

SAFETY MATTERS

MARCH/APRIL 2023

ANNUAL FIFI AWARD WINNERS

Dedicated to safety: The best Find It-Fix It submissions of 2022 from our associates

Thanks to everyone who submitted FIFIs in 2022 -- and for demonstrating your commitment to a safe workplace. Keep the FIFIs coming! Submit a FIFI and receive a \$20 gift card or a T-shirt and be entered in the annual awards contest.

GEM 1st Place

\$1,000 Visa gift card
Michael White, Pipefitter
White noticed an associate working from heights and tied off to a chain fall that was supporting a suspended load. White stopped the work and informed the associate of the unsafe act.

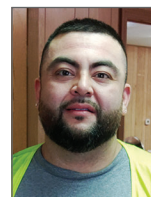


RLI 1st Place

3 PTO days
Bryan Risner, Project Manager
The owner's subcontractor was digging in an area where a previously installed live 480V electrical line was located. Risner informed them of the underground electrical hazard. He suggested they stop and use a hydro vac to locate the live electrical line before proceeding.

GEM 2nd Place

\$750 Visa gift card
Brent Schlumbohm, Pipefitter
Schlumbohm went to reconnect lines from existing equipment and found someone had connected a 1200 psi lube oil line to a 150 psi compressed air line via a random hose. If valves would have been turned on, it would have been catastrophic. Fortunately, the valves were locked out. He reported it to his foreman.



RLI 2nd Place

2 PTO days
Rickey Palomin, GEM Electrician
A 38-pound concrete block was left on top of a 20-foot wall where it could fall and

hit someone. Palomin went up in his JLG and safely took the cinder block down so no one was hurt.

GEM 3rd Place

\$500 Visa gift card
Brett Clymer, Electrician
During an inspection of a lift, Clymer found that all eight bolts that kept the



basket from spinning were broken off. He red-tagged the lift and reported it to the vendor.

RLI 3rd Place

1 PTO day
Mike Keane, Director of Field Operations
Keane noticed that 30-foot-tall masonry walls were not braced according to the engineered plan. Several braces were incorrectly anchored with only one anchor each in the top and bottom plates. The walls were adjacent to a public sidewalk and the road. He notified the superintendent and subcontractor of this condition and had the subcontractor revise the plan with the structural engineer.



GEM Random Winners

\$250 Visa gift card
Eric Fletcher
Kevin Thomas

RLI Random Winners

4 hours PTO
Felix Jagodzinski
Nathan Henry
Troy Miller

WHEN IT COMES TO MENTAL HEALTH. WE'RE ALL IN.



Stronger Together. Safer Together.

A CHIP THAT CAN SAVE LIVES

Preventing suicides is the objective

The "poker chips" you see on ledges, tables and elsewhere throughout RLG are actually suicide prevention tools. They have the three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, **988**, and a QR code that takes a user to mental health resources.

The suicide rate in the construction industry is four times higher than that of the general population.

Feel free to take one and give it to anyone who may be having a mental health crisis -- or use it to help your own mental health if necessary.



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CLICK IT

You already know this but ...

Thousands of lives can be saved by simply using a seat belt. The leading cause of death for Americans aged 1 to 54 is motor vehicle crashes. Of the 22,215 passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2019, 47% were not wearing seat belts.

RLG vehicles now have a new logo on the driver's side door that reminds associates to buckle up. Not only is it company policy, but buckling up is the sensible and safe thing to do.

The graphic was produced by the RLG Marketing Department with input from the respective safety committees at RLI and GEM.

ANOTHER RESOURCE

Our paramedic can offer advice on health issues unrelated to work

An injury or illness doesn't have to be work-related to see our in-house paramedic. **Deb Gacsal** can be a resource for associates who may be unsure when a medical issue not related to work warrants a visit to a medical facility or if a wait-and-see stance might be better.

Have an issue? Contact Gacsal at her RLI Walbridge office and get her input so you can make a more informed decision about your health.

PROJECTS MAY CHANGE, BUT LIMA'S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY REMAINS

GEM's ability to quickly change plans, maintain safety praised on dangerous job at INEOS, Fort Amanda Specialties

GEM associates at the INEOS / FAS facility in Lima ran into a serious problem when repairing a pipe containing cyanide gas.

The repair work was taking place during a planned shutdown at INEOS. After cutting off the pipe's insulation plate, a thickness reading was taken, and the section of the line was determined to be under the allowable corrosion allowance. This meant they would now have to cut and repair this section of the line.

"Cyanide gas is a pretty serious chemical to be around," GEM Project Manager

SAFETY TRAINING

Associates learn proper fire extinguisher usage

Continuous training keeps safety at the forefront of everything we do. The AGC of Northwest Ohio recently conducted fire extinguisher training as part of the OSHA 30-Hour training for RLI associates.

Participating in the training were **Eric Slink, Collin Bohland, Vladimir Sokol, Blake Hazard, Aisha Manandhar, Dean Croskey, Michael Pickerel** and **Carleton Swanson**.



AGCNWO's Greg Burkhardt gives pointers on fire extinguisher use to RLI Project Engineer **Aisha Manandhar**.

FIND IT FIX IT: Staying safe on the job takes every one of us

Unsafe act or condition: An associate found a defective sling during a pre-lift inspection of a 36,000-pound lift.

Solution: The associate removed the sling from service.

Unsafe act or condition: An associate observed a lift on fire while an associate was in the basket.

Solution: The associate extinguished the fire and brought the other associate down with another lift.

Unsafe act or condition: An area was scanned by GPRS for the excavation of underground plumbing. The area was marked clear and concrete was cut. The excavation had to be extended to tie in the sanitary line. The cutting company

was scheduled to come back without scanning the new area.

Solution: Cutting work was postponed until the new area was scanned. The new scan showed two electrical feeds just below the concrete that would have been cut. The depth was visually verified and the concrete removed without damaging the conduit.

Unsafe act or condition: An associate entered a 14-foot deep sanitary manhole without safety devices.

Solution: The associate was asked to exit the manhole and Safety was called to get everything he needed to safely enter the confined space.

Matthew Wise said. "Our whole repair plan changed."

INEOS sends cyanide gas that is a byproduct of its manufacturing process to neighboring plant Fort Amanda Specialties, which then refines it into its manufacturing process. The pipe being repaired is owned by INEOS but is on FAS property. The repair would now be much more complex and also involve the GEM team at FAS, and GEM's Health and Safety Department.

Changing plans while maintaining safety standards impressed both customers, so

much so that one of the companies is sending gift cards to the teams, he said.

"There was great communication between both plants and our own safety department to come up with a plan to mitigate the cyanide gas exposure risk," Wise added.

The team: INEOS pipefitters: **Anthony Berning; Gabe Glaus; Austin Ricker;** Quality Control: **Jesse Gilliland;** Insulator: **Dan Herr.** FAS pipefitters: **Nick Berning; Ross Siefker; Nick Barret; Ben Kettler.** Safety: **Brad Lochard.**