

# H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM NOMINATION FORM



**Agency:** Vista Irrigation District

**Employee Nominated:** Steve Tester, Mechanic

**Reason for Nomination:** Water Truck –Tank Entry Prevention Grate

## **Background:**

While troubleshooting a low water pressure complaint, Steve Tester entered the tank of the Vista Irrigation District's water truck. He lowered himself into the tank from the top opening to investigate what may be causing the reduction in water pressure. After completing his inspection, Steve began to exit the tank and realized that the opening was about chest level for an adult person; the thought crossed his mind that if a child were to gain entry into the tank, he or she would not be able to get out and, even worse, possibly drown if there was water in the tank. Steve's concerns grew because the District routinely stages equipment, including the water truck, in locations close to the job sites, which are usually located in residential areas where curious children are present.

With these thoughts in mind, Steve worked with one of the District's welders to create a grate that would prevent anyone, particularly children, from entering the opening and getting trapped in the tank. He also contacted the previous owner of the District's water truck, who has multiple locations across the country and a large fleet of water trucks used as rentals, to let them know what he had discovered and share his concerns. Steve suggested that the company may want to consider making a locking cover as well since they also have water trucks parked out at job sites.

Attached are photographs showing the grate on the water truck.

**Nominated by:**

**Frank Wolinski, Operations & Field Services Manager** Date: **March 8, 2017**

**General Manager:** **Eldon Boone**

Signature: *Eldon Boone* Date: 3/20/17

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

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# VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## WATER TRUCK – TANK ENTRY PREVENTION GRATE

