

## **WHY**

Q1: API 1175 is a Recommended Practice that is not mandated by PHMSA, so why should my company implement API RP 1175?

A1: While Leak Detection does not prevent leaks, it does help to minimize the size and the resulting consequences of leaks. This does help reduce the risk to the public and/or environment. API was asked to work with the Liquids Pipeline Operators to publish an RP that provides guidance to the Operators for developing, maintaining, and sustaining an active, comprehensive leak detection program to address these concerns. Implementing API RP 1175, at the minimum, provides guidance to develop a Leak Detection program and to measure its performance and the systems used to detect leaks. When a program and/or system are able to be measured, it can be improved or modified to match your company's expectations.

Q2: How is this different than other API leak detection guidance (ie, API RP 1130 or API TR 1149)?

A2: API RP 1175 is considered an "umbrella" document that covers leak detection program management, whereas, API RP 1130 and 1149 are specific to Computation Pipeline Monitoring systems. RP 1175 includes various forms of leak detection methods (Aerial Surveillance, Landowner relations, Hydro-testing, In-line inspection, Cameras, SCADA monitoring, CPM, etc.) that can be together to create a leak detection strategy. It is intended to encourage Operators to adopt industry best practices and continue to improve their program management.

Q3: Do I need to comply with all of the components contained in this RP?

A3: While it is advised to follow the entire RP, each operator should utilize the parts of RP that align with its company's strategy, goals, and risk tolerances. It should be noted that leak detection programs and systems rely on people, processes and technology. A deficiency in any one category can negatively impact the effectiveness of the other two.

Q4: Can I deploy API RP 1175 in a fit-for-purpose manner to meet my company's needs? If so, how should I go about it?

A4: Yes. In instances where your company program is already sufficient, it may be just formally documenting what your company is currently doing to manage and reduce the risks of leaks. In other cases, you may need to strengthen your program by adding process, procedure, and/or technology to close gaps that are identified in your API RP 1175 Gap Analysis.

Q5: Does following this RP involve purchasing new equipment and technologies?

A5: Not necessarily. Overall, this RP focuses on developing a culture and strategy that uses people, processes and technology to develop an overall leak detection program that is measurable, effective and able to continuously improve.

## **HOW**

Q6: To get started, what are the first 2-3 things to focus on?

A6: Once you've read the API RP 1175 and completed the Gap Analysis, the most critical two elements are to have strong leadership support and the right culture. The rest of the RP may take time to implement and will be much more difficult if the first two elements are missing.

Q7: What is the difference between a LD Strategy and LD Program?

A7: The LD Strategy is a part of the over leak detection program. Strategy includes the long-term goals for you as an Operator. The LD Program includes identifying the KPIs, setting up methods to measure the results, and monitoring the performance over time.

Q8: Are there recommended metric values that indicate whether a LD system is "good" or "bad"?

A8: No, determining whether a LD system is "good" or "bad" is left to the discretion of the individual Operators. A LD system may perform differently, based on how the Operator applies it and the parameters about the specific pipeline system where it is being used.

Q9: Does API RP 1175 include suggested KPIs?

A9: Yes, KPIs are recommended. Each Operator will decide which KPIs are appropriate for their needs, applications, and risks.

Q10: Do I need to purchase API RP 1175 to have access to the Gap Analysis Tool?

A10: No. Although the Gap Analysis Tool is designed to adequately address each element of API RP 1175, it does not replace the need for each Operator to read and understand the information that is contained in API RP 1175. We would suggest that you purchase the RP in order to fully understand its contents.

Q11: Do I have to use the API RP 1175 Gap Analysis Tool, or can I use something else?

A11: That is left up to the discretion of each Operator; however, it might save you time to use the gap analysis tool to help you evaluate your program. Plus, it may make it easier when responding to questions during audits of the LD program.

Q12: What is considered a "good" gap analysis score?

A12: A good score is left to the Operator to interpret based on their specific risks. However, the closer the average score is to 1 for each element of API RP 1175, the better the score.

Q13: Other than the Gap Analysis Tool, what other resources are provided to help each Operator deploy API RP 1175?

A13: On the API's website, there are slide decks on each of the chapters that summarize the material from the RP. The API RP 1175 includes examples of:

- A Risk Assessment
- A List of Selection Criteria
- Factors Affecting Performance

- Performance Metrics and Targets
- Roles in the Use of the LDSs
- Training Plan

Q14: Where can I get more information about API RP 1175?

A14: Visit API's website or contact the API implementation team at [PipelineLDP@api.org](mailto:PipelineLDP@api.org).

## **WHEN**

Q15: What is the timeframe to deploy API RP 1175?

A15: While that is left to the discretion of each Operator, the API RP 1175 Implementation Team suggests the following paced deployment of API 1175:

1Q2017 Complete the API 1175 Gap Analysis

2017 Close your highest priority gaps that were identified in your gap analysis.

2018 Conduct a follow-up gap assessment of your program and finish closing your

Operator's remaining key gaps