

SWANA[®]

NEWS



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SWANA Announces Winners of the **2017 Safety Awards**

SWANA is proud to announce the winners of the 2017 SWANA Safety Awards selected by SWANA's Technical Divisions and the SWANA Safety Committee for their excellence in solid waste safety.

This year, SWANA expanded its Safety Awards program and selected winners based on SWANA's 7 Technical Divisions, as well as an overall winner. These companies and local governments have all championed safety within the solid waste sector in the United States and Canada and demonstrated profound commitment to improving workplace safety.

"I am very pleased by the exceptional quality of the submissions in our second year of SWANA's Safety Awards program," noted David Biderman, SWANA's Executive Director and CEO. "SWANA's Safety Awards recognize the biggest and best safety improvements and innovations, and we hope that the best practices adopted by the

winners are considered by others in both the United States and Canada."

COLLECTION & TRANSFER DIVISION

*Biggest Safety Improvement
Fairfax County Solid Waste
Management Program*

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) took safety out of

were only seven in 2016. And, most importantly, workers now see they hold the key to their own safety—to ensuring they go home safely each night.

Best Safety Innovation

McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing

McNeilus Truck and Manufacturing partnered with FleetMind Solutions in 2016 to offer an integrated safety solution called the SSV10. The SSV10 is an on-board computer that provides a comprehensive safety solution that allows for a 360 degree bird's eye view of the vehicle, object detection, live stream video, video playback, driver safety coaching and scorecard, and automated routing. The product can be installed on any refuse vehicle by any manufacturer. Safety technology is always developing, so with this on-board computer platform, the latest safety features and functionalities can be pushed automatically to the software without the need for additional hardware or installations. An important part of the safety innovation is the training and implementation. With over 30 branches in the US, McNeilus makes sure that the haulers know how to utilize the software and incorporate it into their daily activities through rigorous training and on-site support.



the shadows with staff, asking difficult questions and no longer settling for the status quo. The overhaul of the safety program resulted in significant reductions in safety statistics driven by operational improvements: Where the SWMP averaged closer to 40 annual recordable injuries in 2015, there

COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION & MARKETING DIVISION

Biggest Safety Improvement Lakeshore Recycling Systems

Upon revamping Lakeshore Recycling Systems' (LRS) safety initiatives, the company began instilling a new safety culture. Unlike many companies that keep safety a priority, LRS chose to forgo this option with the notion that safety is not a priority, but a value. The philosophy behind this statement is that priorities can change and shift over time. At LRS, safety has become a value and a core pillar of the company's foundation. LRS' safety program can be broken down into three major elements: training, communication and recognition. Each area offers a specific purpose to decrease incidents and embed a positive safety culture as the company continues to expand in service area, revenue, facilities, fleet, employees, system-wide services and more.

LANDFILL GAS & BIOGAS DIVISION

Best Safety Innovation DTE Biomass Energy

DTE Biomass Energy (DTEBE) has several sites where employees work unsupervised. The company recognized that if a "lone worker" were incapacitated in an emergency, there would be no method to initiate emergency response. After identifying a device that would work for their industry to automatically alert emergency responders, they implemented a Lone Worker Safety Program. Through this program, they reduced by 88% the amount of lone work time without the ability to summon emergency responders. In addition, they achieved coordination with local emergency services to ensure a timely response should a lone worker need emergency assistance.

LANDFILL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Best Safety Innovation City of Vancouver

The City of Vancouver recognized that the receipt and handling of asbestos containing material at the City's transfer and landfill operations could pose health risks to employees. To understand the potential levels of asbestos exposure, asbestos sampling has been completed on a yearly basis creating a historical data base from which to identify any asbestos risk change. To ensure employee health and to control the handling of asbestos received at both the transfer station and landfill, a comprehensive Asbestos Exposure Control Plan with accompanying Safe Operating Procedures was written with the final review and implementation in 2016. The plan is now used to educate employees and to guide their safe work activities when handling asbestos.

SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Biggest Safety Improvement Maryland Environmental Services

Despite facing extraordinarily difficult circumstances upon taking over the Prince George's County Material Recycling Facility (MRF), employees designed a unique safety program, which strongly adheres to Maryland Environmental Service standards and made significant impacts on safety outcomes. Moreover, this facility has maintained a stellar record as compared to national industry standards.

BEST SAFETY INNOVATION

2017 SWANA Safety Award Overall Winner Hamm Waste Services

Hamm Waste Services (Hamm), based in Perry, Kansas, provides integrated waste management services in Kansas and Missouri including: collection, transfer stations, landfill, and a material recovery facility. As part of its movement towards lean processes and increased safety, Hamm began the process of 5S implementation

at their MRF in Lawrence, Kansas. The MRF 5S system improved housekeeping and organization; reduced employee exposure to rolling stock; and further intensified employee focus on safety, operational process, and risk minimization. Implementation of the innovative 5S process at the Hamm MRF has reduced occupational hazards and exposure in their facility by over 50%.

"It's a tremendous honor to receive the SWANA Overall Safety Award for our safety systems at the Hamm Material Recovery Facility in Lawrence, Kansas," said Charlie Sedlock, Director at Hamm Waste Services. "Protecting our employee team members is the most important thing we do each day at Hamm."

SWANA is a leader in the effort to move the waste collection industry off of

the federal government's list of 10 most dangerous jobs; this awards program, along with numerous other safety initiatives, including the award-winning Chapter Safety Ambassador Program and the "5 to Stay Alive" campaign, are important steps in that direction.

SWANA would like to thank PRECO, the official sponsor of the SWANA Safety Awards program, for all of their support.

All of the Safety Award entries are available for review on the *Safety Matters* website at SWANA.org/safety.

Official sponsor of the SWANA Safety Awards Program

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