

FEB 17 2009

NOMINATION FORM



H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

AGENCY: Helix Water District

Employee Nominated:

Name: Terry Hartnett

Job Classification: Valve Maintenance Technician II

Reason for Nomination: Terry modified the District's existing pick axes which are used to remove gate well caps (both high and low speed) in order to perform valve exercising, water main shut downs, and reactivations. Terry attached a magnet (capable of pulling 191 pounds) to the butt end of the pick ax. This new tool can be used in one of two ways. The magnet-end can be used to remove gate well caps by merely putting the magnet on the metal cap and lifting straight up. This allows the user to be in a more ergonomically correct position. It also eliminates the hazard of flying debris from the pick ax striking the pavement. Another benefit of being in an upright posture is that users can be more aware of their surroundings (e.g., traffic hazards). Unfortunately, there are times when a cap is wedged or sealed by asphalt, debris, etc. For these situations, the pick is still the necessary tool.

Finally, the use of this device allows employees to remove gate caps in a shorter length of time. Not only does this reduce the length of time they are exposed to traffic hazards (another safety improvement), it is a time saver through increased efficiency/productivity.

Nominated by: Susen Doubrava

Signature: 

Date: February 4, 2009

Reviewed by: 

General Manager: 

Date: 2/9/09

Please attach supporting documents and/or digital photos and E-mail to:

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***JPIA H. R. LaBounty
Safety Award Program
Nomination***

*Terry Hartnett
Helix Water District
Gate Cap Puller*



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