

NOMINATION FORM



H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

AGENCY: Helix Water District

OPS-MX

Employee Nominated:

Name: Gary Martinez

Job Classification: Plant Operator II

Reason for Nomination: Design and Fabrication of Alum Port

Alum is delivered to the Treatment Plant via bulk chemical truck. Before the product is offloaded into the District's storage tank, it is tested to confirm it is the right chemical. At least a 100 ml sample is required to conduct a specific gravity test.

The sample bottle used by the District does not fit the unmodified port on the delivery truck. The container that is used captures the appropriate amount of alum and it allows for easy pouring into another container inside the lab where the analysis is done.

Prior to the modification, the potential for spills onto the delivery truck and onto the ground was high. Alum is extremely slippery so it creates a slip and fall hazard. Additionally, it has a pH around 4.3 so it is acidic and should not be handled without proper PPE. With the device, the potential for spills is greatly minimized. Not only does this reduce the potential for an injury from slips, falls, and chemical handling but it also increases efficiency because operators are not spending time cleaning up spills.

The new port is attached to the delivery truck, the truck valve is opened and the tap on the new port is full and ready to use. The sample is taken and analyzed for accuracy. Once the chemical is confirmed as alum, the truck valve is closed and the sample port is opened to relieve any alum in the sample port (about two cups of alum is left which is utilized in the lab). A hose is then attached to the truck and alum manifold for offloading the alum to the corresponding tank.

Gary has received feedback from a number of delivery drivers they really like the device and would like to see it at other customers' facilities.

Please see attached photos.

Nominated by:

Susen Doubrava, Safety Risk Administrator

Signature:

Date:

7-10-14

Reviewed by:

Michelle Berens, Plant Supervisor

Signature:

Date:

7/10/14

General Manager:

Carlos V. Lugo

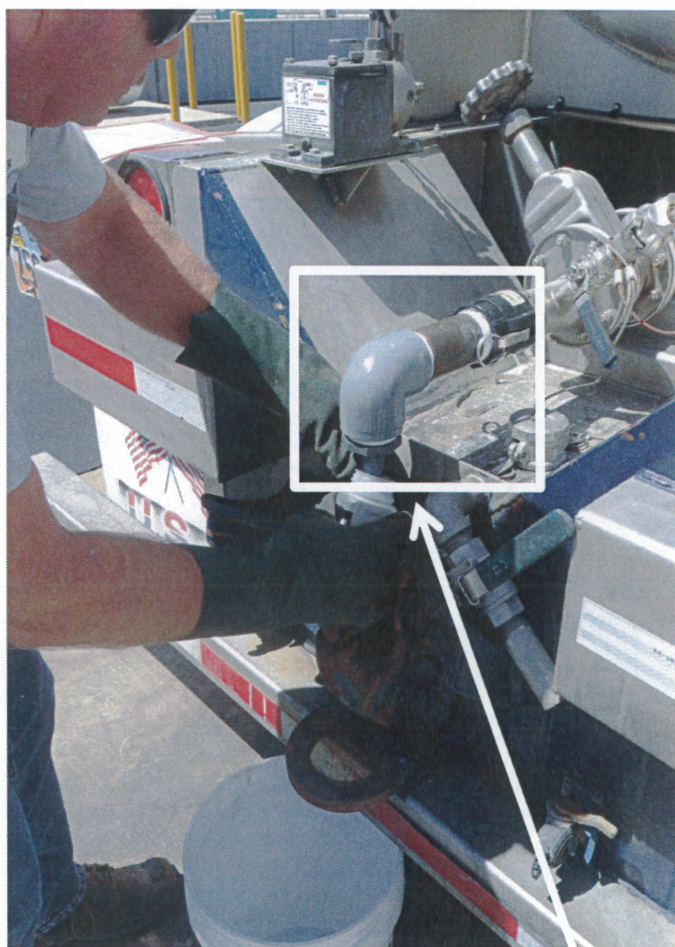
Signature:

Date:

7/14/2014

Please attach supporting documents and/or digital photos and E-mail to: tlofing@acwajpia.com

**GARY MARTINEZ- HELIX WATER DISTRICT
ALUM SAMPLE PORT
H.R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD NOMINATION**



New sample port for easy sample collection