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26. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of monitoring stations includes a computer for outputting an activity signal to operate the monitoring station.

27. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, wherein said satellite communications module outputs a time signal in response to a magnetic pig position detector.

28. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, further comprising:  
an input/output module for outputting an activity signal to operate the monitoring station in response to the magnetic pig position detector.

29. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, further comprising:  
a flow meter sensor for outputting a fluid flow rate signal to the satellite communications module indicative of fluid flow rate through the pipeline.

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30. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, further comprising:

a magnetic pig position detector at each of the plurality of monitoring stations for detecting the passage of a magnetic pig and outputting a pig position signal to the central monitoring facility.

31. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, further comprising:

a valve position sensor for outputting a valve position signal to the satellite communications module.

32. The pipeline monitoring system as defined in claim 25, wherein the pipeline marker also houses one or more battery packs.

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