



# H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

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## Nomination Deadlines:

**Fall Awards: September 30, 2018**

**Spring Awards: February 28, 2019**

**Agency:** Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

**Project/Initiative Title:** Boscaro Lift Bucket

**Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:**

**Name(s):** HBMWD Staff/Supervisors

**Job Title/Department:** Maintenance

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## Nomination Summary

*Write a brief summary of your project/initiative. Clearly state the problem/hazard recognized by the nominee and the specific reasons that they initiated corrective action.*

Through participation in many strenuous maintenance projects for the District, it was brought to the attention of management that a "lifting dump bucket" would better serve the District for various crane operations. In previous operations, polypropylene bulk bags were used to lift and position loose materials



and tools for certain projects. These bags were effective for most jobs, however, they were cumbersome to fill and ergonomically challenging to unload subjecting staff to potential injury claims in certain circumstances. A more efficient and universal device that could be utilized for multiple functions was definitely needed. Through staff research and discussions with management, a Boscaro A-60D Lift Bucket was chosen to replace the bulk bags and ultimately purchased. The bucket has the capacity of 2,116 pounds and is capable of dumping a load with the release of a lever eliminating the potential for poor ergonomic induced injuries. Unlike the previous bulk bags system utilized in the past, this bucket has made moving materials and equipment much more manageable and lessened the potential for worker injury associated with loading and unloading materials at job sites. An example of how this bucket has been utilized and increased efficiency and reduced risk of staff injury is the repairs made this summer to the District's spillway. The Boscaro bucket aided in the lifting removal of more than eight yards of loose concrete materials from the spillway deck, to an elevation roughly 50 feet above the spillway floor and into the back of a dump truck located on the dam crest. In addition to moving spoils, it flawlessly transferred multiple loads of materials and tools for this project to and from the job site. It has proven to be a valuable asset and will continue to be advantageous for the District in reducing the potential for injury claims due to the ergonomically design superiority over the previously utilized polypropylene bulk bag system.

*Describe the specific actions taken to resolve the problem(s) or challenge(s). Share the best practices that made this initiative successful for the agency and its impact.*

The actions taken to resolve this problem were to research an alternative method/device to eliminate any potential for a ergonomic injury. This was done by assessing what kind work was trying to be accomplished and the safest way to complete it. Discussions between general staff and supervisors were had to make this a successful operation.

*State whether the hazard was reduced with engineering controls, introduced a new administrative or work procedure, or relied on personal protective equipment to solve the problem.*

The hazard was reduced by purchasing a piece of equipment that operates in a more ergonomically friendly way to help reduce risk of injury. This purchase would fall into the category of engineering controls and work procedures.

*Describe any extraordinary circumstances that made this nominee's safety accomplishments significant. Describe whether the nominee influenced safety in the workplace, encouraged employee participation in safety efforts, obtained organizational "buy in" to implement the solution.*

Since this was a joint effort between staff and supervisors there is not an individual nominee. Here at HBMWD we pride ourselves in having a very strong "safety culture" and encourage anyone to bring any safety concerns forward so they can be addressed immediately. I believe that all members of HBMWD have a "buy in" participation in all safety efforts.

*Describe whether the project/initiative addressed a hazard or exposure included in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program.*

*I believe that this initiative did address a couple of hazards/exposures listed in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program. The categories would be construction and ergonomics.*

☒ Office/Field Ergonomics

☐ Vehicle Operations



☐ Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights

☐ Other:

*List and attach any supporting materials that you feel are important for the reviewers to gain a complete picture of the nomination. Digital photos, supporting documentation, sample forms, etc.*

See photos attached.

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**Nominated by:** Chris Merz

**Signature:** Chris Merz  
(Type Name)

Date:9/24/18

**General Manager:** John Friedenbach  
(Type Name)

Date:9/24/18

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Please email this form with supporting documents and digital photos to [tlofinq@acwajpia.com](mailto:tlofinq@acwajpia.com).



## Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District

### Boscaro Lift Bucket Pictures



Lifting loose concrete materials & dumping  
into dump truck.



Lowering tools & materials onto spillway.





Loading materials into poly bags vs lift buck



Untying poly bags vs lift bucket latch for dumping of materials.





Remotely dumping lift bucket from a safe position.





