

GCSC Safety Connection

Providing Training Solutions to Industry

FEBRUARY 2020

20TH ANNUAL CONTRACTOR'S SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARDS BANQUET

"Safety work is today recognized as an economic necessity. It is the study of the right way to do things."

- Robert W. Campbell



JOIN US FOR OUR 20TH ANNUAL CONTRACTOR'S SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARDS BANQUET!

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020

Edward A. Dufresne Community Center

Reception: 5:30-6:30pm

Dinner & Awards: 6:30-8:30pm

Nomination Deadline: Feb. 28, 2020

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if you
SEE | **SAY**
something | something*

*SPEAKING OUT IN OUR DAY-TO-
DAY ACTIVITIES OFF THE JOB
IS A GOOD PRACTICE AS WELL!
DRIVING, WORKING ON LADDERS
AND FROM HEIGHTS, CUTTING
GRASS, WORKING IN GARDENS,
CHANGING LIGHT BULBS, ETC.
ARE TASKS WE DO ALL THE TIME
THAT MAY HAVE A HAZARD AS-
SOCIATED WITH IT AND MORE
TIMES THAN NOT, WE DO NOT SAY
ANYTHING!*



SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING: STOP WORK AUTHORITY

When performing work, it is important that an employee feels empowered and is knowledgeable that he/she has the authority to stop work if an unsafe hazard is evident that prohibits the employee from conducting a task. Stopping work is, at times, a sensitive power depending on the industry. There are employees that are fearful to use this power. The lack of confidence that employees have to exercise this right can escalate a situation and make a situation worse than it needs to be.

Reasons Why Employees Hesitate to Use Stop Work Authority:

- Fear of punishment from supervisor
- Fear of conflict with other employees
- Does not want to be labeled as a "snitch" or "soft worker"
- Fear of losing job
- Does not want to slow project or work down

Clearly, many of the reasons why employees hesitate to exercise stop work authority revolve around fear of losing something. One recommendation to feel more confident about using stop work authority is to review all hazards associated with your job and position with your Human Resources manager and explain any grey areas that might exist.

Despite what many employers and groups express or claim, stop work authority is not just a privilege, it is a responsibility. Your job as a safe employee is to be the first set of eyes and voice while on the clock. At the end of the day, stopping work can keep you, your coworkers, and your company safe.

"But Sam, it's not that simple. I tried stopping work and my boss yelled at me and threatened to fire me."

Unfortunately, some managers care more about how quickly a job gets completed than the safety of their workers. Many of these managers feel threatened or fearful that if one of their employees stops work, the higher ups in that company may think the manager does not have control over their group. This is not the case though! Your choice and ability to identify a risk or potential hazard can save a lot of harm, if conducted correctly.

Stop Work Abuse

As mentioned earlier, stop work authority is a power that comes with great responsibility. Many employers and managers have fears that employees may tend to abuse this power to get out of work. Because of this, it is important that safety talks be conducted prior to beginning a job or task to make sure all parties are aware of the potential hazards. Abuse of stop work authority can lead to reprimand and loss of job security. Be honest, be safe, and if you see something, say it.

How to Stop Work

If you see a potential hazard, risk or unsafe action, your job is to contact your direct supervisor or safety representative immediately. Also, alert any co-workers or employees that are assigned to the specific task as well. At that point, the manager or safety representative will analyze the issue and take corrective actions in order to resolve the issue.

Final Thoughts

All things considered, stop work is a crucial responsibility that employees should feel comfortable exercising. If there is a potential safety hazard that could cause an accident, the issue should be made known. Knowing the steps for how to stop work and who to approach is the first step of using this responsibility to create a safer work environment. If you have issues or fear of using such authority, contact your supervisor directly and your Human Resources team to make you feel comfortable in the workplace.



SUPERVISORY TRAINING EDUCATION PROGRAM (STEP)

2 DAY INSTRUCTOR LED COURSE

MEMBERS \$250.00 NON-MEMBERS \$300.00

Course Offered for frontline and field supervisors. After completing this 2-day course, student will:

- » Understand the value and philosophy of supervision, and leadership responsibilities
- » Receive the knowledge and skill to be an effective communicator
- » Learn the art of influencing and changing behaviors through coaching and discipline
- » Understanding how conducting a thorough accident/incident, is an essential component of being an effective manager/supervisor
- » Understand how to set expectations, and effectively manage safety



TRENCHING & EXCAVATION COMPETENT PERSON

5 HOUR INSTRUCTOR LED

MEMBERS \$145.00 NON-MEMBERS \$165.00

This 5-hour instructor led program is for supervisors looking to obtain the skills and knowledge needed to properly oversee Trenching & Excavation (T&E) Work.

Through the effective use of 12 measureable objective topics and student activities we raise the level of learning beyond mere knowledge transfer. Additionally the student will be able to analyze and evaluate how that knowledge was applied and will be able to take that information and synthesize new ways to do it better next time.



HAND SIGNALS FOR MOBILE EQUIPMENT

30 MIN CBT

MEMBERS \$25.00 NON-MEMBERS \$35.00

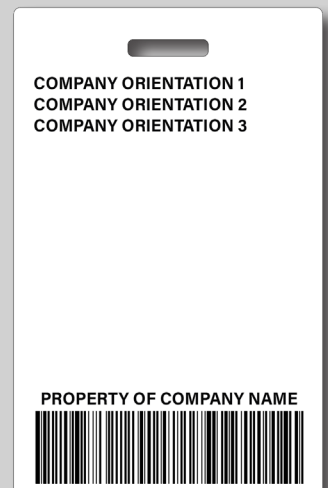
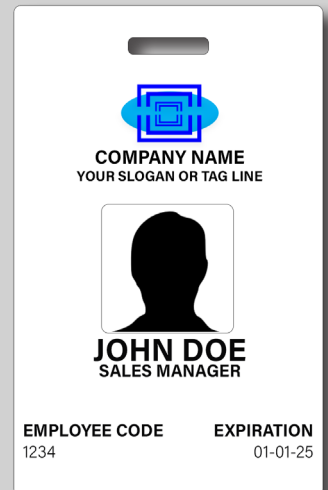
This 30 minute computer based training will provide concepts and skills needed to assure that mobile equipment (other than cranes) is moved safely.

Upon completing this course, you will be able to:

- » Define terms relating to movement of mobile equipment
- » Explain why Spotters are needed to direct movements of mobile equipment
- » Discuss common needs for spotters when moving mobile equipment
- » Describe responsibilities of operators, spotters and other workers
- » Identify hazards
- » Describe ways to keep yourself safe when spotting
- » Explain the importance of good communication
- » Explain how to approach the operator
- » Demonstrate the hand signals to be used for directing the movement of mobile equipment

Customized ID Badges

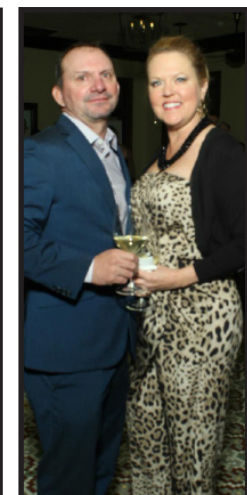
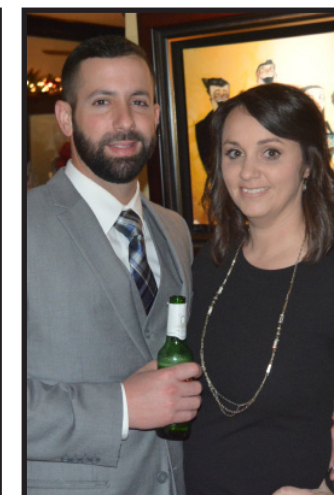
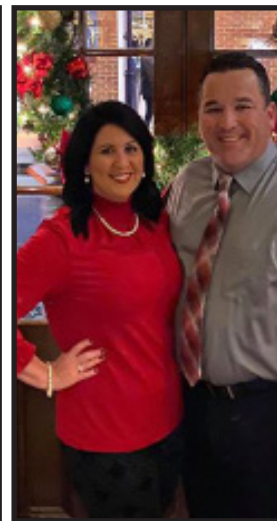
GCSC can provide your company with customized photo ID Badges to meet your needs. Contact GCSC Customer Service at 504.469.7787 or email csr@mygcsc.com to begin the designing process.



GCSC 2019 Christmas Party!

GCSC hosted its annual Christmas Party at Arnaud's in New Orleans on Saturday, December 7th, 2019.

Thank you to all of our employees and board members for another year of hard work!





GCSC 2019 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

GERALD WASHINGTON

“Having Gerald on board has been a great addition to our Team. He inspires everyone with his work ethic. Gerald’s patience and calm demeanor is appreciated by Management and his Co-workers.”

- Shelly Guilbeau
GCSC Executive Director



“Since day one Gerald has constantly exceeded my expectations. He’s kind, patient and enthusiastic, with a genuine interest in resolving issues. I look forward to seeing all the great things he’ll accomplish in the years to come.”

- Dixi Dufrene
GCSC Director of Operations

What do you believe makes a good employee?

Being committed, handling responsibilities in a mature manner.

As a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A car salesman, I heard they were allowed to drive the cars....

What’s the best part of your job?

No two days are the same, every day is different.

What’s your favorite time of the year at Gulf Coast Safety Council and why?

Definitely the Christmas holidays, everyone is family-oriented so it feels like family.

What is your favorite thing to do away from work?

Enjoying time with my grandkids... acting like a kid.

What is your favorite Gulf Coast Safety Council memory?

Being awarded Employee of the Year for 2019. I was completely surprised and it was so memorable.



Way to go!

THANK YOU DAVID AND MIKE FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE ON GCSC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS!



David Morantine



Mike Dehart

"I am deeply grateful to all of our leadership-- past, present, and future. Dixi and I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to Dave and Mike for their very active participation on our Board of Directors for many years. I am sure I speak for all Board Members when I say Dave and Mike will be missed."

– Shelly Guilbeau

GCSC also welcomes James Fish and Adam Kuehne to our 2020 Board of Directors.

2020 Board of Directors:

Kathleen Loup	River Parish Contractors
Gerald Flood	Shell Norco
Mike Rooney	Triad
Darrel King	Turner Industries Group
Nate Bumstead	Marathon Garyville
Roy Martin	Chevron Pascagoula
Ritchie Hofmann	Valero St. Charles
Frank Rusich	Clean As New
Jeremy Miller	Repcon
Ross Hotard	Insulations Inc.
James Fish	Dow Chemical
Adam Kuehne	Valero Meraux

GCSC Holiday/Closure Schedule

- 01-01-20 – New Year’s Day
- 01-20-20 – Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 02-25-20 – Mardi Gras
- 04-10-20 – Good Friday
- 04-30-20 – Awards Banquet *Closing at noon
- 05-25-20 – Memorial Day
- 07-03-20 – Independence Day
- 09-07-20 – Labor Day
- 10-02-20 – Golf Tournament *Closed
- 11-26-20 – Thanksgiving
- 11-27-20 – Thanksgiving
- 12-24-20 – Christmas Eve
- 12-25-20 – Christmas



20TH ANNUAL SWINGIN' FOR SAFETY
GOLF TOURNAMENT
SAVE the DATE
TEE TIME: 11:00AM
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2020
CYPRESS LAKES COUNTRY CLUB 10 VILLERE DRIVE, DESTREHAN
www.mygcsc.com



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