



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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El Toro Water District Employees Receive Esteemed H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards

The H.R. LaBounty Safety Award Program fosters a safety culture that reduces the potential for injury and loss.

Lake Forest, CA – Eight El Toro Water District employees were recently honored with H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards, which recognize safe workplace behavior and operational practices. The award program, hosted by the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority, incentivizes employees to demonstrate safe behavior and participate in risk-reducing actions.

The following employees received awards: Jay Curry, Philip Lingenfelter, Donny Lloyd, Chris Magill, Steve Sanchez, Alex Sepulveda, Chau Vuong and Dave Way.

Among the winning entries were new tools developed to enhance safety and foster greater efficiency, and innovative process improvements. A few of the projects are described below.

- Emergency spill kits were assembled and mounted in District trucks to organize the valuable equipment and materials employees need to respond quickly to spills.
- An original device was developed to make it safer, cleaner and quicker to open hatches that allow solid waste materials to move from a storage tank to a transfer truck.
- Portable storage containers with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) were compiled to save employees time in preparing and completing tasks, and to encourage them not only to use PPE, but to use the correct PPE for the job.
- An auxiliary pump and motor was installed underneath the District's tanker trailer to direct exhaust fumes away an area where employees load and unload materials.

The Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA JPIA) praised El Toro Water District for developing new processes and devices that significantly reduce the chances of back and extremity injuries, hearing loss, slips and falls, and other adverse health effects.

“These awards really underscore the District's ongoing commitment to environmental health and safety,” says Bob Hill, El Toro Water District General Manager. “We are delighted that ACWA JPIA has recognized our safety culture and the innovations of our employees.”

For more information about El Toro Water District and its safety culture, please visit www.etwd.com or call 949.837.7050.

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The El Toro Water District is a full service water, wastewater and recycled water district, providing water service across portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo and the entire city of Laguna Woods.