

# H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM



Agency: Rincon del Diablo M.W.D.

Employee Nominated:

Name: Refugio Zermeno

Job Classification: Water Service Technician I

**Reason for Nomination:** Development and manufacture of a 360 degree optical enhancement for the District's valve exercising equipment. See attached for a detailed explanation

Nominated by: Clint Baze, Direcot of Operations

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/18/2011

General Manager: Mitchell S. Dion

Date: 2/18/2011

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

[tlofing@acwajpia.com](mailto:tlofing@acwajpia.com)

ACWA/JPIA  
P.O. Box 619082  
Roseville, CA 95661-9082  
FAX: (916) 774-7040

### 360 Degree Optic Enhancement – Suggested and Built by Refugio Zermeno

Recently, the Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District invested in a multifunctional piece of equipment to be used in valve exercising and debris removal. While it was extremely useful and effective in streamlining the process of cleaning access cans and exercising valves, the use of the equipment in certain areas and road conditions required the use of additional personnel to act as “spotters” to monitor approaching traffic while the equipment was operated.

In order to alleviate this problem one of the District’s Water Service Technicians, Refugio Zermeno, developed a multidirectional mirror that could be installed on the equipment in order for the operator to preserve a full view of oncoming traffic while operating the machine. This enhanced range of vision allowed District operators to perform their normal valve maintenance functions with an enhanced sense of safety and awareness that eliminated the time and cost of multiple personnel previously required to achieve that comfort zone.

The mirror is constructed from essentially an off-the-shelf automotive accessory that can be purchased at most automotive stores; it was then mounted on a platform with a center bolt so that it could be rotated if necessary. Mounting brackets were also installed that allowed for the mirror to achieve up and down adjustments to accommodate any longer or shorter scope of vision required. The whole apparatus was then attached to the valve exercising equipment by simply drilling a hole in the center support of the machine and then mounting the mirror using the brackets that were included in the purchase.

Total cost for mirror and bolts – less then \$20.00

Total cost of added comfort and confidence – priceless!



Kubota Municipal Water District

F250

TM-7

STEEL PRESSURE

PULL PUSH

HYDRAULIC OIL  
LEVEL TEMPERATURE INDICATOR

Know what's below!  
Call before you dig.

WACHS



