

## ATCO Gas Employee Recognized as Leader in Industry Safety

Edmonton (April 21, 2009) – The Canadian Gas Association recognized Terry Emslie, one of the Damage Prevention Coordinators at ATCO Gas, for his important contributions to improving employee and public safety.

The annual *Safety Leadership Award* recognizes individuals who make significant contributions to employee or public safety relating to the natural gas distribution industry in Canada. The award was presented at the annual Canadian Gas Association Operations Conference.

“Terry has a proven track record of working diligently and proactively to encourage the general public and all stakeholders in the excavation and construction community to dig safely, said Brian Hahn, President of ATCO Gas. “His passion, personable style and non-confrontational approach have been key factors in the improvement of employee and public safety in Edmonton over the past four years.”

Natural gas pipelines are built and operated to achieve the highest level of public and worker safety. Pipelines are buried below ground to provide a reliable energy delivery system well protected from vehicle traffic, damaging weather, and vandalism. Natural gas transmission and distribution companies in Canada conduct education and awareness campaigns to encourage the public to “Call Before You Dig” to locate natural gas pipelines. This helps protect against accidental damage to natural gas infrastructure.

“I am extremely pleased to present Terry with this award on behalf of Canada’s natural gas distribution industry,” said Tweedie. “Through his commitment to communicate, educate, and be in the field with homeowners and stakeholders such as Alberta Workplace Health and Safety, Edmonton Regional Home Builders Association, locators, and excavators he has promoted safe digging practices, raised awareness of excavation compliance issues, and encouraged other companies to develop credible safety programs”.

An evaluation committee representing gas distribution companies across Canada reviewed a total of four applications based on a set of pre-determined criteria including applicability across the industry, effectiveness of strengthening employee or public safety, and the measureable results.

A second award, the *Corporate Safety Award*, was presented to Pacific Northern Gas (PNG), a gas distribution company in British Columbia.

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