE

## Status of Membership

Members	104
Associate Members	117
Honorary Members	3
Academic Members	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>

## Applications for Membership

At the recent Board Meeting in Istanbul, the application for Associate Membership by Trikausch (India) was approved. Trikausch represent CRC-Evans, Applus RTD, Herrenknecht, Maats and others in India. Recommendation letters were received from PIH (UK) and Gammon (India). Five membership enquiries are pending.

## Name Change Requests

Requests were received as follows:

**Liebherr Export** (Switzerland) to **Liebherr Werk Telfs GmbH RTD Group** (the Netherlands) to **Applus RTD**

## Resignations

Since the last Board Meeting resignations have been received from Chrysis Construction, Canada, Murphy Pipelines, UK and Soconord, Belgium.

## Marketing Your Company, Marketing IPLOCA

We need your news! Only a small number of our member companies are currently taking advantage of the opportunity to be featured in the Newsletter and communicate their news to us on a regular basis.

Remember that in order to provide visibility for your company as one of your benefits of membership in IPLOCA, we need to hear from your **marketing or public relations representative** and be added to your media list. We are looking for your member news – both for the Newsletter, and for your greater visibility, for the IPLOCA website.

Please pass this article along to the appropriate marketing professional in your company and ask that he or she contacts [elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com](mailto:elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com). We will be pleased to work with him or her directly to make sure your company is well represented.

## Member News

### Socovoltaic Systems and MPS Capital Services Banca per le Imprese Direct Funding Agreement Signed

Socovoltaic Systems (Socotherm Group) and MPS Capital Services Banca per le Imprese (MPS Group) have signed an agreement for direct funding customers purchasing photovoltaic plants. Through this agreement, Socovoltaic Systems wants to promote the installation of photovoltaic plants for industrial and commercial use to industrial plants and buildings, schools, shopping centres, public areas, sporting facilities, gyms, hospitals, airports, train stations, farms and wine-producing companies.

### AJ Lucas and Sydney Gas to develop jointly the Sydney Basin

AJ Lucas Group Limited has agreed with Sydney Gas Limited to enter into a joint arrangement for the further exploration and commercialisation of Sydney Gas' assets in the Sydney Basin.

The arrangements include various components comprising:

- a placement by Sydney Gas to Lucas of 15% of its issued share capital amounting to 52,505,665 ordinary shares at a price of 38 cents per share;
- a Technical Services Agreement (TSA) under which Lucas agrees to provide geological, petrophysical and other services to Sydney Gas for a period of three years; and
- a Drilling Services Agreement (DSA) under which Lucas agrees to supply not less than two fully operated drill rigs to Sydney Gas for not less than two years at commercial market rates.

### Gulf Interstate Engineering Company Awarded TNK-BP's Kamennoi Field Development Project

Gulf Interstate Engineering Company (Gulf) has announced the award of a contract with TNK-BP to provide engineering services for the Concept Select Stage of the Kamennoi Field Development Project. The Kamennoi Field Development Project consists of seven oil and gas fields in Russia.

Phase One of the project anticipates the recovery of 30 million tons of oil, with an estimated 330 wells being drilled with infrastructure and facilities that are to include

up to 14 pads, an export pipeline, and an additional oil processing facility. Pending the successful completion of Phase one, Phase two will consist of the long term development of the most reliable reserves.

---

### **Blair Miller Promoted to Director of Gulf Interstate Field Services**

H. Doug Evans, President and CEO of Gulf Interstate Engineering Company (Gulf), announces the promotion of Blair Miller to the position of Director of Gulf Interstate Field Services (GIFS).

Blair has over 30 years of diversified industry experience, having worked in the pipeline operations, engineering and construction industries, both domestically and internationally. He began his career at Gulf over 18 years ago, holding positions such as Project Engineer and Project Manager. Prior to joining Gulf, Blair worked at Texas Eastern Gas Pipeline Company and KBR.

Blair's extensive experience in the pipeline industry will be invaluable to the GIFS team. Gulf Interstate Field Services, Inc. is a subsidiary of Gulf Interstate Engineering Company, a leading engineering firm specializing in the design of pipelines and related facilities. GIFS provides Construction Management, Construction Inspection and Vendor Inspection for pipelines, stations, tanks and terminals.



### **Shell Environmental Award 2008**

**A Member or Associate Member of IPLOCA will once again be the recipient of the bi-annual Shell Environmental Award this year, to be presented at the convention in Athens in September.**

In past years submissions were invited which related to innovation, pre-construction, post-construction and socioeconomic programmes, accompanied by supporting photos, videos and literature.

The parameters surrounding the award are being reviewed and discussed as we go to print with this Newsletter. Watch for further communications and full details on the 2008 award at [www.iploca.com/shellaward](http://www.iploca.com/shellaward) in the coming weeks, and get ready to submit your entry.

## **Welcome Trikausch India PVT Ltd. New Associate Member**

**Trikausch Group are a leading provider of specialised pipeline equipment and services for engineering, design, construction, operation and maintenance of oil, gas, slurry and liquid transfer pipelines in India, serving the onshore and offshore industry.**

They have also grown into areas such as mechanised tunnel construction for MRTS, metros, hydrotunnels and water and sewage pipeline systems. The company was founded more than three decades ago and has developed experience and a close working association with major oil and gas owners, consultants and contractors in the Indian Sub Continent and Asia. They maintain close working associations with international representations and joint ventures serving the pipeline industry with a full commitment of delivery of goods/services with long term support to meet the tight schedules of fast track projects. Equipment and services are available on a sale, rental, hire and hire purchase basis to suit customer requirements and project deliverables.

#### **Trikausch Group services include:**

- engineering, FEED, detailed design, surveys and back up studies
- pipelayers and paywelders
- bending, boring and padding machines, clamps and all pipeline tools and tackles
- offshore laybarge equipment and services
- holiday detectors, pig trackers
- pipeline welding equipment
- automatic pipeline welding systems
- AUT inspection services
- HDD, microtunnelling and tunnel boring, vertical drilling and shaft sinking equipment
- pipe coating and double jointing plants
- rehabilitation consumables and joint coating materials such as cold applied tapes and coating materials
- cut back and stringer bead welding brushes
- all types of pigs including pigging surveys
- supply of specialised materials such as pipes, fittings, valves, pig launchers, receivers and special grade steels

# FOCUS ON SAFETY



## Moving Mountains, Fifties Style

Rockies pipeline took 2,500 (real) men

**Daring feats at giddy heights hatched an elite called the Bird Club when 2,500 construction workers built the lone oil pipeline across the Rocky Mountains half a century ago. Membership was earned by leaping to safety at the last moment before heavy equipment plunged into gorges along the 1,150-kilometre route from Edmonton to Vancouver.**

Not all candidates for admission survived to enroll in the exclusive fraternity. Six tradesmen died during 11 months of hard labour on laying the Trans Mountain Pipe Line in 1952-53. The project earned international fame as the roughest pipeline job on the globe, including a big spread of spectacular photography in the most popular media institution of its time, Life magazine. “Even today what they’re doing is enormously challenging,” industry veteran Geoff Birkbeck said, as 560 workers, including his son, laid new pipe along 159 kilometres of the right-of-way across Jasper National Park and British Columbia’s Mount Robson Provincial Park this fall. “That’s the granddaddy of pipeline projects,” Birkbeck said.

As Edmonton chief executive officer of Comstock Canada, he runs the 103-year-old construction contracting company

that built Trans Mountain for its original ownership group of Alberta oil companies. It was a feat of business as well as personal daring that Comstock decided not to try repeating when oilsands growth created demand for added delivery capacity to the West Coast. In pipelines, the firm nowadays sticks to safer work, such as erecting pump stations, leaving the drama of laying new pipe over cliffs and through canyons for current Trans Mountain owner Kinder Morgan Canada to Edmonton contractor North American Construction Group. “My hat’s off to them all,” Birkbeck said.

He estimated Comstock would need to buy up to \$50 million worth of equipment to qualify to bid on the current work on 14 percent of Trans Mountain’s route. Recruiting the specialized engineering and blue-collar talent required is also a tall order. But appetites for risk and concentrations of rare skills are Edmonton trademarks. Birkbeck made Comstock’s downtown headquarters a reminder of the city’s heritage by lining the walls with a visual record of the original Trans Mountain project. The business gallery includes a jumbo portrait in oil colours of a crew at work by landscape artist H. H. Leeming, as well as framed prints of the Life photos. “It’s a blast from the past,” Birkbeck said.

The 1953 magazine article recorded how risk pervaded industry culture in the boom ignited by the 1947 Leduc



gusher that put Alberta on the oil map as a big producer and investment target. "There is little job security in their work. Men get fired at the snap of a finger," Life reported.

"One foreman on Trans Mountain had the problem of removing the rock face of a 200-foot (60-metre) cliff. At the bottom was a railroad track that had to be kept open. He decided to blow the rock with such power that it would go over the track into the canyon 600 feet (180 metres) below. 'He was going to be a hero or a bum,' his boss said. "The foreman shot his charges. The cliff dissolved in smoke and tons of rock thundered over the tracks – except for one boulder the size of a three-room house that buried itself in the railroad right-of-way. "He was a bum," his boss said, and fired him on the spot." In the eyes of modern engineers, journeymen, government inspectors and corporate managers, the 1950s visual record highlights a workplace change for the better. "Safety practices have changed infinitely," Birkbeck observed.

In the old photos, workers clamber around heavy equipment in rugged country. There are no hard hats, harnesses or even shirts sometimes. A picture of a husky veteran highlights the personal risks of careers in oil's pioneer era. As the man inspects some mountain pipeline work, one of the sleeves of his wool sport coat, a 1950s badge of executive office, is neatly pinned aside, empty up to the shoulder. "Injuries were just expected," Birkbeck said. "In those days guys would get hurt and you just had to suck it up and get on with it." No one sets foot on the pipeline right-of-way during the current expansion project without a hard hat, steel-toed boots, protective eyewear, or an escort if the visitor is not a professional in the field. Mandatory safety orientations include a story told as a warning that mountain industry is still hazardous and no one can afford to let down their guard for a moment. Despite strict precautions since the current project started in August, a worker lost a leg after an accidental brush with one of the specialized heavy lifting machines. Some mobile pipeline construction equipment is too big for operators to see even stray pickup trucks, Birkbeck said.

*Copyright Edmonton Journal, 19 November 2007.  
Reprinted with permission.*

## Safety Statistics

Members' safety statistics will be due 1 July, but the form this year (for the 2007 calendar year just passed) is being slightly modified. It will be made available at [www.iploca.com](http://www.iploca.com) after the changes are approved by the Safety Committee at their upcoming meeting.

## Pipeline Training

### DOT Pipeline Safety Regulations - Guidelines for Compliance, 1-2 April, Houston, Texas

The seminar will review major compliance requirements of DOT regulations affecting gas and hazardous liquids pipelines, including applicability of regulations to different piping systems, including GAS GATHERING LINES, variations in federal and state jurisdiction; key compliance deadlines, reporting requirements for accidents and safety related conditions; Pipeline Integrity Management and Operator Qualification.

### Pipeline Risk Management, 3-4 April, Houston, Texas

This 1.5-day workshop is designed to equip attendees with the information and the know-how to set up and implement a comprehensive risk management program for pipelines.

The course also presents a powerful new generation of algorithms that more accurately model reality while making use of all previously collected data and not increasing the costs of risk assessment at all. Complete program and registration details are available at: [www.clarion.org/Regulations-Risk08.php](http://www.clarion.org/Regulations-Risk08.php)

### IBC Onshore Pipeline Engineering Training Course, 19-22 May 2008, The Hatton, London, United Kingdom

The routing, design, construction and maintenance of land pipelines require a fundamental knowledge of a wide range of subjects including:

- Construction techniques
- Hydraulic design
- Mechanical design
- Environmental and social impact
- Risk analysis
- Materials
- Internal and external Corrosion actions and mitigations

The objectives of the course are

- To provide an overview which allows attendees to gain an overall understanding of the key issues affecting onshore pipeline routing, design, construction and maintenance;
- To consider the pipeline standards and their impact upon pipeline design worldwide.

# PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

## News from Novel Construction

### What is the Novel Construction Initiative?

The Initiative is a cross-industry forum and collaborative effort to transform the pipeline construction industry through innovation in project design and execution.

### What is it seeking to achieve?

The overall mission of the Initiative is to stimulate innovation in the technology and processes required for execution of onshore pipeline projects by engaging all contributors to the pipeline construction supply chain.

This will be achieved through provision of leadership and direction to the pipeline industry by IPLOCA to enable development and delivery of improved technology, equipment and supporting processes. It is our goal to demonstrate to the pipeline industry and operators the commitment and progress of contractors and their clients in “advancing” pipeline construction and to stimulate interest and worldwide involvement from other pipeline industry experts, companies and operators. More efficient, safer and cost-effective pipeline construction is essential the world over and the industry is striving to minimise environmental impact and maximise safety performance, with contractors and their oil company clients committed to working hand in hand to achieve these goals for mutual benefit.

### Business Objectives

- To offer a platform to stimulate innovation in the technology and processes required for the execution of onshore pipeline projects by engaging all contributors in the pipeline construction and supply chain
- To increase laying speed and achieve improved construction quality to meet the full pipeline life cycle requirement, matching some of the innovations introduced offshore to bring the current onshore typical lay rate of around 1.5 to 2 km per day up toward the 7 km per day achievable offshore
- To do so with zero accidents, no harm to people and no harm to the environment
- To optimise social benefits
- To reduce the total Installed Cost
- To enhance business opportunities for all, contractors and suppliers.

### How is it structured?

A Steering Group of eight people is supported by eight working groups.

### What has it achieved so far?

### What are the planned future activities?

Working group activities currently underway include:

#### Contracting and Risk Sharing

Design and propose principles, guidelines and best practices to serve all parties as the basis for equitable contract formulation and execution.

#### Planning and Design

- Define study overlap with Controls & Data Acquisition team
- Improve methods to find/use data in design and routing of pipelines
- Seek standardized methods for undertaking design and stating requirements
- Enhance integration and interoperability of design to construction
- Seek optimum constructability and cost/time trade-offs.

#### Pipe Handling and End Facing

- Reduce pipe movements in pipe transportation
- Perform JIT study
- Examine new developments in pipe bending
- Explore new automated processes for handling

#### Alignment and Welding

- Define precisely the alignment operations for each construction cycle
- Identify and address the main costly operations - skidding, alignment and welding

#### External Corrosion Protection System

Develop a scoping document for each of the following:

- Smart pipe joints
- New field joint solutions, including cutback protection
- Self-propelled platforms for automated blasting and coating
- Two additional topics will be developed further but are not regarded as directly related to the Novel Construction goal:
- Coating selection model - draft model or process based upon combining existing models
- Certification and training - IPLOCA to investigate possible collaboration with existing relevant training organisations

#### Trenching and Backfilling

Produce a guidelines document embracing the following:

- Survey and evaluation of the different techniques of

- terrain evaluation available on the market
- Definition of the best understandable common soil classification and evaluation of the corresponding type of equipment
- Definition of the best type of equipment versus the type of backfilling versus the type of coating

#### Lowering and Laying

- Define and scope a Constructability Review Process
- Taking the current Lowering and Laying equipment as a reference, identify those features and operating criteria which should characterize the "ideal" machine to perform Lowering and Laying operations.
- Identify the features and operating criteria which should characterize the "ideal" attachment to be used in Lowering and Laying operations.

#### Control, Automation and Data Management

- Work on standardisation of data required for pipeline construction
- Set the standard for a control tool for near-real time data acquisition, monitoring and reaction
- Investigate pipeline simulation techniques and the possibility of simulation tool development

#### Who is participating?

Thirty plus companies from across the supply chain – operators, vendors, consultants, contractors including Borealis, BP, Bredero Shaw, Canusa CPS, Caterpillar, CCC,

ConocoPhillips, CRC-Evans, Denso, Elmed, Eon-Ruhrgas, Fluor, Gulf Interstate Engineering, Heerema, Industrie Polieco MPB, IPLOCA, Maats, Petrobras, PIH, Renault, Rosen, Serimax, Socotherm, Spiecapag, TESI, Tesmec Italy, Tesmec USA, Vietz and Volvo CE.

#### What commitment does it require?

This depends on your area of interest but nominally attendance at two working group sessions a year and relevant collaborative activities in between are required.

#### What does it cost to join?

There is no cost to join this great project but participant companies (IPLOCA Members or operators) must sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

#### Where can I find out more?

Overall mission statements, MoU and working group missions statements are at [www.iploca.com/novelconstruction](http://www.iploca.com/novelconstruction).

#### How do I join?

1. Contact the work group leader for your area of interest (see below), copying [elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com](mailto:elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com).
2. Sign the MoU
3. Attend the working group session

**Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to the progress of pipeline construction.**



Photograph: Courtesy of EUROPIPE

# JOHN K. PHILLIPS



## Pipeliner Extraordinaire

As communicated in the last issue of the IPLOCA Newsletter, in December we learned with sadness of the death of John K. Phillips.

A long-time employee of Willbros and a stalwart of the pipeline industry, for many years John was IPLOCA. Following is his brief biography, much of it taken from notes that he himself wrote.

Born in Chester, UK, in 1927, John served with the Royal Engineers and was seconded to the Royal Air Force, flying converted Lancaster bombers carrying out aerial surveys of the then British colonies in East, West and Central Africa.

From 1950 to 1954 he was with the Colonial Engineering Service East Africa, East African Railways and Harbours, undertaking a railway survey and construction of the Western Uganda Extension, and surveying the railway from Dar es Salaam to Kaprinii Mposhi, what was then Northern Rhodesia. The railway was subsequently built by Chinese workers.

From 1955 until 1962 John worked for Rendel, Palmer & Tritton Consulting Engineers, supervising the construction of major pipeline projects and oil facilities in Iran for the National Iranian Oil Company. This was followed by a brief period working on the construction outfall facilities at Berkley Nuclear Power Station in the UK.

John joined Williams Brothers (Willbros) as Chief Engineer in 1962, later becoming Vice President for Saudi Arabia and then Senior Vice President for Middle East Operations. As Executive Vice President of Willbros, he eventually retired in 1983 having worked and travelled extensively in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, the Far East, Australasia, North and South America and Europe. He continued to serve Willbros as a consultant for its worldwide operations from 1983 to 1985, and subsequently became a consultant to the oil and gas industry and Executive Secretary of IPLOCA. After the association's move from Belgium to Geneva, he continued to serve as a consultant for the association until ill-health forced his retirement, preventing him, for the first time in many years, from attending the annual convention (Barcelona).

John dedicated his formidable energy and commitment to IPLOCA but always quietly, and in the background. He hated to be in the limelight and had significant difficulty accepting and coming to terms with his unanimous nomination as an Honorary Member by the Board of Directors in 2005. He was known and is missed by many.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## Sydney Gas Appoints Chief Executive Officer



**IPLOCA Immediate Past President, Andy Lukas, is to resign his company technical director position with AJ Lucas to take up the chief executive officer position of Sydney Gas. This is in recognition of the close operating relationship between Lucas and Sydney Gas. Mr. Allan Campbell, chairman and CEO of Lucas will join the Sydney Gas Board as a non-executive director, and Mr. Lukas will become a non-executive director of Lucas.**

Andy has over 30 years of experience in the pipeline and drilling industry across the USA and South East Asia. He pioneered the development of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) in 1990, commencing operation of Australia's first rigs and then developed SIS to enable safe coal seam methane extraction for coal and gas producers. He has been instrumental in developing Lucas to its present position as a world market leader in this specialised field and the largest coal seam degasification company in Australia. Andy is recognised as Australia's leading authority on HDD and SIS technologies which are expected to be widely adopted in developing Sydney Gas' gas assets.

Lucas is at the forefront of the commercialisation of coal seam gas prospects. It has 52 rigs and is a leading innovator in the development of new drilling techniques, most particularly directional drilling, to assist in the recovery of coal seam gas. The placement to Lucas will cost approximately AUD 20 million and will be funded out of its internal resources together with a special purpose facility provided by its bankers. A meeting of Sydney Gas shareholders is to be held in March to approve key elements of the arrangement.

## Jesuit Refugee Service Tackles Shelter and Education



**We have received the following thanks and information from Father David Holdcroft, SJ, of the Jesuit Refugee Service in Sydney in response to the donation made to the organisation following the Europipe lottery at the Final Banquet in Sydney:**

As you will remember, thanks to the generosity of Europipe which regularly donates a car and to the generous lottery ticket purchasers, we were able to make a significant donation to JRS. Said Father Holdcroft: "We indeed received amounts of AUD 1,460 and AUD 16,065 in our accounts in November and I wish now to simply express my thanks and that of Jesuit Refugee Service for your generosity and that of your members. As with all of our donations, the money will go towards Jesuit Refugee Service's work with refugees both in Australia and in selected Jesuit Refugee Service work overseas, mainly in East Africa (Sudan, Kenya and Uganda) and the Asia Pacific region (Thailand, Timor L'Este and Papua New Guinea).

In Australia we undertake two projects. The first is a "shelter" project, accommodating and supporting asylum seekers living in the community who are without work rights or access to income support and to Medicare, the Australian health system. At present, we are looking after ten such people and are hoping to extend this programme in the New Year. We literally are taking people off the streets into this project and the need remains great. I also attend Villawood Immigration Detention Centre and look after a number of people there as well in the high security system. The overseas projects are in general much larger and tend to be education-oriented, although, as refugees are now less likely to be in camps, we are beginning a number of income generation and shelter projects also. In all our programs, whether in Australia or internationally, we seek to fill gaps where no other agency works and where the need is urgent and real. Once again, many thanks for the significant and generous contribution made by the convention participants!

In gratitude,

**(Fr) David Holdcroft SJ**  
Executive Director



## CONVENTION UPDATE

Planning is already well under way and some of our major sponsors have made visits to view and select venues for their specific events.

The Athenaeum (Intercontinental) Athens is the chosen venue. With its large ballroom and central location, within just a few kilometres of the Acropolis, the Parthenon, the Temple of Apollo and the Pláka, the hotel is ideal for the convention. Metro and tram stations are also nearby.

Sponsorship opportunities will be communicated to all members shortly. Those who sponsored a specific item last year will be given the right of first refusal and then the opportunities will be made available to the general membership.

### **NEW opportunities this year include:**

- Welcome drinks at Registration (Sat/Sun)
- Internet Centre (computers free of charge for delegate use)
- Bottled mineral water for all tours
- Coffee breaks at Open General Meetings

We expect to mail the Convention registration packet and post full details on the website in April.

### Save the Date for Athens

Monday 29 September – Friday 3 October 2008 has been set as the week for the upcoming convention.



## New Construction Project Makes Headlines

From our Special Correspondent, 1 April 2008

**PARIS – The Bordeaux/UK Pipewine Project is under way, set to revolutionise the wine industry and promising to give producers of wines and spirits worldwide something to mull over.**

This new project is being launched at a time of steadily increasing wine popularity in the UK, where the per capita consumption of more than 20 litres per annum is soon expected to rival that in France. Jacques Shiraz, former leading wine producer and entrepreneur in Bordeaux announced the new joint venture with a major UK supermarket chain this morning. Shiraz explained that his Bordeaux used to spend two years maturing in a stainless steel tank and then six months in oak before being bottled and shipped. His groundbreaking idea is to transport the wine directly – albeit very slowly – via a steel pipeline that is lined for the last 200 km to the distribution point with British oak.

He explained how this idea came to him following an extended tasting session. “It seemed such a shame for the wine to just sit there,” he said. On further questioning Shiraz admitted that he is still seeking funding for his project and that contract and risk-sharing negotiations with the supermarket and construction company are ongoing. His project is competing with a similar endeavour in Australia. “Zay will have to pipe zeirs fast,” he said. “Zat stuff does not keep.”

A spokesman for the Australian project, however, considers theirs much superior. The Australian project engineers are apparently developing a dual service pipeline, with a lower pipe for inexpensive table wines (the “pipe for lower or nouveaux quality” or “PLONQ”) and an upper pipe with slow pumping and Spanish oak lining (the “slow, lined, upper, refining pipe” or “SLURP”) reserved for the very best wines.

According to Shiraz, producers of wines and spirits in other countries have also expressed significant interest in the new maturation and delivery system and regional meetings with potential clients will be held in various locations in the coming months. Greek producers are apparently looking for somewhere to send their ouzo. And Shiraz is already in the planning and design phase for his next novel idea – a separation technology for the mixed pumping of petroleum and vodka.



## BE A PART OF IPOCA'S FUTURE!

In addition to the annual convention which remains one of our key objectives, in order to be a strong and attractive organisation IPOCA needs to move swiftly forward with its four objectives:

- Communication
- Large Contractor commitment
- Health, Safety, Security and Environment
- New Technologies

IPOCA's membership is itself the largest reservoir of ideas and expertise that are needed to secure its future.

If you wish to participate and contribute to any of the above four objectives as a member of a working group, please contact [elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com](mailto:elizabeth.spalding@iploca.com) or call +41 22 306 0230.

**This is your association and your input is essential to its future. Thank you in advance for your assistance.**

**Luc Henriod**  
Executive Secretary

# IN THE HEADLINES

## Swedish government demands more data about Baltic Sea gas pipeline

AP STOCKHOLM, Sweden: Nord Stream AG's application to build a gas pipeline under the Baltic Sea is incomplete and needs additions before it can be reviewed, Sweden's environment minister said Tuesday. Andreas Carlgren said the German-Russian consortium needs to describe the environmental consequences along the entire stretch of the proposed pipeline and put forward an alternative where the pipe is not built under the sea.

*International Herald Tribune, 12 February*

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## Exxon Mobil inks North Slope gas deal

JUNEAU - Exxon Mobil Corp. has agreed to sell North Slope natural gas to a Fairbanks distributor, a deal some state lawmakers hailed Tuesday as a "breakthrough" in the state's long quest to convert the state's rich gas reserves into cash. In a joint announcement, the Texas-based energy giant and a small firm, Fairbanks Natural Gas, said they'd reached a 10-year supply contract for up to 10 billion cubic feet of gas per year. The Fairbanks company plans to build a plant at the Prudhoe Bay field to supercool the gas into a liquid that would then be trucked nearly 500 miles down the Dalton Highway for distribution to customers such as hotels, large retailers, a Fairbanks hospital and homeowners.

*Anchorage Daily News, Alaska, 12 February 2008*

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## China ready to join IPI gas project

ISLAMABAD: China has said it was ready to join Pakistan and Iran in their gas pipeline project if India did not, sources told DailyTimes on Sunday. Pakistan plans to import 2.2 billion cubic feet of gas a day from Iran under the project, and has said it was willing to consume an additional 1.05 billion cubic feet if India did not join the project. Sources said that China had told Pakistan it was interested in importing the additional gas if India did not join in. They said Iran had no objection to exporting gas to China.

*DailyTimes - Lahore, Pakistan, 11 February 2008*

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## Blast hits Iraqi gas pipeline

An explosion struck a gas pipeline transporting unrefined gas from Kirkuk's oilfields to Iraq's largest refinery in Baiji on Monday, an Iraqi army officer and refinery sources said.

Iraqi army captain Adnan al-Jubouri said a leak had caused the blast in the pipeline located in the Laqlaq area about 15km northeast of Baiji. "Our military base is near the area and we could smell gas all yesterday," said Jubouri.

"This morning there was a powerful blast. We could see the smoke and a huge fire. "Sources at the refinery said the loss of supply from the pipeline would not hamper the operation of the refinery, but Baiji and Tikrit would suffer power cuts.

*The Age - Melbourne, Australia, 11 February 2008*

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## Business: New partners join the Nabucco natural gas pipeline agreement

German natural gas company RWE joined the Nabucco natural gas pipeline on Tuesday (February 5th) as the sixth partner in the project. The agreement signing ceremony in Vienna was attended by the EU and representatives of the partners from Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Austria and Germany. The Nabucco project includes the construction of a 3,300-km pipeline connecting the Caspian Sea, the Middle East and Egypt with European markets.

*Southeast European Times, Maryland, USA, 8 February 2008*

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## Gazprom Opens Pipeline Access for Rospan Gas Fields

Anglo-Russian TNK-BP has at last procured access to the Gazprom-controlled pipeline system for the joint venture's West Siberian gas fields, where production has been limited for several years due to the lack of agreements with the Russian gas monopoly, Gazprom's press service confirmed. The two companies last week agreed on "technical conditions" for a pipeline that TNK-BP will build from its Rospan project in the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district to link it with the national trunk gas pipeline system, controlled by gas monopoly Gazprom.

*Oil & Gas Eurasia, 30 January 2008*

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## Gas pipelines have few rules, property owners discover

GRAYSON COUNTY –The roar of an uninvited bulldozer woke up George and Barbara Woodroof on a recent Tuesday morning. Mr. Woodroof took a last look outside his bedroom window at the hill covered with oak trees. A week later, bulldozers had cleared hundreds of trees and a wide swath of nature on the couple's property to make way for a 36-inch-wide, high-pressure natural gas line that passes 290 feet from their home.

*Dallas Morning News, USA, 8 February 2008*

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# UPCOMING CONFERENCES

## **GASTECH 2008**

10 – 13 March 2008

Bangkok, Thailand

[www.gastech.co.uk](http://www.gastech.co.uk)

## **Pipeline Technology Conference 2008**

21 – 23 April 2008

Hannover, Germany

[www.eitep.com](http://www.eitep.com)

## **International Tube and Pipe Trade Fair - 2008**

31 March – 4 April 2008

Düsseldorf - Germany

[www.mdna.com/shows/tube.html](http://www.mdna.com/shows/tube.html)

## **China Offshore Summit 2008**

2 – 3 April 2008

Beijing, China

[www.globaleaders.com/en/2008/cos/cos.asp](http://www.globaleaders.com/en/2008/cos/cos.asp)

## **GIOGIE 2008 - 7<sup>th</sup> Georgian International Oil, Gas, Energy and Infrastructure Conference & Showcase**

3 - 4 April 2008

Tbilisi - Georgia

[www.giogie.com/2007/home.html](http://www.giogie.com/2007/home.html)

## **Oil and Gas Pipelines in the Middle East**

12 – 14 May 2008

Abu Dhabi

[www.theenergyexchange.co.uk](http://www.theenergyexchange.co.uk)

## **Pipe Line Contractors Association of Canada - 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**

14 – 18 April 2008

Lahaina - United States

[www.pipeline.ca/convention.html](http://www.pipeline.ca/convention.html)

## **Arctic Oil & Gas 2008**

15 – 16 April 2008

Oslo, Norway

[www.ibcenergy.com](http://www.ibcenergy.com)

## **1<sup>st</sup> Nigerian International Gas Conference & Exhibition**

20 – 23 May 2008

Abuja International Conference Centre

[www.nigeria-gas.com](http://www.nigeria-gas.com)

## **CIS OIL AND GAS SUMMIT 2008**

28 – 30 May 2008

Paris, France

[www.theenergyexchange.co.uk/summit8](http://www.theenergyexchange.co.uk/summit8)

## **Global Petroleum Show**

10 – 12 June 2008

Calgary, Canada

[www.petroleumshow.com](http://www.petroleumshow.com)

## **Middle East Plastic Pipes 2008**

2 – 4 June 2008

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

## **SAOGE 2008 - Saudi Arabia International Oil & Gas Exhibition & Conference**

16 – 18 June 2008

Dammam - Saudi Arabia

[www.saoge2008.com](http://www.saoge2008.com)

## **19<sup>th</sup> World Petroleum Congress**

29 June – 3 July 2008

Madrid, Spain

[www.19wpc.com](http://www.19wpc.com)

## **Africa Energy Forum 2008**

2 – 4 July 2008

Nice, France

[www.energynet.co.uk/AEF/AEF2008](http://www.energynet.co.uk/AEF/AEF2008)

## **15<sup>th</sup> Annual India Oil & Gas Review Symposium (IORS 2008)**

1 – 2 September 2008

Bandra, Mumbai, India

## **CHINA POWER, OIL & GAS 2008**

2 - 4 September 2008

Guangzhou, China

[www.cpog08.events.pennnet.com/fl](http://www.cpog08.events.pennnet.com/fl)

## **International Pipeline Exposition 2008 - Calgary**

30 September – 2 October 2008

Calgary, Canada

[www.petroleumshow.com](http://www.petroleumshow.com)

## **Russian Oil & Gas Technical Conference & Exhibition 2008 -SPE**

28 – 30 October 2008

Moscow - Russian Federation

[www.russianoilgas.com](http://www.russianoilgas.com)

## **Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC)**

3 – 6 November 2008

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

[www.adipec.com](http://www.adipec.com)

## In Memoriam

### George Paraskevaides Joannou & Paraskevaides

**George Paraskevaides, one of the two original founders of J&P died in London in early December 2007. He was 92.**

Mr. Paraskevaides was one of the owners of one of the biggest development companies in the world, Joannou and Paraskevaides, and continuously demonstrated his care for his fellow citizens through financial support for medical treatment. He also helped promote Cypriot culture.

Cyprus President Tassos Papadopoulos expressed in a written statement his profound and sincere grief for Mr. Paraskevaides' death, noting that Cyprus owes a lot to him. "He was a model of humanity, dignity and kindness. He offered a lot in a selfless way to those who needed help and was a benefactor for Cyprus, serving his country with patriotism," the statement said. "He leaves behind him charity work for which he will be dearly remembered as a man of high moral standards," he added.

The George and Thelma Paraskevaides Foundation has formed links with Shriners Hospital in Springfield, Massachusetts and Children's Heart Fund Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota and has provided numerous scholarships for less fortunate Cypriots. Paraskevaides founded the Cyprus Kidney Association, the Surgical and Transplant Foundation and the Cyprus Heart Association. Paraskevaides received several prestigious honours, including the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) by Queen Elizabeth II, the Order of Oman III, Class Civil by Sultan Qaboos of Oman, the Rotary Foundation Medal, and the Medal of Merit of the Lions International Club of Nicosia, the St. Paul's Medal by the Greek Orthodox Archbishop of North and South America, and the St. Marcus Medal by the Pontifice.

He was an honorary citizen of Nicosia and received the Golden Apple Award from Mayor Edward Koch, of New York. He was awarded the Aristotelian Award by the Greek-American Organization AHEPA, the Person of the Year for 1986 by the Hellenic-American Neighborhood Action Committee, and Distinguished Hellene Award by the Hellenic Medical Society of New York and the Freedom Award of the Pancyprian Association of America.

In a speech placed on the US Congressional Record, on June 1991, Congressman Edward Feighan said, "Mr. Paraskevaides has often been offered highest official positions in Cyprus but has continuously refused them

because of his belief that he can better serve his country through his business associates and his international relations. His idea that his Cypriot employees overseas constitute ambassadors of their country is a lesson for all of us interested in fostering international cooperation and good will. And it is our fervent hope that the message they bring about Cyprus will educate more people and help to create an atmosphere that will soon end the tragic division of that beautiful island".

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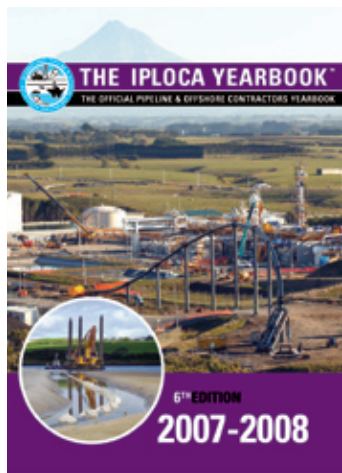
## IPLOCA YEARBOOK 2008-2009

**Preparation of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the IPLOCA YEARBOOK will begin in March or April.**

You will receive in due course the checklists for your company's information as well as the advertising details. It is absolutely imperative that you provide us with the

exact information as the Yearbook is mailed out worldwide and is an essential recourse for your clients. Make sure that when they wish to contact you they have the right information at their fingertips.

Since the convention will be at the end of September this year the closing date for scheduling



and advertising material will be 15 June. We will send you details by flyer and by e-mail. Online advertising reservation through the website is preferred.

For more information about advertising please go to [www.iploca-yearbook.com](http://www.iploca-yearbook.com). Please note that advertising in the IPLOCA YEARBOOK is restricted to Members, Associate Members and other organisations affiliated with IPLOCA. The Yearbook will be published as a hard copy and as a digital PDF file on the website.

We will again publish a ten-page photo section. We ask you to prepare some really good photographs and send them to us for free publicity. Do not hesitate to contact us at [info@iploca-yearbook.com](mailto:info@iploca-yearbook.com) for any further information.

**Pieter Schoonenberg**

Publisher IPLOCA YEARBOOK

# IPLOCA 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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