



H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

Nomination Deadlines:

Spring Awards: February 1, 2022

Fall Awards: September 1, 2022

Agency: Calleguas Municipal Water District

Project/Initiative Title: Arc Flash Safety

Implementation Date: February 2022

Cost to Implement: \$12,800

Staff Time Required: 12 hours

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: Chicken switches were installed at 2 different facilities. 25 employees are now able to reset breakers that could previously only be reset by 5 certified electricians.

Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:

Name(s): Mike Kidd

Job Title/Department: Control Systems Supervisor, O&M Department

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.

Large electrical contactors periodically require manual operation in times of power outage or automation failure. This creates a potential arc flash hazard due to the close proximity of the transitional contactors and personnel. The new remote actuators (Chicken Switches) allow the technician to complete resets of this high voltage equipment from a distance of 25 to 30 feet creating a safer work environment.

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.

In order to reduce the arc flash hazard, remote actuators were purchased to operate the contactors. Remote actuators (Chicken Switch) open and close electrical contactors from a distance of twenty-five to thirty feet, which greatly reduce personnel being in a "blast zone" should any issues arise. Combined with other PPE such as arc flash suits, risk to personnel will be greatly reduced.

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.

By installing remote actuators (Chicken Switches) at these locations, the potential arc flash and electrical exposure were eliminated reducing potential hazards to staff.

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.

The use of remote actuators (Chicken Switches) allows all levels of field staff to operate this equipment in times of need. Operation no longer requires certified electricians to be called out after hours to reset these generators. This idea from Mike influences safety in the workplace and demonstrates the value that all staff places on staying safe in the workplace.

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

- Office/Field Ergonomics
- Vehicle Operations
- Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights
- Other: Electrical Arc Flash Safety

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.

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General Manager: Anthony Goff

Date: 8/15/2022

Please email this form with supporting documents and digital photos (jpg) to tlofinq@acwaipia.com.



PPE required prior to the implementation of chicken switches and proximity to reset switches.



Equipment with a low pedal reset switch without chicken switch in place.



Mike showing chicken switch and control box.



Photo of chicken switch on the pressure reset switch.

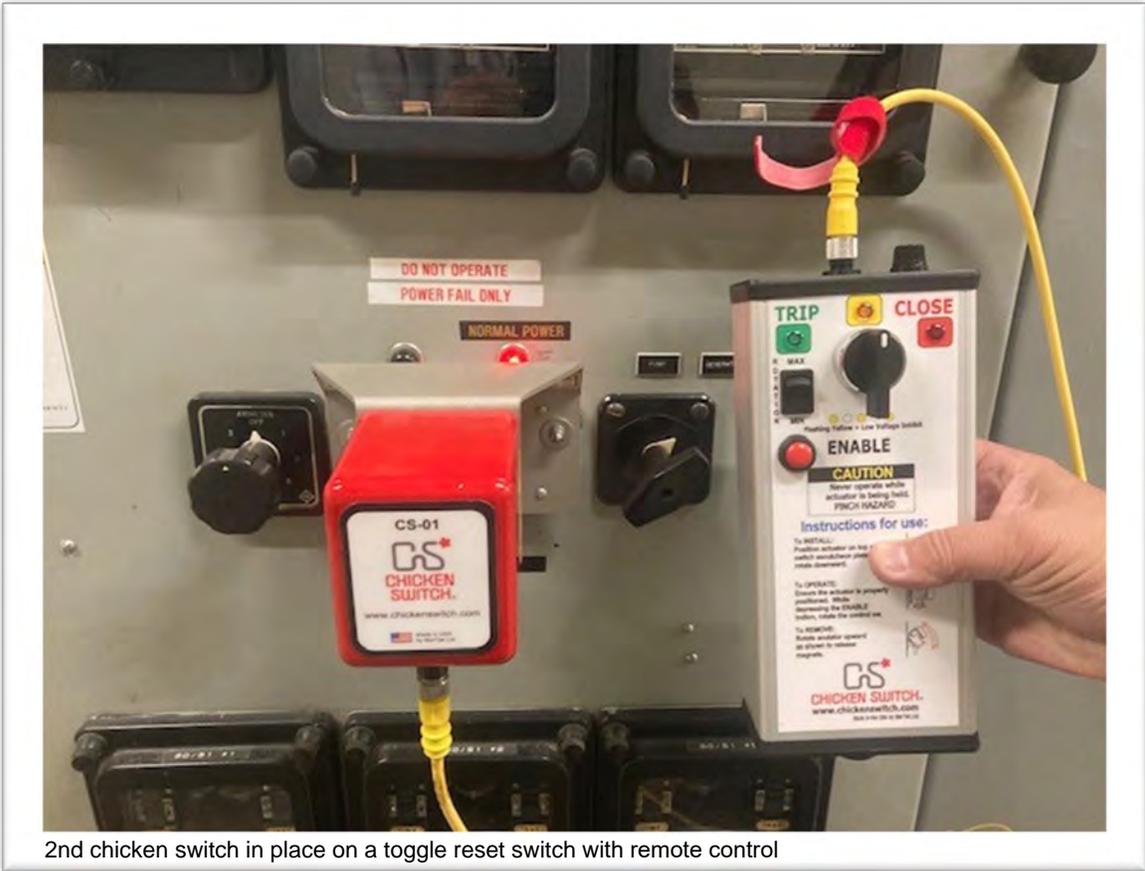




Chicken switch in place on equipment and lead line for distance between reset switch and remote control.



Distance between reset switch and control box increases safety.



2nd chicken switch in place on a toggle reset switch with remote control



Chicken switch in place, top view



Chicken switch in place, side view



Chicken switch in place and distance between operator and reset switch places them out of any arc flash danger.

JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS FORM

PERSON PERFORMING JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS: Michael Kidd

JOB TITLE OF SUBJECT OR JOB HAZARD: Tie Breaker Contactor operation

DATE OF ANALYSIS 7/6/2022

JOB LOCATION Conejo Standby Generator

STEP/PROCEDURE/JOB	HAZARD	NEW PROCEDURE OR PROTECTION
<p>There is a manual switch inside the Generator tie breaker panel that requires a qualified person to place their leg / foot inside the electrical panel in order to energize the generator if it doesn't operate automatically.</p> <p>Only qualified employees wearing appropriately rated ARC flash/FR clothing, boots, gloves and face shield are permitted to do this task.</p> <p>They previously used a stick to push the pedal instead of their foot.</p>	<p>Having employees get that close to a potentially hazardous ARC flash or shock while operating the contactor is a hazard Calleguas wants to prevent whenever possible.</p>	<p>Control Systems has purchased a new "chicken switch" device to eliminate the hazard at this location.</p> <p>The remote actuating "chicken switch" provides a magnetically mounted piston device that is attached above the manual lever switch with a thirty-foot cable to the remote-control device. This places the employee well away from the ARC flash/shock zones during the opening and closing of the contactor.</p>