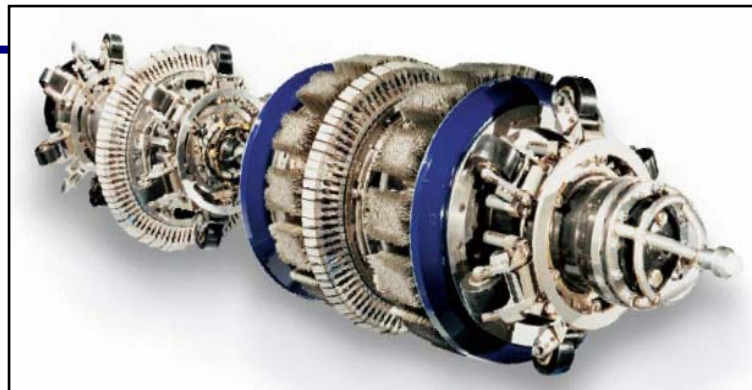


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# An Approach to Pipeline Integrity Management

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**NACE Int'l Houston Section Meeting**

**October 13, 2009**

**Robert J. (Bob) Franco**

# Overview

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- Pipeline assets
- 11-Element Operations Integrity Management System (OIMS)
  - Pipeline design and construction
  - Pipeline operations & integrity management
- Developing a pipeline integrity program
- Identifying integrity threats to an operating pipeline
- Adopting a ‘Failures are Preventable’ mindset
- Objectives of the Facilities Integrity Management System (FIMS)
- FIMS implementation
- FIMS specific requirements for pipelines
- Pipeline Internal Corrosion
- Corrosion management 10 best practices
- Inspection tools
- Conclusions

# ***Upstream Production Pipeline Assets***

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- Onshore construction costs typically \$1-2M/mile
- Transportation of hazardous fluids – requires protection of Health, Safety and the Environment
- Transportation of valuable sales products – must minimize downtime



Pipelines transport:

- Produced oil
- Produced gas (with H<sub>2</sub>S/CO<sub>2</sub>/water)
- Produced gas liquids
- Helium
- CO<sub>2</sub>

# ***11-Element Operations Integrity Management System***

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**Rigorous integrity management system provides framework for**

- 1. Management leadership, commitment and accountability**
- 2. Risk assessment and management**
- 3. Facilities design & construction – specs, codes, standards**
- 4. Information / documentation**



- 6. Operations & maintenance**
- 7. Management of change**
- 8. Third-party services**
- 9. Incident investigation & analysis**
- 10. Community awareness & emergency preparedness**
- 11. Operations integrity assessment and improvement**

# *Developing a Pipeline Integrity Program*

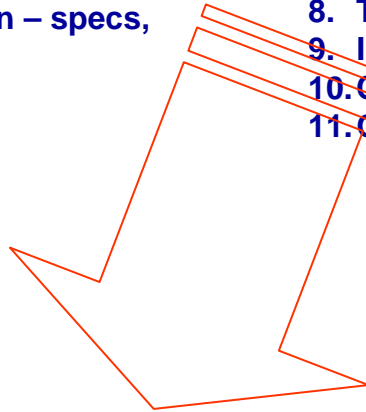
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## **Operation Integrity Management System (OIMS)**

1. Management leadership, commitment and accountability
2. Risk assessment and management
3. Facilities design & construction – specs, codes, standards
4. Information / documentation
5. Personnel & training

## **6. Operations & maintenance**

7. Management of change
8. Third-party services
9. Incident investigation & analysis
10. Community awareness & emergency preparedness
11. Operations integrity assessment and improvement



## **Facilities Integrity Management System (FIMS)**

- **Identify integrity threats**
- **Design and execute a pipeline integrity program**
- **Steward and report program results**
- **Continuously improve the program**



# ***Threats to Operating Pipeline Integrity***

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## **3<sup>rd</sup> Party Damage**

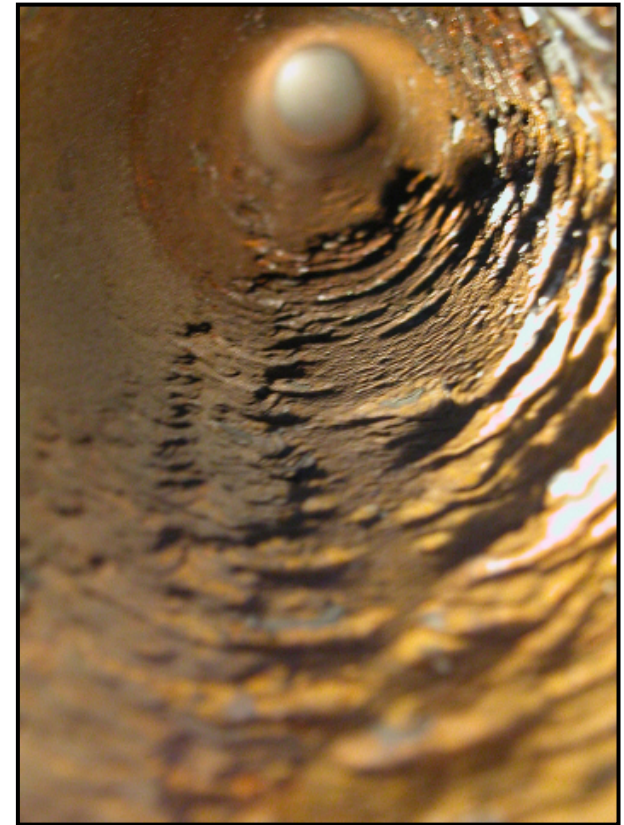


**Pipeline fire caused by backhoe**

## **External Corrosion**



## **Internal Corrosion**



## ***Threats to Operating Pipeline Integrity – cont'd***

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### **External Stress Corrosion Cracking**



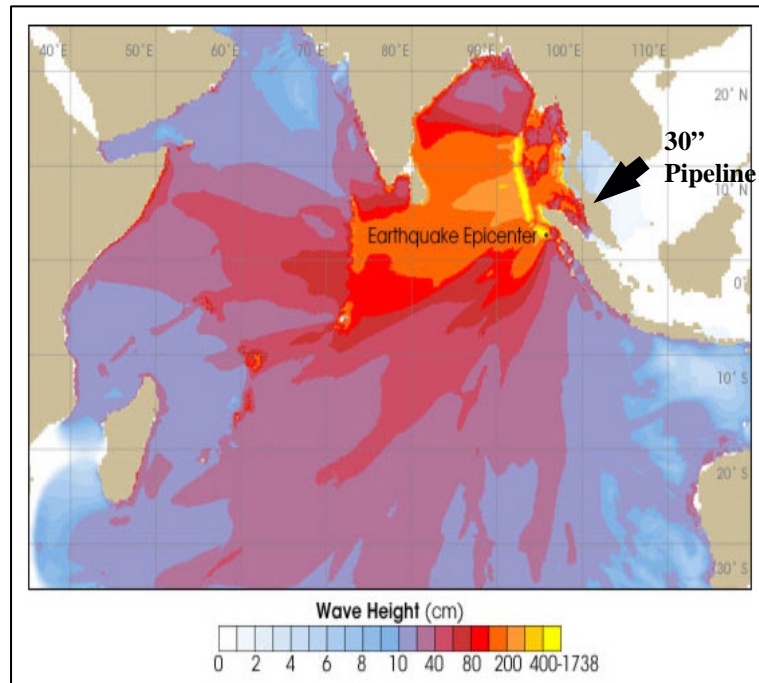
### **External Corrosion at ERW Seam**



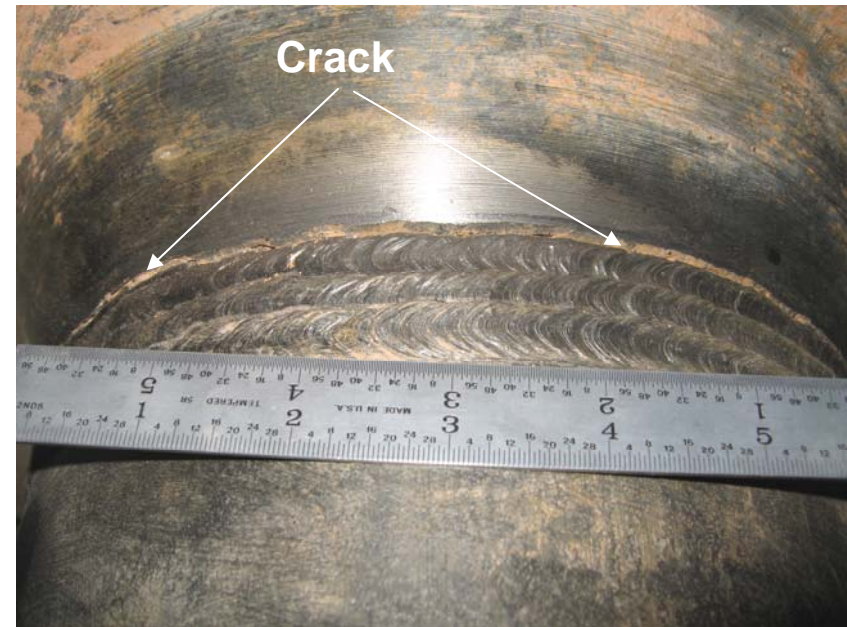


# Threats to Pipeline Integrity in Operation – cont'd

## Upheaval Buckling (Seismic)



## Thermal Stresses

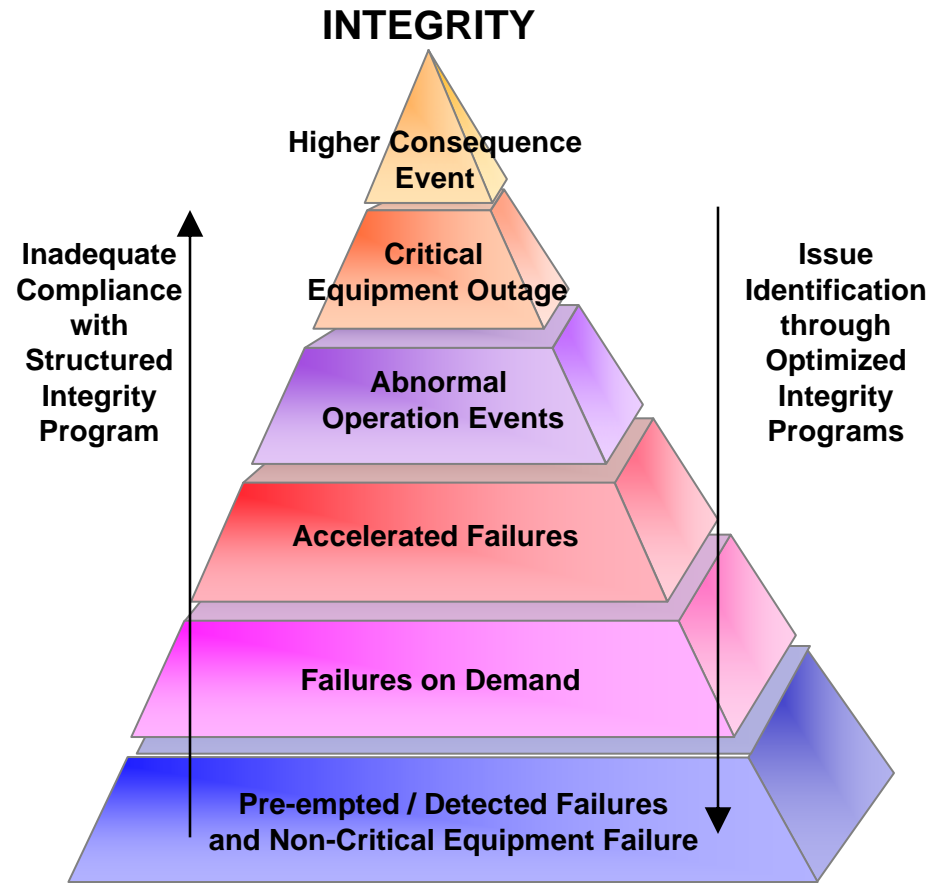




# Adopting a “Failures are Preventable” Mindset



*Injuries are Preventable*



*Failures are Preventable*

# ***FIMS Objectives & Benefits***

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## **What are we trying to accomplish with the Facilities Integrity Management System (FIMS)?**

### **Objectives**

- Eliminate higher consequence facility incidents and improve overall facility reliability
- Incorporate Best Practices into integrity management and ensure continuous improvement

### **Business Benefits**

- Established a common global integrity management approach
- Aligned organization to identify and address integrity issues
- Elevated awareness & understanding of global risk profile
- Improved management stewardship program
- Global “fleet management” approach
- Maintain positive reputation with public

# FIMS Implementation

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## PROGRAM DESIGN

Assess Equipment Criticality

Risk-Based Approach

Identify Maintenance Tasks and Inspection Activities through Risk-Based Process

Equipment Strategies

Prepare Functional Programs

Equipment Integrity Guides

Equipment-specific  
(pipelines, etc)

## PROGRAM EXECUTION

Develop Execution Procedures / Timing

Monitor Program Status

Schedule / Conduct Overall Work Plan

MOC for Deferred Activities

## PROGRAM REPORTING

Review and Assess Program Results

Report Non-Conformances

Scheduled Reviews to Confirm Fitness-for-Service / Continuous Improvement

Maintain Facility Integrity Inventory

# Pipeline Integrity Requirements

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## FIMS Pipeline Integrity Requirements - Corrosion

- Pigging for solids control (weekly to monthly)
- Caliper pig for mechanical damage (5 year default)
- Process monitoring & MOC (Annually)
  - Temperature, pressure, fluid rates/volumes
- Fluids monitoring (Annually)
  - Full water analysis yearly
  - Includes chlorides, inhibitor residual, organic acids
- Chemical treatment (Annually)
- Corrosion inspection (MFL or UT) (Min 5 yr default)
- Corrosion monitoring program (Annually)
  - Options include coupons, electric resistance probes, test spools, fluid sampling
- CP P/S potentials and interference checks (Annually)



## FIMS Pipeline Integrity Requirements - Other

- Right of way patrols
- Crossings over navigable water ways
- Walking inspections; monitoring of exposed segments
- First responder communication with local authorities

**Frequencies shown here are typical, and must be individually developed for specific pipelines by assessing risk and analyzing operating and monitoring data**



# Internal Corrosion in Produced Oil & Gas Pipelines

## Corrosion Basics: Steel + Water = Corrosion

## Oilfield Factors Add Complexity

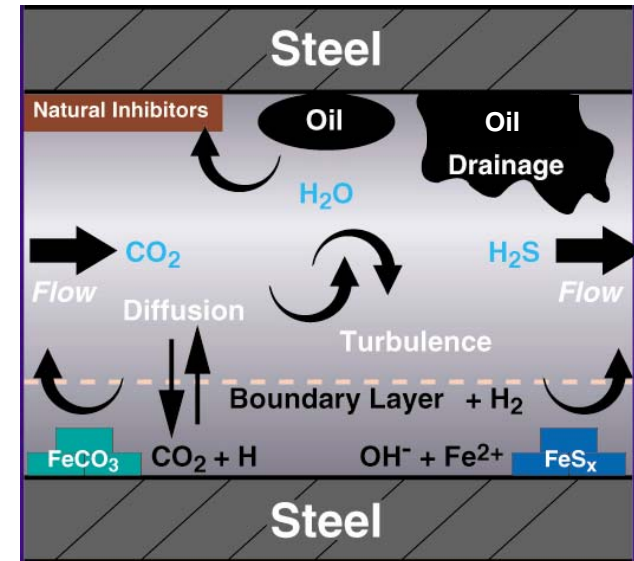
- *Accelerating factors* - salts, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, oxygen, organic and inorganic acids
- *Inhibiting factors* - liquid hydrocarbon, corrosion inhibitors
- *Fluid flow regime effects* – location of water, solids
- *Formation of protective scales* – carbonate, sulfide

## Need to Account for These Factors in Predictions

- Accurate predictions require knowledge of fluid chemistry and flow conditions throughout field life
- Predictions are based primarily on laboratory testing and field experience

## Problems Can Occur When

- Expected mitigating factors are not present; e.g. inadequate corrosion inhibition or cleaning
- Flow stream compositions and flow regimes are outside range from the design qualification
- Monitoring insufficient to detect changes in corrosion



# ***Corrosion Management 10 Best Practices***

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- 1. Operator has a Corrosion Monitoring Program**
  - Risk-based, considers tools, intervals, all degradation mechanisms
- 2. Operator has a Corrosion Control Program**
  - Inhibition, CP, coatings surveillance types and intervals
- 3. Operator has a Corrosion Inspection Program**
  - Risk-based, describes tools, intervals
- 4. Programs have written objectives, performance measurements, and stewardship**
- 5. Programs have a performance assurance process - ext. audits**

# ***Corrosion Management 10 Best Practices***

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## **6. Resources and Organization**

- Responsibilities and accountabilities, definition of resources required

## **7. Corrosion Management Operational Requirements**

- Planning & scheduling tools
- Record keeping
- Planning & budgeting

## **8. Corrosion Management of Change Process**

- Review, approval, documentation

## **9. Personnel Roles and Competencies**

- Competency Assurance System
- Training
- Documentation

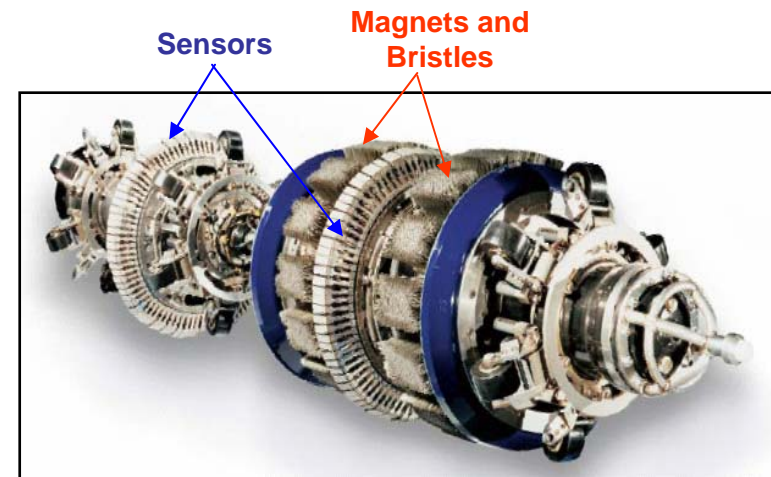
## **10. Self-Assessment and Improvement**

- Operator assesses and reviews the effectiveness of his system regularly

# Pipeline Corrosion In-line Inspection (ILI) Tools

## Inspection Options

- Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) is primary tool
  - Accuracy +/- 10% of wall thickness
  - Indirect method, requiring calibration and sizing models
  - Need supplemental ultrasonic (UT) prove-up for validation digs
  - Accuracy an issue for measuring low wall loss and narrow axial corrosion
- Ultrasonic pigs can be used in liquid filled lines
  - Better accuracy than MFL for low wall loss
  - Subject to UT signal degradation with rough pipe surfaces
- Direct wall thickness measurements sometimes used
  - Requires good understanding of fluids, topography and corrosion mechanisms to systematically select NDT locations



**In-line Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) Pig**

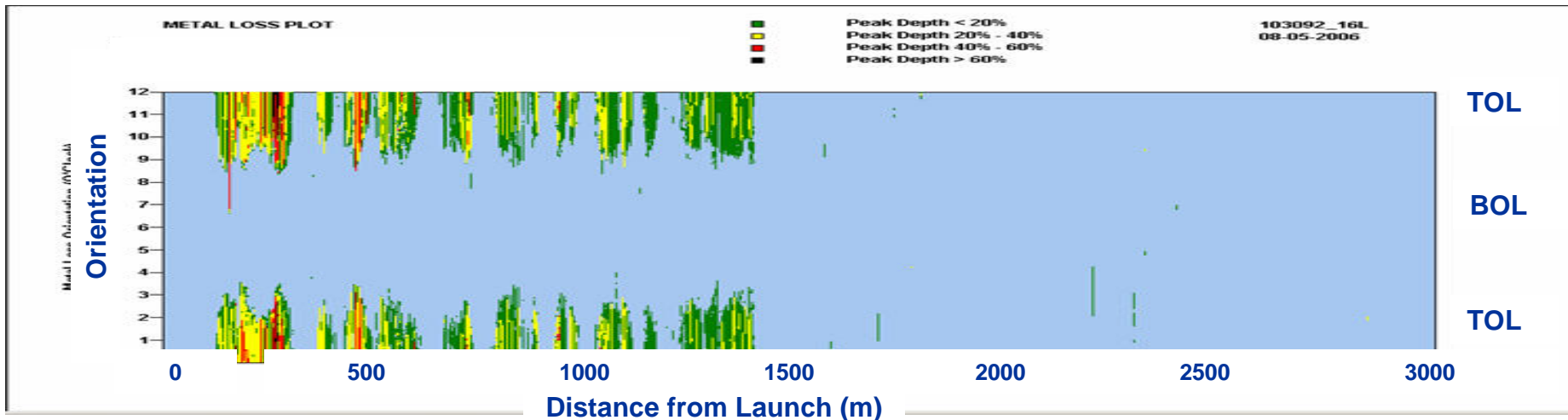


**Confirming and mitigating external corrosion detected by ILI**

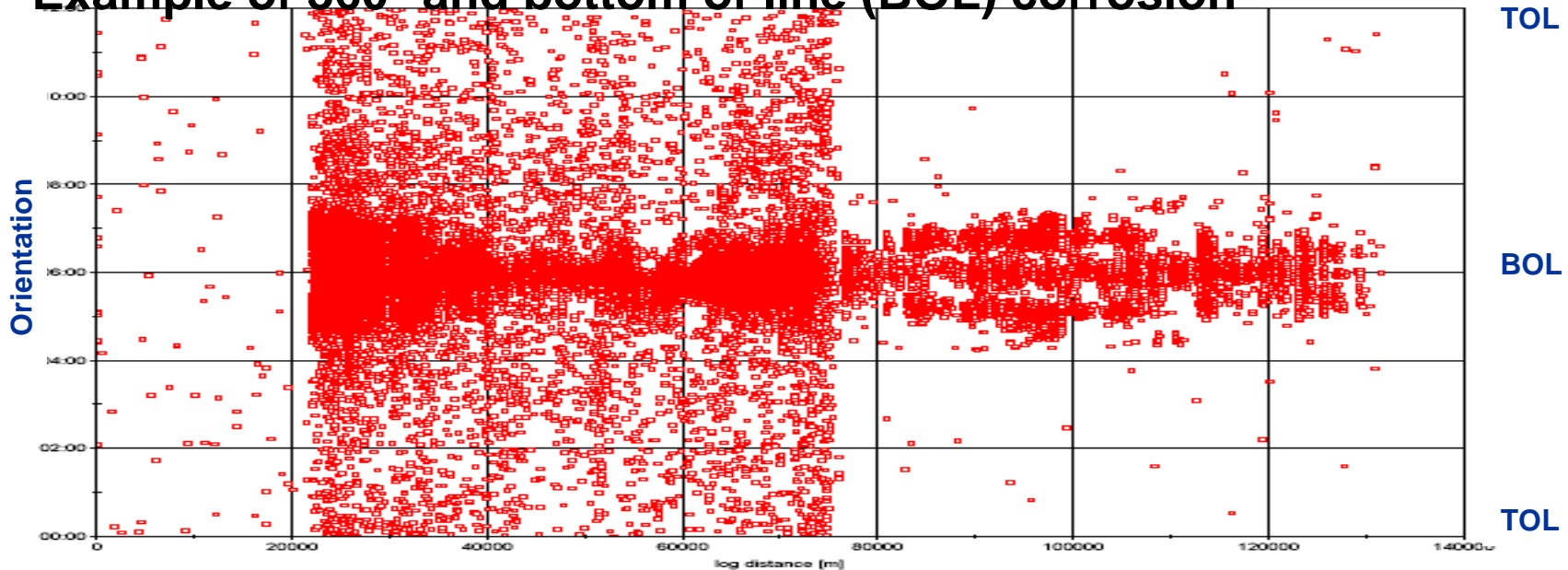


# Examples of Internal Corrosion Detected by ILI

## Example of top-of-line (TOL) corrosion



## Example of 360° and bottom of line (BOL) corrosion



# **Conclusions**

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**Pipelines are an integral asset to upstream operations**

**Pipeline integrity must consider all aspects of the design, construction, and operating phases**

**Pipeline integrity requires adopting a:**

- “Failures are Preventable” mindset**
- Systematic program that accounts for integrity threats**

**A formalized Operations Integrity Management System describes management expectations of pipeline integrity**

**A formalized Facilities Integrity Management System describes how to meet management expectations by documenting and stewarding integrity programs written by subject matter experts**

**Adoption of corrosion management best practices can improve overall performance of pipeline operation**