

**For Worldwide Release: August 2010**

**PipeLine Machinery International teams up for pipeline training**

PipeLine Machinery International (PLM), Caterpillar's global pipeline equipment dealer, has recently teamed with **ek pass** for the provision of global training and consulting services for the pipeline industry.

ek pass is an international training and consulting firm specializing in the development and delivery of all types of heavy equipment and safety training. They have been delivering comprehensive training programs to the pipeline industry addressing a broad spectrum of needs from clearing to clean-up. They have also provided training audit and consultancy to pipeline owning companies and are involved in numerous training and safety committees for energy industry associations.



“We are pleased to partner with **ek pass** in this important area of training,” said PLM Senior Vice President Tony Fernandez. “Pipeline operator training and safety training programs have always been on our front burner because it is an elemental challenge for our customers around the globe. By teaming with **ek pass** we connect our customers with world class, custom training delivered in classrooms, at job sites, through e-learning – in whatever format the contractors or owning companies require.”

**Equipment Operator Training & Certificate Programs**

ek pass offers tailored training to meet the specific needs of the contractor. Training is customized right down to the make, model and serial number of the machines in the customer's fleet. Training begins with classroom instruction where fundamentals are covered, including safety, basic maintenance, operating techniques and advanced skills. The hands-on component is the bulk of the training and is conducted by an ek pass seasoned veteran and usually provided on an actual job site using the equipment the trainees will be operating. This allows for minimal disruption in work production with the added benefit of the operators learning in their actual work environment.

**e-learning**

Computer-based or web-based training programs are offered by ek pass in addition to the hands-on training. Program material is developed by the ek pass team of instructional designers, graphic designers, multimedia programmers, 3D animators, professional narrators and sound engineers. Content can be customized to machine-specific data and to the client's specific requirements for policies, procedures, job-specific regulations, etc..



“The most exciting part of the PLM-ekpass collaboration is the potential,” said PLM Vice President - Product Support Lindley Imeson. “Throughout my years in the pipeline business, there has always been a need for bringing new operators and all new pipeline workers, for that matter, up to speed on the unique aspects of pipeline production. Even seasoned hands benefit from updated instruction that covers new machines and evolving best practices for maintenance and operations. With the increasing requirements for on-the-job safety and environmental training, we see the ek pass program as a one-stop training solution for the industry.”

PLM was established in 2005 and is the first Caterpillar dealership to focus on a particular industry on a global basis. PLM provides purpose-built and traditional construction equipment to the mainline pipeline construction industry on projects around the world. PLM works closely with pipeline owners, contractors and local Caterpillar dealers to provide solutions tailored to the unique product and service needs of this industry.

PLM’s worldwide activities are currently supported through the corporate offices in Houston, Texas, USA, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, The Hague, Netherlands, Beijing, China, Singapore and Australia.

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For further information, contact PLM Communications & Marketing Manager Sherry Gettis at [sgettis@plmcat.com](mailto:sgettis@plmcat.com) or by telephone at 780-377-0338. Additional PLM information is available on the PLM website at [www.plmcat.com](http://www.plmcat.com). Additional ek pass information can be found at [www.ekpass.com](http://www.ekpass.com)



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