



# H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

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## **Nomination Deadlines:**

**Spring Awards: February 1, 2024**

**Fall Awards: September 2, 2024**

**Agency:** Sacramento Suburban Water District

**Project/Initiative Title:** Lighter Weight Air Release Valve Enclosures

Implementation Date: 2/15/2024

Cost to Implement: \$17,000

Staff Time Required: 20 hours

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: 10

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

Name(s): Shawn Chaney

Job Title/Department: Distribution Foreman

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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.*

The District has approximately 120 air release valves that require enclosures to protect them from the elements and vandalism. These air release valves require preventive maintenance and service on a regular basis. In order to access the valves, the enclosure must be removed. The current enclosures in use are made of steel and very heavy, averaging 120 pounds. This requires 2 operators and most times a mini excavator to remove. Because the lift height required to clear the valve assembly is approximately 3 feet, there is significant ergonomic/strain injury risk. Shawn recognized these enclosures were a significant safety and manpower risk.

*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.*

Shawn researched and sampled several types of enclosures and selected a lightweight, durable unit that has the capability to be locked to the ground and can easily and safely be removed by two operators without the need for the mini excavator. The new enclosures are Hubbell Armorcast #P6002001, 36" in height, that weigh only 40 pounds. The District's Blue Card Hazard Recognition Program had identified the existing enclosures as a lifting risk and a challenging manpower demand. Shawn took this identified hazard and found an excellent solution that resolved both issues. The District has budgeted to replace 10 enclosures per year starting in 2024, and continuing over 12 years.

*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 air release valve enclosure improvement is an engineering control that eliminates the heavy lifting ergonomic exposure and eliminates the need for the mini excavator.

*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 District's Blue Card Hazard Recognition Program has been a powerful tool for staff to identify, document, and drive corrective solutions to workplace exposures. The air release valve enclosure issue was identified in that program and Shawn took the initiative to investigate and resolve it successfully.

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

Safety posters address all areas of hazard and exposure – it is a global safety initiative.

- Office/Field Ergonomics
- Vehicle Operations
- Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights
- Emergency Readiness/Wildfire Prevention

Other: Overall Employee Safety Performance

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*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.*

Photos, Catalog Item for New Enclosure

**Nominated by:** Hector Segoviano

**Date:** 1/29/2024

**General Manager:**



**Date:** 1/30/2024

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

**Existing Enclosures**



## New Enclosure






### AIR VACUUM VALVE ENCLOSURES

#### ROUND ENCLOSURES

**ARMORCAST PRODUCTS COMPANY**      **POLYETHYLENE**  
 P6002001 / P6002002 / P6002003

**FEATURES**  
 Armorcast Products Air Vacuum Valve Enclosures are manufactured from low density polyethylene material with UV inhibitors for commercial or residential settings. They are maintenance free, graffiti resistant, sturdy, lightweight, high impact resistance and have outstanding weatherability. Mounting frame is designed for easy removal to facilitate entry to those particular valves that may require frequent access. Aesthetically pleasing finishes include Sandstone, Granite, Light and Dark Green, additional colors are available.



ELONGATED / TYPICAL

**SPECIFY DIAMETER ON CHART BELOW**



P6002002

P6002001

P6002003

Polyethylene with Granite or Sandstone Finish

1/2" Vent Holes

Vandal Resistant Polyethylene

Stainless Steel Bolt Down Plates (3 Total)

DESCRIPTION	DIAMETER W x H	PART NUMBER	APPROX. WEIGHT	PALLETS QTY.
Round Enclosure	12" DIA. x 30" with 10- 1/2" Vent Holes	P6002002	15 lbs.	9
Round Enclosure	20" DIA. x 30" with 14- 1/2" Vent Holes	P6002001	25 lbs.	6
Round Enclosure	30" DIA. x 30" with 18- 1/2" Vent Holes	P6002003	40 lbs.	6

Armorcast Products Company reserves the right to update or discontinue product information at any time without notice.

www.armorcastprod.com      Tel: (810) 962-3000      Fax: (810) 962-7742