

# Pigging Industry News

*the newsletter of the Pigging Products & Services Association*

## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*By Felix Schmidt, 3P Services, Germany*

A very special year has come to an end in which so many things have changed. 2020 has disabled many personal contacts, which affects both our personal and professional lives. For an association like ours, which depends so much on interactions and networking between their members and others in our industry, this seems like a horrible scenario. It does however not necessarily need to be one. While getting together physically is still hardly possible in many areas of the world, meeting up with colleagues, clients or friends abroad in a "digital face to face" is easier than ever before. 2020 has been an enormous boost for the digitalization of our communications, which can also be of great advantage.

The PPSA held its first virtual seminar in November with the theme 'Challenges in day to day pigging' and I think it was a very successful. Eight papers were presented across two days and the fact that the seminar was held virtually and without a registration fee enabled us to reach more people from more diverse geographical areas than ever before. The seminar papers are meanwhile on our website at <https://ppsa-online.com/papers.php>.

Of course we missed seeing everyone this year, and virtual gatherings will never be the same as normal ones, but they are way cheaper, ecologically worthwhile and obviously so much easier to get to. Various platforms are also trying to strengthen the networking aspect of virtual seminars or conferences and I am quite sure that

we will see more of those events in future, even when the Covid-19 pandemic gets under better control.

The upcoming conferences in which the PPSA usually exhibits, namely the PPIM in February and the ptc in March, will both be held virtually this year too. We are taking part in the PPIM 2021 Virtual Event and are listed in the Interactive Product & Services Directory and we will be virtually exhibiting at the online ptc conference. The PPSA events that usually taking place prior to the PPIM conference in Houston are consequently also affected. The PPSA Golf Tournament is unfortunately cancelled this year, but we look forward to it hopefully returning next year on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place online on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 15:00 GMT (UK time). Please contact [diane@ppsa-online.com](mailto:diane@ppsa-online.com) for a link to the zoom meeting. As all members are welcome to join the AGM, we might be able to get more people involved again in the online event. The AGM is an opportunity to help guide the future direction of the Association and find out what has been happening this year. We will be announcing two new Directors from the Western Hemisphere and will be welcoming our incoming President Dr. Mike Kirkwood who will take over Presidency at the AGM. We'll also be looking for ideas for a new 'theme for the year' that we can add

to our repository alongside the 'Challenges in day-to-day Pigging'.

Continuing with PPSA's mission of knowledge sharing in the industry we've put together a repository of papers and articles on last year's topic of 'Challenges in day to day pigging' Difficult to pig lines, unusual products (for example ammonia, ethylene, hydrogen, high H<sub>2</sub>S etc.), lodged pigs, pig tracking etc.' are now on the PPSA website <https://ppsa-online.com/technical-topics>.

We will see whether vaccines will allow us to return to some sort of normal working as the year progresses and if we can consider holding our seminar in November in Aberdeen again, for which we will be calling for papers soon. In any case, we are looking forward to meeting up with members and operators in the industry again at events through the world or online.

As this is my last President's Letter, I would like to thank everybody for the support given to our association during the past year. It's been a great help. The last year has certainly been completely different from what I had expected for the time during my Presidency, but it has been a great honor to serve the PPSA as President during this difficult year. I wish Mike Kirkwood all the best for the next year which will certainly also be exciting. ●

# NEW Members

Full

**Xingke Small-medium  
Enterprise Service Center of  
Shenyang University  
of Technology, China**

## 3X Engineering provide pipe and supports protection

The client had some problems of deterioration between the 6 inch crude oil pipeline and its supports. The objective of the test required in December 2017 was to evaluate **3X Engineering's** solution to solve this problem. The test performed by 3X specialists, in collaboration with **PEC** (3X Distributor in Qatar), was to install their **ROLLERKiT®** (product specifically dedicated to protect the area between the pipe and the support) on the line in 5 different configurations to test the effectiveness and reliability of this solution.

**ROLLERKiT®** can be installed both on pipe or on support without shutdown.

According to the client's requirements and after calculations, see below the 5 various configurations performed for the test.

- Location 1 → 9 pads were installed on the pipe + 3 pads on the support (both pipe and support were blasted)
- Location 2 → 15 pads were installed on the pipe to protect the whole outside surface of the pipe (pipe was blasted)
- Location 3 → 15 pads were installed on the pipe + 3 pads on the support (application without blasting)
- Location 4 → 6 pads were installed on the support (application without blasting)
- Location 5 → 3x9 pads were installed on the pipe (application without blasting)



*ROLLERKiT® installation on location 1*



*ROLLERKiT® installation on location 2*



*ROLLERKiT® installation on location 3*



*ROLLERKiT® installation on location 4*



*ROLLERKiT® installation on location 5*

The 5 repairs were performed following the same stages:

**Pipe or support surface preparation** (depending on the configuration and where the pads were applied) using sandblasting in order to get a surface roughness  $Rz > 60\mu\text{m}$ . Degreasing and cleaning using acetone to ensure that the prepared surface is completely free from residue.

**ROLLERKiT® preparation.** Cutting of the necessary number of pads to be installed. Mixing and application of F3X8 filler on the pipe/support previously prepared and on the **ROLLERKiT®** (fiber glass side).

**ROLLERKiT® application.** **ROLLERKiT®** was then fixed on the pipe/support. For the configurations with pads installed on the pipe, ratchet belts and air bubble system were used to control the positioning.

**Repair finalization and validation.** When curing time was over, ratchet belts were removed and hardness measurements were performed to confirm the good polymerization of the filler.

The test was successfully managed by 3X specialists. **ROLLERKiT®** was installed in 5 various configurations as required by the client (with/without blasting, on pipe only, on support only, both on pipe and support).

In June 2020 (more than 2 years and half after installation), inspection was carried out and concluded the big success of the test and the efficiency of the **ROLLERKiT®**. Conclusion was transmitted by the client:

- **ROLLERKiT®** application on flowline support contact area found intact
- No wear and tear observed on **ROLLERKiT®**
- Flowline is protected at support contact point efficiently ●