

For Immediate Release
February 1, 2006

TRIP WIRE® Patent is Granted to EDM Services, Inc.

The U. S. Patent Office recently issued a patent to EDM Services, Inc. for their *TRIP WIRE*® system. This patented system uses a fiber optic or metallic cable, usually installed twelve to twenty-four inches above a pipeline or other facility. The cable is continuously monitored by the *TRIP WIRE*® controller. Should the cable become damaged or severed, the controller, which is normally integrated into the pipeline programmable logic controller (PLC) and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, issues an alarm and identifies the location of the cable damage. The alarm is issued within seconds of an intrusion and provides the location within one meter accuracy.

TRIP WIRE® is an effective means of reducing the frequency and consequences of third party damage and terrorist threats. *TRIP WIRE*® reduces the frequency and consequences of third-party intrusions in three ways:

Damage Prevention – The system reduces the frequency of third-party incidents by alerting the operator of the location of potential third-party intrusions before the pipeline is damaged.

Prevention of Unintended Releases – A system alarm reduces the likelihood of a leak in the event the pipeline is damaged, but not ruptured by third parties. This allows the operator to respond and perform an immediate inspection and/or repair, preventing a subsequent release similar to the June 10, 1999 Bellingham, Washington incident that resulted in 3 fatalities and \$45 million in property damage.

Spill Minimization – In the event third-party intrusion results in an immediate rupture, the intrusion alarm, coupled with a release alarm, will allow response to occur more quickly, potentially reducing the volume released significantly.

TRIP WIRE® has been accepted by industry and is included in the American Petroleum Institute (API) Standard 1160, Managing System Integrity for Hazardous Liquid Pipelines. The system has already been installed on pipelines in the United States. PEMEX, the state owned Mexico oil company has also adopted *TRIP WIRE*® to minimize terrorist threats and theft.

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EDM Services is a full service engineering, design, and automation firm. In the automation field, the firm designs, fabricates, programs, and installs control systems for a variety of industrial processes (e.g. pump stations, process plants, terminals, etc.). The firm specializes in oil, gas, and industrial applications. For more information about the *TRIP WIRE*® system, please contact Debbie Kissane (805-527-3300, extension 400) or Brian Payne (805-527-3300, extension 402).