



the Energy to Lead

Program Overview

Residential Methane Detectors and Asset Lifecycle Tracking & Traceability

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GTI Overview

ESTABLISHED 1941

- > Independent, not-for-profit company established by natural gas industry
- > Providing natural gas research, development and technology deployment services to industry and government clients and gas consumers
- > Performing contract research, program management, consulting, and training
- > Facilities
 - 18 acre laboratory near Chicago
 - 200,000 ft² with 28 labs
- > Staff of 250
- > Wellhead to the burner tip including energy conversion technologies



Safety is Priority #1

- > **Customer behavior** suggests that odorant alone is not enough for customers to report leaks
- > Recent events have heightened the focus on how unreported leaks can result in tragic outcomes
- > The natural gas industry has an **opportunity** to augment existing safety programs and be more proactive in regards to the detection of our product in homes
- > Having an alert system such as a **residential methane detector** benefits both the customer and the utility

Strategy for Adoption of Residential Methane Detectors



Residential Methane Detectors are Commercially Available...

- > Can be purchased at home improvement stores
- > International products are also available
- > Prices range from \$40 - \$100+
- > But product availability and price do not make a market
 - Concerns with performance
 - Framework doesn't exist to promote the installation of residential methane detectors
 - Lack of public awareness

Low customer adoption

Product Performance Issues

- > **2010 Testing** - OTD project performed baseline testing and evaluation of commercially available, domestic residential methane detectors
 - Concerns exist with performance – False positives to common household agents; level of detection; humidity range, battery backup
- > **Repeat baseline testing** and evaluation of commercially available, domestic & international detectors (current OTD project)
- > Conduct a comprehensive **pilot program** for those most promising detectors to gain real-world experience in a controlled environment
- > **Technology development**
 - New sensors have promise to address false positives and lower sensitivity levels, but will take time to develop?
 - Efforts underway with ARPA-E, GTI, NYSEARCH, PRCI

Action: Complete baseline testing, initiate pilot program, monitor sensor development efforts, validate new technology as it becomes available

Level of Detection Issue

- > What is the appropriate “fit for purpose” detection level?
 - **Current detectors alarm at 25% LEL**, but this is too high. Odorant detection code requirements are less (20% LEL federal; some states are lower - NY 10%, MA 3%). Should there be alignment between odor detection and alarm points? What is appropriate for this application?
 - **Instantaneous or Integrated?** Initial alarm could be based on an integration of readings over a defined period of time (similar to CO) in the 5% LEL range with a steady alarm warning of 10% LEL. But this technology doesn’t exist, yet
- > Evaluate the **appropriateness of current UL standards** (1434 and 1484)
 - 1434: Standard for Thermistor Type Devices (includes sensing devices)
 - 1484: Standard for Safety Residential Gas Detectors (25% LEL)
 - Develop and incorporate installation guidelines
 - Develop new “fit-for-purpose” UL standard with lower detection point

Action: Need consensus on “fit for purpose” detection level and strategy to address UL standards. “It all starts with an appropriate standard.”

Consumer Behavior Issues

- > **Need to understand behavior** – why aren't gas odors being reported?
In order to address issues appropriately for both odor and alarms
- > Public Awareness
 - Ensure messaging is clear that the public should call if they smell gas **OR** if an alarm goes off – potential confusion and unintended consequences
 - Educate customers on why they should use these detectors, potential consequences and what to do if they alarm
- > Coordinate public awareness strategy and campaigns
 - Establish stakeholder groups (e.g., utilities, AGA, APGA, regional trade associations, safety officials, state and local governments)

Action: Expand market research data on consumer behavior, develop key points and concise messaging for public awareness campaigns and coordinate with all stakeholders

Alarm Reporting Issues

- > Is an audible alarm sufficient? Precedent established with smoke and CO alarms
- > Do we want automated alarm reporting? Who would get notified and respond (e.g., utility, fire department, home monitoring service)? Is this appropriate for certain building types (multi-family)?
- > Are interconnected alarms for multi-unit buildings warranted?
- > Combination CO/Methane detectors are preferred? Do we need to distinguish which threat is present?

**Action: Develop stakeholder group to reach industry consensus.
“Start with the basics, let the market drive the bells & whistles.”**

Market Channel Strategy

- > Assess pros/cons of various market channel approaches in achieving desired results
 - **Building Codes** – should building codes be developed that mandates the use of residential methane detectors (similar to smoke alarms)?
 - **Utilities** – Should utilities encourage the use of residential methane detectors? Should they provide financial incentives? Should there be targets established? And cost recovery?
 - One size fits all or should the strategy be dependent on the environment (urban, cast iron, multi-family, higher risk)?

Action: Develop deployment and distribution strategy to achieve desired customer adoption rate.

Economic and Market Issues

> Price Implications

- Existing detectors are in the \$40 - \$100+ range
 - Is this target price achievable given the desire to lower the detection limit?
 - Is this target price achievable with remote reporting functionality?
 - What is the consumer willing to pay and how will this impact adoption rates? Are subsidies warranted?
- > Should utilities pursue **cost recovery mechanisms** (similar to energy efficiency programs)?
- > What are the **economics associated with advanced features**?
- > Determine target adoption rate and projections under various scenarios; compare to adoption rates for CO and smoke detectors

Action: Develop scope for economic and market analysis

Pathways to Address Issues

- > **Standards development** – define “fit-for-purpose” product performance criteria
- > **Technology development and validation** – ensure reliable and effective products are readily available
- > **Stakeholder engagement** – ensure industry alignment on critical issues such as market channels, consumer behavior and public awareness to enable full market adoption

Asset Lifecycle Tracking & Traceability

Information	Mfg. Values
Lot Number	1234567
Production Date	1/4/2010
Material Type	PE2708
Component Type	Electrofusion tapping tee with a stab outlet
Component Size	2" IPS SDR 11 x 1" IPS SDR11



Create GIS Features in the Field

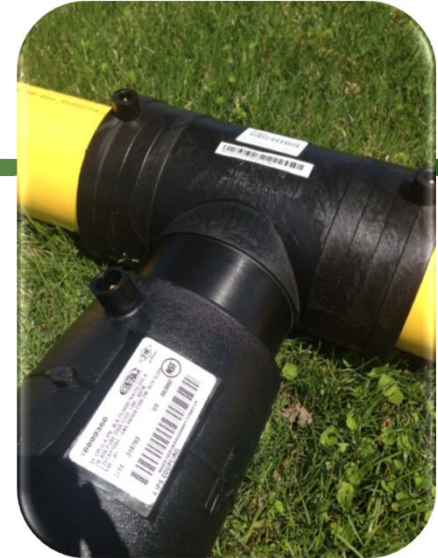
Post to Enterprise GIS

Integrate Data into GIS System of Record

Mobile GIS for Mapping and T&T

> Objectives

- Develop **mobile GIS** technology that creates **digital as-builts** with complete **tracking and traceability** information of pipes, fittings, and fusions
- **Eliminate back-office** post-processing and GIS integration as well as traditional mapping functions
- Utilize recent advances in GIS, tablet computers, GPS, barcode scanning, and cloud computing to **improve the quality and efficiency** of data collection



GTI's Mobile GIS Technology

> Technology features:

- Tablet with mobile GIS data collection software
- High accuracy GPS receiver (connected via Bluetooth)
- Barcode scanner (connected via Bluetooth)
- Application to convert barcodes into asset attributes to auto populate the GIS
- Fusion tracking and traceability system that captures information directly from leading fusion machines
- Labels with 50 year life in underground conditions
- Disconnected editing capability





Supporting Implementation

- > GTI spinout, LocusView Solutions, created to provide implementation services for advanced geospatial technologies
- > Provides field tested, customer validated, commercial products
- > Turn-key implementation services including hardware, software, hosting, training, and IT support

Results in Action

- > Mobile GIS software with barcode scanning and high accuracy GPS **commercially released in October 2013** and available through LocusView Solutions
- > **Integration with leading fusion equipment** manufactures complete in 2014
- > **Five pilot projects complete**
 - Integrys, Avista, National Grid, NiSource, Dominion
- > **Five new pilot projects in 2014**
 - ConEd, Colorado Springs, MLGW, NSTAR, Piedmont
- > Production implementations in Q1 2015

Thank you!

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