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HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE  
**EU ENERGY COOPERATION  
WITH THE EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD  
AND CENTRAL ASIA**

Celebrating the 20 years of the INOGATE Programme  
and preparing for the new stage



# **”Improving Gas Infrastructure in Georgia”**

## **GEORGIA**

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**([www.GOGC.ge](http://www.GOGC.ge))**



Session No. 5 : Gas infrastructure and standards



# Content of Presentation

- **Overview of Georgia Oil & Gas Corporation;**
- **The issues at stake;**
- **INO GATE's intervention;**
- **The situation today;**
- **Take away message/Lessons Learned;**



# 1. Overview of GOGC

## Background

- 100% owned by Georgian Government;
- The only oil and gas major of the national scale;
- Owner of MGPS (Main Gas Pipeline System), which delivers gas to Georgian and Armenian markets, Gas network unites more than 2,000 km of main gas pipeline;
- Owner of WREP (Western Route Export Pipeline), Baku-Supsa oil pipeline;

## Core Activities

- Gas and oil transportation and trading within Georgia;
- Designing and Constructing new pipelines; and
- Commissioning, rehabilitating and replacing main gas pipelines in Georgia;

## Cooperation with INOGATE Program

- 12 national and regional assignments within 20 Years of Cooperation;
- Harmonization of old soviet regulatory standards and norms with those of EU;
- Harmonization of Construction Procedures and Method statements with those of EU;
- Assistance in implementing strategy to Pipeline Integrity Management;
- Assistance in Establishing Policy of Pipeline Safety Consequence Zones;
- Development skills for the risk assessment of the transmission pipelines in line with European and international standards;





## 2. The issue at stake

- Integrity management of Un-piggable pipelines, where only ECDA (External Corrosion Direct assessment) method is applicable;
- Existing system of categorizing pipeline safety consequence zones;
- Lack of experience in cathodic protection (CP) system of pipelines;
- Lack of experience in commissioning of pipelines (Drying Methods);
- Certification of QA/QC Personal in Welding and NDT activities;
- Moving away from the existing old soviet regulatory standards and norms;





## 3. INOGATE's intervention

- **INOGATE organized a series of seminars & trainings for:**
  - Construction Supervision;
  - Pipeline Testing;
  - Pre-Commissioning and Commissioning Of Pipelines;
  - Cathodic and Lightning Protection On Gas Transmission Pipelines;
  - External Corrosion Direct Assessment (ECDA) on buried pipelines and the inspection and management of non-piggable gas pipeline;
  - HAZOP (Hazard and Operability) and Risk Assessment Studies to the Existing and New Transmission Pipelines
- **INOGATE organized Study-Tour to a pipeline construction site of DESFA (Greek TSO) where European Standards and methodologies are applied;**
- **INOGATE organized Study-Tour and certification of GOGC's QA/QC Specialists in Ukraine in the field of welding and NDT;**
- **INOGATE performed on the job training for Conducting ECDA on 11km segments of our Network, identified failure locations and showcased mitigation actions**





## 4. The situation today

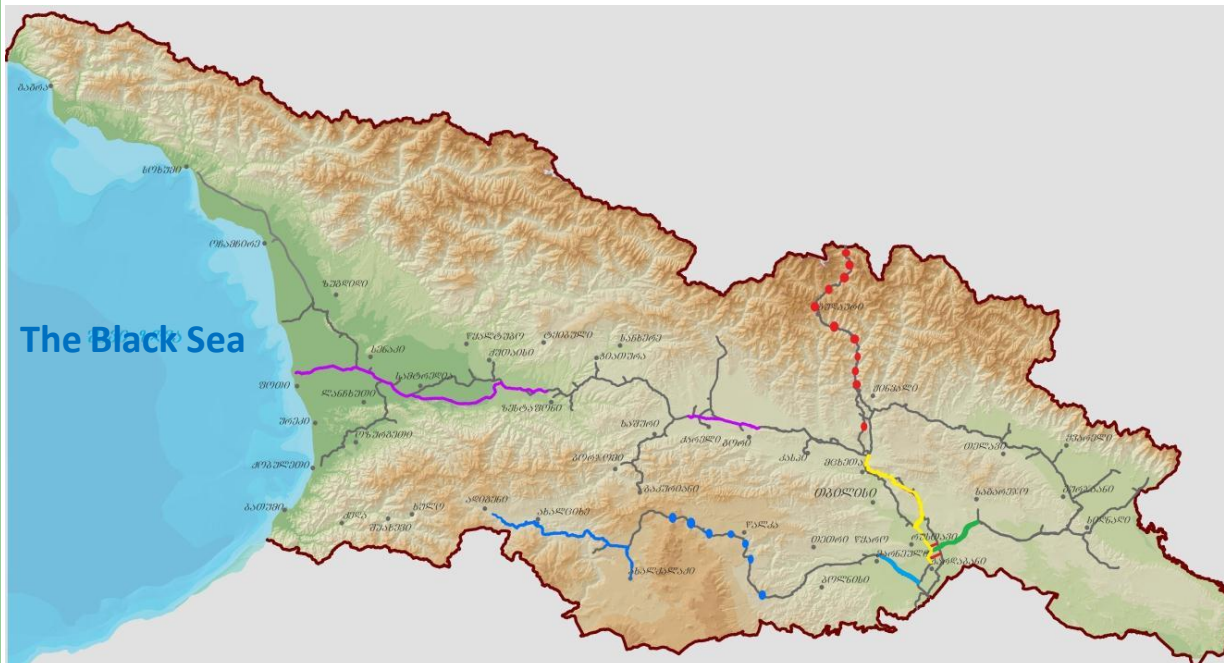
- Harmonization of existing old soviet regulatory standards and norms with those of EU has started, nowadays about 10s of European and International Standards are officially registered by GOGC to GEOSTM, namely EN, ISO, ASME, API and DIN and are used in the ongoing modernization of the gas network;
- As for pipeline integrity management, based on the knowledge received from INOGATE the GOGC is able to perform the inspection (ECDA) of un-piggable old gas pipelines which leads to an increased safety and reduction of leakages;
- Based on INOGATE recommendations special amendments developed to Georgia's regulatory framework categorizing pipeline safety consequence zones to bring it in line with the EU practice;
- Created new unit within GOGC in charge of cathodic protection (CP) system of pipelines – crucial for preventing pipeline corrosion;
- Pipeline Pre-commissioning procedures updated in line with EU requirements (Drying procedure added);
- Internationally recognized certificates of competence received by our QA/QC Specialists for Welding and NDT activities allow to perform the QA/QC work;





# 5. Take away message

*Our Soviet time pipelines need special monitoring and maintenance works to keep them safe, and construction of new pipelines in line with international standards also requires constant upgrade of knowledge and practices*





საქართველოს ნავთობისა და გაზის კორპორაცია  
**Georgian Oil & Gas Corporation**



# Thank you!

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