the Energy to Lead

Hands-on Keyhole Training: Where We've Been and Where We're Going

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Findings From April Keyhole Consortium

>Training brainstorm exercise revealed a wide-range of needs regarding the *implementation of Keyhole Technologies*.

>One area of priority that was identified was hands-on field skills related to keyhole processes and field tasks.



What would be my next best step to be most effective?

>Adult Learning Best Practices would guide me:

- Adults need to know why they need to learn something
- Adults need to learn experientially
- Adults approach learning as problem-solving and be able to demonstrate performance
- Adults learn best when the topic is of immediate value
- How did I apply this to shape our Keyhole Pilot in July?



Planning a Hands-on Training Pilot

- > Hands-on training would allow for participants to ask deeper questions about why or how something is done
- > All participants got a chance to experience and practice
- > Instruction designed with processes in mind would teach problem-solving and trouble-shooting skills associated with each task
- > Participants will only find value and therefore transfer what they've learned



GTI Keyhole Training Pilot

- >Full day hands-on training program
- >July 16th, 2013
- In collaboration with AGL/Nicor and Tellus Underground Technology





Learning Activities in the Pilot Included:

- >The Pilot Program focused on 4 key processes related to Keyhole Technology:
 - Service Retirement Cast-iron mains with a cast-iron or steel service (less than 2 psig)
 - Service Retirement Steel mains with a "U" bolt saddle and a cast-iron service tee (10 to 100 psig)
 - Service Retirement Steel mains with Mueller welded service tee with no completion plug (10 to 100 psig)
 - Service Renewal Steel mains with a "U" bolt saddle replacing a cast-iron service tee with a steel-to-plastic service tee with a stab-type service connection (10 to 100 psig).



Square cutting plastic service line with a keyhole cutting tool





Assembling a threaded cap to a service tee using a keyhole ratchet



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Cutting threads on a retired welded service using a keyhole threading tool prior to capping the service





Cut and chamfer the service line on a welded steel service prior to threading and capping the service





What Did the Pilot Teach Us?

- >Hands-on training is the most effective way to train field skills
- >Training is most relevant and useful to the client when it is customized to their processes and procedures
- It is crucial that all participants ample opportunity to practice in as close to a "real life" environment as possible



Change Management and Implementation Still a Major Issue

>Management commitment at all levels

- Standards engineers integrating Keyhole Process, Procedures and Methodologies into the company O & M
- >Proper tooling and equipment for all employees who do the work
- >Company crews or contractors performing the work?

>Many organizations still do not understand the return on investment if implemented properly

Next Steps

>Planning a webinar for January

- General topic around implementation
- Highlighting success stories
- Primary audience: various management levels involved with implementing Keyhole

>Seeking more utilities to collaborate with for hands-on training

