

PHMSA Mechanical Damage Technical Workshop  
February 28 – March 1, 2006  
Houston, Texas

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## Mechanical Damage

# Challenges and Barriers to Industry Acceptance of Technology

Presented by:  
Alan Dean  
Tuboscope Pipeline Services





# Operators



# Regulators



# Competitors

# *Challenges & Barriers*

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# *GTI/PRCI Project 3698*

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- **Phase 1 : Jul 98 – Aug 99**
  - Design and build test vehicle
  - Pull tests
- **Phase 2 : Sept 2001 – Dec 2003**
  - Analyze High MFL, Low MFL, DEF
  - Decoupling algorithm
  - Severity classification
  - Technology transfer & software development

# *What Next ?*

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- **Digest report**
- **Much discussion over several meetings**
- **PRCI was focused on research not implementation**
- **Market not ready for the technology**
  - **Terminology, benefits and risks not fully understood**

# *PRCI – Proposal 2004*

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- **October 2004 – submit commercialization proposal**
  - **Prove up the technology in pipelines**
  - **Costs**
  - **Benefits**
  - **Risks**



# *PRCI – Proposal 2004*

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- **October 2004 – proposal tasks**
  - **Build tool**
  - **Fabricate calibration pipe**
  - **Write processing and display software**
  - **Train analysts**
  - **Run tool**
  - **Analyze data**
  - **Field verification of results**
  - **Probable modification of algorithms**

## *What Next ?*

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- **October 2005 – PRCI submitted co-funding request to DOT**
- **March 2006 – request for proposals**

# *Validation*

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- **How can we validate results ?**
  - May have little visual evidence
  - Which tools in the ditch ?
- **Operators need to fully involved**
  - Define the process
  - Disclosure of pipeline information

# *Industry Acceptance*

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- **Two main ways**
  - Many runs for many operators over a lengthy period of time
  - Work with few clients in public domain
- **Standardization of terminology**
- **Acceptable severity specifications**