

#59

H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM



Agency: Vista Irrigation District

Employees Nominated: Safe-T Committee (Gary Arrasmith, Glenn Miller, Angela Morrow, Jim Allen, Oscar Chavez, Martin Villalobos, Michelle Bernal) and Abraham Gomez and Chris Weatherwax

Reason for Nomination: Routine Facility Inspections Lead to Proactive Results

Background:

During a routine facility inspection by the Safety Awareness Facilitating Employee Teamwork (Safe-T) Committee a potential hazard was recognized. One of the members pointed out that the loft in the carpenter shop created a potential fall hazard because the space was being used to store materials. The committee agreed that this should be placed on the Action Item list and followed up on until the hazard was mitigated. We conveyed to the supervisor that no one should be allowed to access the loft until it was made safe. We presented two options to the department supervisor that would facilitate compliance. Option 1, remove all materials on the loft and do not use the area for storage. Option 2, if the area is needed for additional storage, then railing would need to be installed to ensure the safety of the employees required to access the materials. An assignment was then delegated to one of the members to get a quote from a contractor who had worked with the District recently to install railing at one of the reservoirs. The quote was submitted but the department supervisor and a few of the members felt strongly that we could purchase the same type of material that was used for the top of the reservoir and complete the project in-house. This idea would save money and create buy in for the safety program by using District employees to recognize and mitigate hazards. Additionally, the members felt that they could construct an end product with better quality than the contractor. Approval was granted for them to move forward with the job. The materials were purchased and met all the Cal/OSHA requirements for railing systems as defined in Title 8.

The Solution:

The Facilities team installed the guardrail system in the carpenter shop. The material was \$565 and labor was two (2) employees for four (4) hours each. Some of this time was dedicated to removing, inventorying, and discarding the materials prior to the installation of the railing system. The contractor quoted \$1,500 which did not include clearing the space prior to installation or a self-closing gate which cost \$298. The District saved money and the employees are proud of their accomplishment.

#159

Nominated by: Sherry Thorpe, Safety & Risk Manager

Signature: Sherry Thorpe Date: 10/7/13

General Manager: Eldon Brown For Refocus Date: 10/8/13

Please attach supporting documents and/or digital photos and email to:

tlofing@acwajpia.com
ACWA/JPIA
P.O. Box 619082
Roseville, CA 95661-9082



Before



After