



# H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

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## **Nomination Deadlines:**

**Spring Awards: February 1, 2020**

**Fall Awards: September 1, 2020**

**Agency:** Ramona Municipal Water District

**Project/Initiative Title:** DOT Air Brake Test (COLA)

Implementation Date: 8-20-20

Cost to Implement: 0

Staff Time Required: 4hrs

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: 15

## **Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:**

Name(s): Randy Robertson

Job Title/Department: Collections System Worker II

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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.*

While attending a DOT training, Randy reconized that there was some mixed ideas on how to conduct a pre-trip air brake inspection. This air brake inspection is know as a COLA.

- C = Air compressor cuts in.
- O = Air compressor cuts out.
- L = Low pressure warning.
- A = Air leakage.

*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.*

Randy wrote an SOP on how to perform a (COLA). The standard operating procedures (SOP) is now part of the annual DOT training. We have also placed laminated copies in all vehicles that require this air brake test before driving.

*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 of potential brake failure was reduced with this new SOP. It clarifies the air brake test process that is required before driving DOT vehicles.

*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.*

Randy recongnized the need and took action to clarify this very important step in the pre trip inspection of DOT vehicles. This SOP improves the safety of District employees and the public. It also helps prevent potential District loss/liability.

*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:

*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 attached SOP

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**Nominated by:** Tommy Clowers

**Date:** 8-20-20

**General Manager:** 

**Date:**



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



## (COLA) Daily Air Brake Tests

- **Governor Cut In** - Once at maximum pressure pump the pedal and wait for 10 seconds. Watch the air pressure gauge between pumps. The compressor must cut in (needle starts to rise) before you drop below 100 psi.
- **Governor Cut Out** - As the pressure is building it must stop building pressure before it hits 140 psi. Until the needle stops. You will hear the purge valve blow off when it cuts out.
- **Applied Leakage Test** - Chock wheels if necessary, build up full pressure, shut off engine, release parking brake and push the foot brake down firmly and wait for the gauges to settle, hold the foot brake for 1 minute. Air pressure cannot drop more than 3 psi for a single vehicle and 4 psi for a combination vehicle.
- **Low Air Warning** - Chock wheels if necessary. The vehicle must have enough air pressure, so the low-pressure warning signal is off. The key must be in the “on” position. Release Parking Brake and pump brakes down until you hear and see the low air pressure alarm. This must happen before you drop below 55 psi or half the cut-out pressure.
- **Air Pressure Build Up Rate** - Pump brakes down to 85 psi and time for 45 seconds. After 45 seconds it should be at 100 psi or higher. You can do this one while building air pressure from the Spring/Emergency Brake test to save time.
- **Spring/Emergency Brake Test** - Chock wheels if necessary. Release parking brakes and pump down the Air pressure until the Parking Brake automatically pops out/on. This needs to happen between 20 - 45 psi.
- **Static Leakage Test** - Chock wheels if necessary. With full pressure and turn off the engine, release all brakes and let the system settle (needle stops moving). Time for 1 minute, you cannot lose more than 2 psi for single vehicles and 3 psi for combination vehicles.
- **Service Brake Test** - Wait for normal air pressure, release parking brake, move the vehicle forward slowly (5mph), and apply the brake pedal firmly. The vehicle should not have an unusual feel, pull to one side, or delayed stopping action.
- **Parking Brake/Pull Test** — Not Mandatory but recommended. With parking brakes on gently pull against it in low gear to test the parking brake will hold.

**If the vehicle fails any of these tests do not drive and document on the vehicle inspection form.**





**From:** [Tommy Clowers](#)  
**To:** [Terry Lofing](#)  
**Subject:** RE: RMWD Safety Nomination  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 12:02:03 PM

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Terry,  
Here's the material list for the Warehouse Racks.

10 - Teardrop uprights at 12' high, Heavy Duty and rated up to 24,000lbs  
4 - Teardrop step up beams 144" long 6" high rated at 6,000lbs per pair.  
32 - Teardrop step up beams 96" long 5" high rated at 7,000lbs per pair.  
33 - Wire mesh decking with integrated supports.  
All legs are anchored down using the appropriate wedge anchors.

Thanks,  
**Tommy Clowers**, *COSS, CHST*  
*Safety and Risk Specialist*  
tclowers@rmwd.org  
(cell) 760 407-5020

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**From:** Terry Lofing <tlofing@acwajpia.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 9:50 AM  
**To:** Tommy Clowers <tclowers@rmwd.org>  
**Subject:** RE: RMWD Safety Nomination

Hi Tommy,

Thanks for the nomination and the digital pictures. It will be part of the fall awards.



strength • stability • partnership  
celebrating 40 years

**Terry Lofing**  
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