



GSS News Release

For Immediate Release
October 24, 2018

Gold Shovel Standard Welcomes Mel Christopher to its Board of Directors

Mel Christopher is Vice President of Gas Transmission and Distribution Operations at PG&E and sees his involvement in Gold Shovel Standard as a natural extension to his personal commitment to putting safety and preparedness at the forefront of his endeavors

SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA – Gold Shovel Standard (GSS), a nationally recognized organization committed to preventing life-threatening damages to buried infrastructure, recently announced that Mel Christopher has joined its Board of Directors. With 35 years of utility experience, Mr. Christopher will serve as the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) representative on the GSS Board and fill the esteemed role of Treasurer.

As Vice President of Gas Transmission and Distribution at PG&E, Mr. Christopher oversees the daily operations of the gas transmission and distribution systems, including all maintenance, leak management, field services, storage operations, compression, emergency dispatch and response, damage prevention and corrosion operations. Having also served as Senior Director of Gas System Operations, he was responsible for building the company's state-of-the-art gas control center, which put safety and emergency preparedness and response at the forefront of control center operations.

Prior to joining PG&E, Mr. Christopher was President of Vista Energy Solutions, an energy consulting firm that specialized in solving complex problems in the gas and electric industry, and provided expertise in regulatory and business strategy and analysis, commercial transaction support and litigation support.

"Everything that Gold Shovel Standard is aiming to achieve is congruent with the industry's desire to improve workforce and public safety and the integrity of vital buried infrastructure," said Mr. Christopher. "I am honored to be PG&E's new representative on the GSS Board of Directors."

About Gold Shovel Standard

Gold Shovel Standard (GSS) is committed to improving workforce and public safety and the integrity of vital buried infrastructure. GSS believes that greater transparency in all aspects of damage prevention among buried-asset owner/operators, excavators, locators and contractors is essential to drive continuous improvement, and vital to ensure increasingly safe working conditions and communities. Please visit GoldShovelStandard.org to learn more.

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Media Contact:

Chad Kocher, chad.kocher@goldshovelstandard.org