

SAFETY POST

Monthly Recap of Companywide Safety Improvements | JUNE 2024

PROACTIVE PLANNING FOR SUCCESSFUL AND SAFE OPERATIONS

PLANNING FOR SAFE OPERATIONS



MICHAEL OSTLUND
DISTRICT MANAGER, KIEWIT FOUNDATIONS

[*Listen to Mike Ostlund's message here*](#)

Having to make calls to family and friends when an employee has been seriously injured or has been killed, is something that sticks with you throughout your career. This month, **Mike Ostlund** shares a very powerful video message about his personal experiences during two fatalities and explains why he never wants anyone to have to experience the same kind of situation.

Ostlund's experiences teach us the importance of having the tough conversations now. It's better to address concerns with our teams as early as possible to avoid anyone getting hurt. Prioritizing tough conversations demonstrates a commitment to protecting the well-being of team members, reinforces a culture of safety, and drives a passion for accountability within the organization.

Additionally, don't put yourself in a position where you let safety slide. Neglecting safety protocols or becoming complacent with safety measures is a risk that nobody should take lightly. Failing to prioritize safety not only jeopardizes the well-being of individuals but can also have far-reaching consequences for the entire team and the organization.

PLANNING FOR A SAFE SUMMER

In addition to Ostlund's key messages on planning, **Tim Dutton, South Central district safety manager** shares his thoughts on planning for a safe summer heat season.

We're accustomed to making programmatic changes during summer to address heat hazards, but last year that effort failed to produce the results we desire both in my district and in the larger organization.

The familiar trend of Kiewit's safety performance suffering during the summer certainly occurred but what stood out was how chaotic last August was with **11 recordables, 15 PSL 3-5 incidents**, and Kiewit's **highest hurt frequency** of the year. Simply stated, *if all we plan on doing is what we've always done, we are not ready.*

There are two things we should all be planning now:

- 1 Increase the intensity of our program along with the intensity of the summer heat. What's new and innovative in June, is old and boring in August. As the summer heat progresses, increase expectations, communication, overall focus and do so accordingly to a plan.
- 2 Shift the focus from preventing heat illness to managing fatigue. Tired employees are error-prone, whether estimating, planning, or building. Boxers get knocked out in the later rounds not because they get too hot and fall down, but because they get tired and let their guard down. Examples of fatigue management include shorter shifts, more breaks, and comfort measures.

HEAT RESOURCES

- [Click here for a library of heat best practices from across the company.](#)
- [Click here to order summer heat materials such as banners.](#)

1

Utilize the LSA Assessment app - one LSA assessment per crew, per week is proven to prevent serious incidents from occurring.

2

Be diligent in your operation planning.

3

Critically assess our risks, & mitigate those risks.

4

Involve our Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).

5

Ensure everyone knows the plan, then execute the operation without deviating from the plan.

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SHARED LESSONS AND IMPROVEMENTS FROM RECENT POTENTIAL FATALITY EVENTS

Full incident summaries can be reviewed by clicking on the *project name

LIFTING & RIGGING

Incident Report: [Greenville Yard](#)

Near Miss: The crew was tasked with lifting a pallet of scaffold equipment from the Magdalen's hold to the bow. Due to high winds, the pallet made contact with the vessel's light tower and several scaffold pieces fell from the pallet to the deck. Lessons learned:

- Load control and securement needs to be applied to every lift no matter the weight (Positive load connections).

ENERGY ISOLATION / LOTO

Incident Report: [Repair/Modernize Mike and November Wharves](#)

First Aid: The crew was attempting to troubleshoot electrical problems on the stone column equipment. The employee used a non-insulated socket wrench inside a live electrical panel that was assumed to have been turned off but was not verified nor locked out. The employee contacted a circuit receiving an electric shock. Lessons learned:

- All workers involved with LOTO tasks need to be trained in company LOTO policies and procedures. Training needs to be verified prior to starting work.
- Changes to planned work need to involve FLS. Replanning with Start Cards and FLS sign off on safeguards need to take place prior to resuming work.
- When new risks are identified the work will be suspended and not allowed to resume until -
 - a. The work plan is revised as necessary.
 - b. A revised Start Card is utilized to discuss the revised work plan and risks.
 - c. All relevant safeguards are confirmed to be in place.

MATERIAL HANDLING

Incident Report: [Ottawa LRT Stage 2 \(External Recordable - Subcontractor\)](#)

First Aid/Other: The fencing company was unloading vertically stacked steel fence panels from a rack mounted on a trailer. Two workers, standing on the trailer, removed the first panel and turned to hand the panel down to workers at ground level. The rack of 22 panels, behind the workers, fell forward, landing on the legs of one of the workers, breaking them both. Lessons learned:

- Material handling safeguards were not in place. The project is improving Start Card training for subcontractors, which includes focus on material handling.
- Subcontractor is investigating other means for delivering panels and the project has banned deliveries using the rack involved in the incident.

EQUIPMENT

Incident Report: [KPC - Dodson Creek Solar](#)

Equipment: An operator was backing up while shaking out permanent fence posts and didn't notice an upcoming sediment trap full of water. The skid steer slipped into the sediment trap gradually and fell over onto its side. The operator was able to get out of the skid steer and was helped out of the sediment trap by crew in the area. Lessons learned:

- Better delineation of sediment trap, basin, and other man made depressions in flat solar array via fence posts and/or snow fence.
- Further review of environmental controls including positioning of sediment traps at time of design and by PM/CM prior to going to work on project site to determine proper safeguards.
- Improved sediment trap design by sloping off the leading edge not on berm side.

UTILITY STRIKE

Incident Report: [KPD Midwest Small Caps](#)

Near Miss: While using a chipping hammer to remove concrete for installation of new conduits, an employee struck an existing conduit containing an energized circuit. The contact caused an outage. Lessons Learned:

- Developed district level *SOP for underground demolition work in substations (*coming soon).
- Scope specific small tool trainings developed for the district.
- FLS training on safeguard verification and communication.

HUMAN EQUIPMENT INTERACTION

Incident Report: [IH 820 Southeast Connector](#)

LTA/First Aid: While a skid steer was reversing, it struck two employees who had entered the grade behind the machine without notifying the operator of their presence. One employee suffered minor scratches to their shin and one suffered pelvic fractures. Lessons learned:

- [Click here to read the recent HEI memo following this incident.](#)
- The project will install personnel detection systems on skid steers and telehandlers. More to follow on company-wide personnel detection systems and potential updates to equipment safety device standards. Contact Daenan Fairburn in Kiewit Equipment Services for more information.
- Project to conduct enhanced HEI and Start Card training.
- Project will update work plans to include photos and mitigations.

LAST 12 MONTH'S TOP PSL 4/5 INCIDENTS BY LSA CATEGORY

Below are the Top 5 PSL 4/5 LSA Incident Categories for the last 12 months (6/1/2023 - 6/1/2024) and the total number of incidents within that category. [Click here for a link to the Power BI Safety Incident Reporting site.](#) This tool can be used to track safety trends for projects, districts, and the organization.

ENERGY ISOLATION / LOTO

7

UTILITIES

5

HUMAN EQUIPMENT INTERACTION

4

LIFTING & RIGGING

3

EQUIPMENT

4

OVERHEAD POWER LINE AVOIDANCE TECHNOLOGY

As overhead powerlines pose a significant risk to construction operations, the safety team at the I-17 Anthem Way project recently partnered with the innovation team to complete feasibility testing on auditory alert systems from Highway Resources.

The team tested two different sensor options, the Sentry Laser Sensor and the AI Smart Camera System. The audible alarm system used was Portable Site Alarms (PSAs), which is triggered by the Sentry Laser or the AI Smart Camera sensor.

For more information on the technology, click [here](#) or contact - mackenzie.beebe@kiewit.com or john.rygg@kiewit.com.

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EMPLOYEE(S) SPOTLIGHT: IN A MOMENT OF CRISIS



PICTURED ABOVE: ELI OSWALT (LEFT) AND CHRISTOPHER COLE (RIGHT)

In a moment of crisis, safety professionals Eli Oswalt and Christopher Cole emerged as unsung heroes and saved a potential heart attack victim on our Hiwassee Expansion Project.

As the employee collapsed, these two immediately sprang into action, initiating CPR until emergency services were able to respond several minutes later. Their quick thinking, adherence to a crisis management plan, and immediate CPR played a vital role.

Construction Manager Jacob McDonald coordinated efforts, ensuring no time was wasted. This incident highlights the importance of well-prepared crisis management plans.

Regular training and practice are essential for swift and coordinated responses. Let's prioritize crisis management preparedness to protect lives.

IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911

SYMPTOMS TO WATCH OUT FOR INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

HEART ATTACK

- R** **REFERRED PAIN** - Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- U** **UNEXPLAINED SWEATING** - Breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.
- S** **SHORTNESS OF BREATH** - With or without chest discomfort.
- H** **HEART FLUTTERING WITH CHEST PAIN** - Most heart attacks can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the chest.

STROKE

- F** **FACE DROOPING** - Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile.
- A** **ARM WEAKNESS** - Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- S** **SPEECH DIFFICULTY** - Is speech slurred, are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand?
- T** **TIME TO CALL 911** - If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 911 and get them to the hospital immediately.

To find out more, read information from the [American Heart Association \(AHA\)](#).

RECORDABLES FROM THE LAST 60 DAYS

PROJECT NAME	CATEGORY	POTENTIAL SEVERITY LEVEL	ACTUAL SEVERITY LEVEL
MECT - VMR South Central LRT	Walking (Slips / Trips)	2	2
GPA-DT Wharf Construction	Hand / Power Tools	1	1
MTO HWY 417 Bridges CMGC	Hand / Power Tools	2	2
Houston Ship Channel Project	Energized Systems	3	2

Disclaimer:

As investigations unfold the classification of an incident can sometimes change as new or better information becomes available. This creates a situation where an incident may initially be entered with a lower potential and not highlighted on the daily snapshot. To ensure we do not miss an opportunity to learn from a serious incident, the recordables that occurred during the past two months will be listed here in the Safety Post.