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Gas Certification Institute Completes First SCADA Fundamentals Certification Course

HOUSTON, December 9, 2009 – Gas Certification Institute (GCI), a Houston-based gas measurement certification company, announced today that it has completed the first offering of its SCADA Fundamentals Certification course.

Russel Treat, President of GCI said, “With the December 3 publication of the final Control Room Management Rule in the Federal Register, a proactive approach is required by industry to determine and implement their compliance strategies. GCI’s SCADA Fundamentals course is more critical than ever in creating the ability for operating companies to respond to new regulatory requirements. In this course, the interaction between people with different roles and from different types of operations created a robust learning environment.”

GCI’s first offering of the SCADA Fundamentals course included participants representing a broad spectrum of employee roles, such as field technicians, SCADA professionals and IT personnel, from such companies as Philadelphia Gas Works, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Genesis Energy, Kinder Morgan CO2, Equistar Pipeline, EnCana Oil & Gas, EPCO, Inc. and SandRidge Energy, representing production, gathering, pipelining and utility operations.

New and rapidly evolving standards and regulatory requirements are calling for the control room to examine existing operations and develop plans to get people, processes and systems current. GCI’s SCADA Fundamentals Certification provides participants the foundation on which to prepare for upcoming regulations, including API 1165 (SCADA Displays) and API 1167 (Alarm Management). Students have the opportunity to understand the importance of effective alarm management, consideration of human factors, and implications of security practices.

The 4-day intensive training provides a thorough technical overview of the basics of SCADA, including terminology, field devices, communications, architecture, data acquisition strategies, control room management, alarm management, security and more.

Students also analyze security threats, including basic and highly advanced techniques used by attackers. This advanced level of knowledge is a key component in a complete security architecture plan, and these techniques are a distinguished skill set that is critical to IT professionals. Participants will gain a detailed understanding of vulnerabilities typically existing in SCADA/PCN environments and how to implement appropriate controls and safeguards.

About Gas Certification Institute

Gas Certification Institute (GCI) is a hands-on training facility for oil and gas field personnel. GCI helps companies certify their employees, equipment and processes to meet the unique requirements of natural gas pipeline operations. For more information, visit www.gascertification.com.

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