



THE *BILLET* STC NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER of the HEALTH PHYSICS SOCIETY

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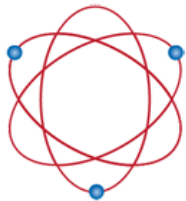
Special Topic Meeting: Radiation Sources & Radiography in the Oil & Gas Industry

Join us! STC-HPS will host a technical meeting focusing on the increased use and risks associated with well logging and pipe/tank radiography.



Affiliates Roster

Our Affiliates are important to the STC, and we are thankful for their generous contributions to the Chapter. STC members, please use STC Affiliates first for your business needs.



Drill Delves into a Chilling 'What If'

Last month 46 local, state, and federal agencies participated in a drill led by the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA) here. The event helped first responders examine how they'd react to a radioactive threat beginning at MD Anderson and expanding to the rest of the Houston area.

Another Successful Annual Student Meeting in Waco, Texas, April 2013

Past President Janet Gutierrez shares the highlights of the Annual Student Meeting in Waco.



Photos of the Students, Presentations, & Awards at the Annual Student Meeting in Waco



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NRC News

NRC finalizes rules on using and distributing Uranium and Thorium



STC-HPS News & Announcements

New Executive Committee • Photos of STC members at the 2013 Annual HPS Meeting in Madison, WI

Special Topic Meeting: Radiation Sources & Radiography in the Oil & Gas Industry

Register and make your hotel reservations by September 4, 2013!

Because of the huge boom in the oil and gas exploration and recovery in our great state, the South Texas Chapter of the Health Physics Society (STC-HPS) will be hosting a technical meeting focusing on the increased use and risks associated with well logging and pipe/tank radiography.

Well logging utilizes sealed gamma sources [e.g., cesium-137, and neutron sources, (e.g., americium-241/beryllium)] for characterizing the minerals and fluids in a newly drilled well. In addition, radioactive tracers may be injected into a well for characterizing subsurface artifacts. The oil/gas boom requires many miles of new pipelines and storage tanks to be fabricated to deliver water to the well sites and to distribute oil and gas to consumers. This increases the need for field radiography of pipe and tank welds, which relies heavily on iridium-192 gamma cameras. The greater demand for use of radioactive materials could increase the potential for radiation accidents and lost or stuck sources, thus increasing risk to the general public. The Texas Department of State Health Services, the Texas Radiation Advisory Board, radioactive material users, and local universities are closely monitoring the situation to help assure best work practices are used to minimize these risks in a proactive manner.

The Saturday, September 21, 2013, meeting of the STC will feature experts from several of these groups to tell of the success stories of their ideas and actions to minimize the radiation risks and to share mishaps lessons learned from that can be used to help prevent future events.

The Technical Meeting will be held at:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Operations Center Building (OCB), 1851 Crosspoint Ave. ([map](#))
Room # 2.200, Rio Grande Room
Houston, Texas 77054

The Sept. 21 meeting will be held from 0830-1600 hours (8:30 AM to 4:00 PM)

Onsite registration will begin at 0800 hours (8:00 AM) in the hallway in front of Room # 2.200, Rio Grande Room, until the meeting starts

Registration costs are:

- \$45 for STC-HPS members, \$10 for students, with meals, registering and paying in advance on the stc-hps.org website, prior to the deadline of Sept. 4, 2013
- \$30 for STC-HPS member without meals, registering and paying in advance on the stc-hps.org website, prior to the deadline of Sept. 4, 2013
- \$55 for registration after Sept. 4, 2013, or at the door on the day of the meeting, if space is still available (includes meal options)
- \$55 for non-member with meals, registering and paying in advance on the stc-hps.org website, prior to the deadline of Sept. 4, 2013
- \$40 for non-member without meals, registering and paying in advance on the stc-hps.org website, prior to the deadline of Sept. 4, 2013

To register for this meeting and pay by check, go to <http://stc-hps.org/pdf/MeetRegis.pdf>. To register online, using PayPal, go to <http://stc-hps.org/membersonly.htm>.

Registration includes:

Breakfast: Breakfast tacos, fruit tray, orange juice, and coffee

AND

Lunch: BBQ Beef Brisket, BBQ Chicken, pinto beans, potato salad, bread, and iced tea

The hotel block group for this event is:

The Residence Inn by Marriott-Houston Medical Center

7710 South Main Street

Houston, TX 77030

Phone 713-660-7993

URL: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houas-residence-inn-houston-medical-center-reliant-park/>

The group reference name for the hotel is "Health Physics Society." There are 16 rooms available for Sept. 20 and 8 rooms for Sept. 21 at a group rate of \$109/night, plus tax.

Parking for the Technical Meeting and the STC Executive Council Meeting:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Operations Center Building (OCB), 1851 Crosspoint Ave.

The hyperlink to the map from Residence Inn to the OCB is <http://goo.gl/maps/FF6Sb>

Parking is somewhat tricky.

Parking is free but restricted to **Visitor Lot C**. Visitor Lot C is slightly hidden.

When entering the driveway, you will be facing north (toward downtown) and the OCB building will be on your left. Drive about 50 feet past the parking spaces on your right, labeled Per Se' Parking Only. Drive beyond the speed bump and beyond the guard shack until you see an opening in the chain link fence on your right. Turn right into this opening. This fenced-in area is Visitor Lot C.

The front door entrance is marked Visitor Entrance and faces Crosspoint.

STC-HPS Executive Council Meeting, Friday, September 20

The STC-HPS will hold an open Executive Council Meeting Friday, September 20, from 1730-1930 hours (5:30 PM to 7:30 PM)

Executive Council Meeting Location:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

Operations Center Building (OCB), 1851 Crosspoint Ave. ([map](#)).

Room # 1.300 Longhorn Room

Houston, Texas 77054

Location and Parking info: same as above.

Register and make your hotel reservations by Sept 4, 2013!

STC-HPS Links: [Meeting Registration](#) | [STC-HPS Announcements](#) | [Affiliates Roster](#)

