

NOMINATION FORM



OPS-INFRA

H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

AGENCY: Santa Fe Irrigation District

Employee Nominated:

Name: Danny Burns & Brandon Fox

Job Classification: Senoir Mechanic and Mechanic

Reason for Nomination: Danny Burns and Brandon Fox are Mechanics at the Santa Fe Irrigation District, R. E. Badger Filtration Plant, Maintenance Department located in Rancho Santa Fe, California.

Mr. Burns and Mr. Fox recently modified the manual control of the Lake Hodges transmission line sleeve valve to allow its operation from above ground and no longer requiring multiple people and a confined space entry permit to adjust.

The valve is located in an 8 foot deep vault alongside Del Dios Highway, in Rancho Santa Fe which is a very busy roadway. Historically, sleeve vault operations required additional man-power and equipment to operate within the scope of the prescribed confined space entry program standards in order to perform valve operations. Additionally, staff had to turn a very difficult hand-wheel 40 revolutions to fully open or close the valve. This particular valve operation consistently presented various safety concerns such as slipping or falling down ladder entering the vault, spiders or other insects, rattlesnakes, standing water, and physical and ergonomic challenges related to difficult hand-wheel operations.

The Mechanics designed, fabricated and installed a manual actuator that could be operated from above the actual vault. The new manual actuator was indexed to position the nut 90 degrees to allow for the use of a traditional valve key instead of the hand-wheel. This modification has removed this particular vault from the confined space entry requirements for normal operations.

This improvement has greatly improved employee safety, operational capabilities and maximizes man-power flexibility with cost savings. The Mechanics should be recognized for their forward thinking design and concerns for workplace safety.

This modification will also reduce the possiblity of worker compensation claims against the District and continue the excellent safety record for the District in relation to work place injuries and illnesses.

Thanks to both Mechanic's vast experience and innovative thinking, this project increased the Santa Fe Irrigation District, R. E. Badger Filtration Plant's normal operations capabilities and reduced the risk of workplace injury and illnesses. Mr. Burns and Mr. Fox represent the highest engineering standards and excellence of Santa Fe Irrigation District.

Nominated by: Rocky A. Hughes, Safety Officer

Signature: 

Date: 2/27/2014

Reviewed by: Cor Shaffer, Operations Manager

General Manager: Michael Bardin

Date: 3/17/2014

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

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