



## New Management Appointments



Just in case you haven't already heard, a familiar face is coming home to Union Gas next year.

Steve Baker, who led the Storage and Transmission team from 2007 to 2010, will be returning from Houston to become president of Union Gas as of January 1, 2012.

"I'm thrilled to be taking on this important role at Union Gas, and I'm equally thrilled to be returning to Chatham," Baker said. "This company has built a century of success, and I'm confident our future will be equally bright. I look forward to being a part of that future."

In his new role, Baker will be responsible for setting the overall course and strategy for Union Gas' continued growth in earnings and safe operations.

Baker, who spent the past 18 months as vice-president and treasurer of our parent company Spectra Energy Corp., will replace Julie Dill, who will become president and chief executive officer of the company's master limited partnership, Spectra Energy Partners. Dill will also take on the role of group vice-president, Strategy, for Spectra Energy Corp.

"While I relish the opportunity to take on these new challenges, I will always cherish my time at Union Gas," Dill said. "It was a particular honor to lead this company through its Centennial year, and a pleasure to celebrate that history with the many communities and customers we serve."

At the same time, we will be bidding a fond farewell to our current VP, Texas native and new father Allen Capps, who will return to Houston to be Spectra's chief accounting officer, as vice-president and controller.

"S&T has been a tremendously dynamic area to oversee during my time at Union Gas," Capps said. "This is where the effects of the dramatic changes in gas supply over the past few years were felt most acutely. I'm very proud to have led a team that was able to respond to our customers' changing needs with creative and comprehensive solutions."

Mark Isherwood, currently general manager of Business Development Storage and Transmission at Union Gas, will be replacing Allen as BDS&T vice

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president effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Mark has held many senior management positions at Union Gas in his 29 years with the company, focused primarily on the commercial side of the business. He has developed an excellent reputation in the industry, building strong relationships with our customers and suppliers.

In his new role, Mark will be responsible for continuing to grow Union Gas' storage and transmission business.

"I look forward to leading the BDS&T team, which has a long history of providing great service to our customers," Mark said. "As well, as North America's natural gas supply dynamics continue to go through significant change, I see great opportunities for Union Gas to reach out and connect new supply to Dawn, and to continue to grow our storage and transmission business in Ontario.

The S&T team wishes Mark, Allen, Steve and Julie all the best in their new roles.





## What a Year it's Been!

December 19, 2011 officially marks our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Outlined below are the highlights of a busy year, filled with company and community spirit.



### Winter, 2011

- The Centennial website is launched, documenting our 100-year history of delivering safe, affordable and reliable natural gas to more than 400 communities across Ontario.
- Union Gas announced that we would be giving 100 special grants of \$1,000 to non-profit and community organizations across the province that focused on the environment, community safety, and education.

### Spring, 2011

- Union Gas held a Centennial Earth Week Challenge across the company.
- Union Gas kicked off a very special Centennial Challenge. Every year, our employees and retirees roll up their sleeves and donate thousands of hours to complete projects for community organizations across the province through a special program we call *Helping Hands in Action*. Volunteers do everything from planting trees, installing safety coat hooks in classrooms, painting and refurbishing office areas and more. This May, the goal was special: To complete 100 projects in 100 days. And Union Gas volunteers set to the task with the strong community spirit for which they are justly known.



- To cap off a spring of giving, we named the recipients of our 100 Centennial Community grants, which included community and non-profit groups from Ottawa to Thunder Bay to Windsor.

### **Summer, 2011**

- Union Gas announced the first of 10 Signature Centennial grants of \$10,000 was being awarded to the Trees Ontario Foundation to help plant 3,333 trees in the London and Sarnia areas.
- One day before the first official day of summer – June 20 – Union Gas made a major Centennial announcement: a \$100,000 Signature Grant to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority to fund new biodiversity education, conservation and restoration programs and an expanded community trees initiative.
- We rounded out June with two more Centennial celebrations at our district offices in Thunder Bay and Waterloo – and two more Signature grants to support a green roof program and an environmental education program.
- Our district office in Burlington held its Centennial celebration, highlighted by the presentation of a Signature grant to Royal Botanical Gardens, recognized as a leader in sustainable gardening, ecological restoration and plant preservation.
- Union Gas celebrated the great news that not only had we met the Helping Hands in Action challenge we had set for ourselves, we surpassed it, completing 111 projects in 100 days (we are currently at 158 projects total year to date).
- In late August, we marked “back to school” with a Signature grant to the Essex Region Conservation Foundation to support its *Nature in Education* program, a hands-on study course that helps students learn about habitats, water and wildlife using environmental science-based studies.
- Union Gas awarded a \$10,000 grant to the University of Waterloo’s Institute for Sustainable Energy for a research project to expand the concept of a “smart grid” beyond electricity.

### **Fall, 2011**

- We began the Fall season by celebrating two Signature grants with decidedly educational bents. Under the watchful eyes of a Grade 3/4 class at Dawn-Euphemia School, Dill and Dave Simpson, director of storage and transmission operations for Union Gas, presented a \$10,000 grant to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for its 2012 Spring Water Awareness Program, which will teach elementary school students about the dangers of the spring thaw.
- We began October with the exciting news we had been named to the top of the class, making the list of Canada’s Top 100 Employers for the second year running – the perfect icing on our Centennial cake.
- Turning back to nature once again, we awarded Centennials grants to support a 100,000 Tree Campaign in the Sudbury area, a new forest trail in Timmins and two water conservation programs in eastern Ontario.
- On Oct. 29, Union Gas employees and their families brought their garden gloves, shovels and their community spirit to a Centennial tree planting event in partnership with our \$100,000 grant



recipient, the Lower Thames Conservation Authority. Under a bright autumn sky, volunteers helped to plant 100 coniferous trees that will form a windbreak for future plantings at the Merlin Conservation Area in Chatham-Kent, once again demonstrating an outstanding commitment to give back to the communities we serve.

As the year draws to a close we look back fondly on twelve months of celebration while looking forward to a bright and brilliant future!



## Why is Natural Gas Needed? Examine the Facts.



### **Natural gas is clean.**

It is the cleanest burning conventional fuel, producing 45 percent less carbon dioxide than coal and 30 percent less than fuel oil when burned.

### **Natural gas is domestically available.**

Nearly all the natural gas consumed in North America - 98 percent - is produced in the U.S. and Canada.

### **Natural gas is abundant.**

Discoveries of new reserves in unconventional rock formations like shale, tight sands and coal seams have expanded our supply to well beyond 100 years.

### **Natural gas is efficient.**

While the number of natural gas residential customers in North America has grown by 70 percent over the last 40 years, customers today actually use nearly 40 percent less natural gas. Why? Greater efficiency in production, delivery and usage means fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

### **Natural gas is reliable.**

Natural gas is energy we can count on, day in and day out. Whether the sun's shining or the wind's blowing, plentiful supplies of natural gas are available for immediate dispatch, via an existing interconnected, efficient and highly reliable delivery system.

### **Natural gas is versatile.**

It generates electricity, runs our manufacturing plants, provides raw material for a range of products, heats and cools our homes and fuels transportation. It provides low-emission back-up generation for renewable sources like solar and wind.

### **Natural gas is one of the safest fuels.**

Stringent safety standards govern the exploration, production, transportation, distribution and use of natural gas. North America's continental natural pipeline system is the safest mode of energy transportation in the world today. We're committed to improving and maintaining that fine record.

### **Natural gas is needed.**



Natural gas currently meets about one-fourth of North America's energy needs. And we have the capacity to serve even greater demand as natural gas is increasingly called upon as a clean alternative for power generation and transportation.

**Natural gas is now.**

Natural gas is available and ready now. It is a proven resource, backed by proven technology, in-place, expandable infrastructure and talented men and women dedicated to delivering on its tremendous promise.



## How Much do Kids Know About Natural Gas?

How much do kids know about natural gas? They might know more than you think. Watch this humorous and informative video about natural gas





## Winter Vehicle Maintenance Checklist

The following winter maintenance tips will help keep your vehicle running in good condition during the cold months. Sources: [www.ARAcontent.com](http://www.ARAcontent.com) and CAA – Canadian Automobile Association

- Batteries and Corroded Cables**      At 0° Celsius a fully charged battery loses 35% of its power. Winter mornings can wreak havoc on an older battery. The average life of a battery is 3 1/2 years. If your battery is older than that, it's probably time to replace. Have a mechanic check the battery and cables to ensure your car starts quickly and reliably.
  
- Boots**      Front-wheel drive vehicles equipped with CV (constant velocity) joints should have the boots checked for rips and cracks. Boots protect CV joints, but when the joints are exposed to salt, ice and snow, they can damage the joint. Replacing a joint can cost hundreds of dollars, but replacing a boot costs a small fraction of that.
  
- Brakes**      Don't postpone needed brake work. It's dangerous to drive with poorly performing brakes, especially in snowy weather.
 

Postponing brake service also can cause the cost of overhauling your brake system to skyrocket.
  
- Fluids**      Check your engine oil level. Oil marked "SAE or API-SJ" or higher provides the best protection. Owners of diesel-engine cars should check their owner's manual to determine the best cold-weather motor oil.
 

Most car manufacturers recommend 5W-30 oil for year-round operating conditions because it improves cold-weather starting and provides better fuel economy and performance.

Check and change your engine coolant (diluted with 50 percent water)

Check your transmission fluid. Pure engine coolants can freeze at zero degrees, but mixing with water prevents freezing and provides great protection for the cold weather.
  
- Fuel Tank**      Condensation can build up in a near-empty gas tank in extremely cold temperatures, which can cause fuel line freeze-up and no-start conditions.
 

Keep your gas tank above half-full at all times. In the event you get lost or stranded, you'll need your engine's heat to keep you warm. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If such a situation occurs, always crack the window a little to keep fresh air coming in.

