

## METEC Industry Advisory Board Membership

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The **Methane Emissions Technology Evaluation Center (METEC)** is a unique facility that simulates real methane emission sources from a broad range of natural gas facility operations. METEC is located at 3401 W. Vine Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80521, and operated through the Colorado State University's Energy Institute.

METEC has an active membership *Industry Advisory Board* (IAB). The IAB:

- Provides guidance and baseline support to the METEC facility. With IAB guidance and funding, METEC staff can expand or modify operation of the facility to support emerging requirements identified by the IAB for testing, training, or research.
- Funds small basic research projects of interest to IAB members.
- Membership includes option of ad-hoc use of METEC.

Individual membership is open to operators, solution developers, NGOs, regulators and others interested in encouraging the practical science of emissions detection, quantification, and repair. The advantages of IAB membership include:

- Early – typically pre-release – briefings on recent research results, including research performed by CSU and by other groups.
- Updates on a range of emissions topics.
- Early involvement in new/upcoming research programs.

The IAB meets 1-2 times/year in-person to allow for more robust updates on more topics, and for periodic ( $\approx 8$  week) short updates. (During the pandemic, meetings have been constrained to virtual meetings approximately every 8 weeks.) When possible, one IAB meeting will be in conjunction with the CSU/GTI *CH<sub>4</sub> Connections* conference in early fall.

### Cost and Access

**Basic Individual Company Membership:** Annual fee: \$10K. Includes:

- Participation in IAB meetings. One vote per membership. Additional guests per company

are welcome; please inform METEC staff prior to the meeting.

- Reviews of ongoing research at METEC, including early access to internal research results funded by the membership fees.

**Full Individual Company Membership:** Annual fee: \$20K. Includes *Basic Individual Company Membership*, and:

- Pre-paid site access time:
  - 3 days of ad-hoc testing
- or
- 3 days of group personnel training time (your trainer)
- or
- Value of ad-hoc testing applied to OGI training (currently 5 individuals)
- or
- Apply to defined testing for testing-focused research programs.

**Association Membership:** \$50K/year, grant or fee structure possible. Includes *Basic Individual Company Membership*, and:

- Association membership access to on-site events of interest to the association, such as training or working sessions.

### Terms & Conditions:

- A management year will run January 1-December 31. Payment is due at the start of the management year. Membership starts when payment is received and runs through the end of the year. Site-use days must be used during the membership year (See “METEC Fees”, below).
- The IAB and CSU will discuss programs annually and suggest adjustments; CSU leadership will make final decisions on programs.
- A member may discontinue membership at any time; membership fee will not be refunded.
- Site-use days included in the memberships, above, will be conducted under separate agreement between CSU and the member (see “METEC Fees”, below). Such separate

agreement(s) may include confidentiality obligations on CSU with respect to testing results, and member shall be entitled to retain

ownership of information and material generated in connection with such testing.

## Background on METEC

METEC (<https://energy.colostate.edu/metec/facility/>) provides controlled releases of natural gas from realistic locations. METEC reproduces emission profiles observed at natural gas facilities (location, magnitude, frequency, duration, and range of gas compositions). The 7-acre METEC site can simulate different aspects of the natural gas supply chain, such as wet and dry gas production, midstream compression, metering and regulating stations, and underground pipelines. The site can accommodate accurate characterization of a variety of technologies (ground-based, UAS-based, point sensors, far-field, etc.). The facility has also been extensively used for basic research into emissions detection and quantification, and as a training facility for OGI methods.

The METEC IAB is an operational investment by membership to provide baseline funding for the facility staffing and ongoing enhancement to align METEC with emerging needs.

IAB basic membership fees will be used to:

- Maintain at least one permanent staffing (the facilities *managing* engineer).
- Maintain the facility to support testing of new solutions by industry.
- Funds permitting, developing classes & workshops to further understanding of current and next-generation leak detection methods.

IAB structure:

- 1) Advisory board memberships will meet approximately 2 times per year, to review operation of the facility, discuss future projects, and vote on priorities for the next 4-12 months.
- 2) CSU will manage membership and meetings. Each member must provide a purchase order or funds to join the IAB.
- 3) During periodic reviews, METEC staff and guest researchers will present results of ongoing research and testing work being performed at the facility.

METEC Fees:

Fees for use of METEC are set annually in accordance with federal contracting rules. Currently, fees for ad-hoc testing are a one-time setup fee of \$2,521.66 and daily ad hoc use fee of \$3,260.37. These fees are updated annually (typically on the CSU fiscal year boundaries of July 1 – June 30 each year), but may be updated during the year to add/remove offerings or update costs if cost structure change substantially.

Test days bundled into the **Full Individual Company Membership** and **Association Membership** are subject to the terms and conditions of any ad-hoc use; please contact METEC staff for details. Large gas releases, specialty gas requirements, additional equipment setup, use of analytic equipment at METEC (cameras, GC, etc.), test equipment design / construction, or similar are quoted as extra cost.

Due to high METEC site use demand, METEC IAB members will be allowed to carry over site-use days included in membership for the 2022 if they choose to continue membership in 2023. These days will be allowed upon receipt of 2023 membership payment. Carry over days must be used by 30 June 2023, or they will be forfeited. In future years, site-use days must be used during the year of membership.