

# VOLTS Newsletter

*VALUING OUR LIVES THROUGH SAFETY*

April 2018

Morgan Christensen, Facilitator

Volume 53



## Outage Safety

This VOLTS newsletter finds us right in the middle of an outage. This is the time of year that some employees look forward to. They get to see projects that were finished two years ago or ten years ago and how the work has held up. Others dread the outage. As employees age, the long hours spent working during the outage is harder on their bodies. One of the best things that comes with age is wisdom. It's often said that, "Good judgement comes from experience; experience from poor judgement." From a safety standpoint, employees who fit into that experienced category should share that knowledge with those who are less experienced on the job. Watching out for others can prevent someone from being injured or killed. Coming up through the ranks as a mechanic, there were a number of times when one of the more experienced mechanics gave me a piece of advice or told me that I was going to hurt myself or others by performing a task the way I was doing it.

Russ Mangleson was famous for telling those around him in a non-threatening, almost teasing way, "I guess

you could do it that way, but that's not how I'd do it." When Russ said that, it motivated you to reevaluate the situation to see if you could find the risk that he was seeing. Before coming to IPSC, Russ had a lot of experience in the well drilling field. He used that experience to make life better at IPSC. A lot of employees had the pleasant experience of working with Russ on the Turbine Deck during the outage. Russ liked sharing his knowledge and experience. Several accidents were prevented by Russ speaking up when things were questionable. Russ had the unique ability of making even the most miserable job fun with his attitude and laughter.



When working with others in dangerous places that aren't the "norm," watch out for those around you. If it was your daughter or son who was the one going with you into a situation, would the instructions from you be just a little bit better than they are for your inexperienced co-worker? Hopefully you will think about your co-worker being someone's son or daughter, mom or dad, or other family member. Those whom we work with become our family too. Don't be afraid to be a voice for safety. All that can be done after an accident has happened is to wish we would have done something different.

Russ was concerned about everyone’s safety. He had the opportunity of working with his two sons out here. However, from talking with Mike and Aaron, they felt Russ was sometimes a grouch when it came to their safety. That’s because we had the option of listening to Russ and taking his advice, which was normally the case, or proceeding the way we were. Mike and Aaron did not have that option. There was no way Russ was going to go home and tell his wife that he wasn’t paying attention and one of their boys was injured in an accident while they were working with him.

We are all human and can get tired and fatigued, especially during an outage. Sometimes we have bad days and mistakes can be made. Having an extra set of eyes to see something we may miss can be helpful. Don’t take it wrong when someone helps you by performing an engaging observation on you. Let’s be like Russ when it comes to risk exposure and help others be aware. When something looks bad, speak up. That is what VOLTS is all about—having a non-threatening, meaningful conversation about safety.

The VOLTS definitions spotlighted this month are for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

<b>5.0</b>	<b>PPE</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Head</b>	Is the appropriate head protection being worn for the task being performed? Is head protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition? Is it being worn as designed?
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Eyes and Face</b>	Is the appropriate eye and face protection being worn for the task being performed? Is eye/face protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition? Is it being worn as designed?
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Hearing</b>	Is hearing protection worn in high noise areas? (Such as when it is necessary to raise voices to be heard.) Is hearing protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition and clean? Is it worn correctly and as designed?
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Respiratory</b>	Is the appropriate respiratory protection for the job being worn? Is respiratory protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition? Is it worn properly and as designed?
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Hand</b>	Is the appropriate hand protection being worn for the task being performed? Is hand protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition? Is it worn correctly?
<b>5.6</b>	<b>Body</b>	Is the person wearing body protection and/or clothing suitable for the task being performed? Is body protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition? Is it being worn properly and as designed?
<b>5.7</b>	<b>Fall</b>	Is person working at height wearing a body harness? Is it attached to a secure anchor? Is the harness and anchor in good condition? Does the harness fit correctly? Is it worn correctly?
<b>5.8</b>	<b>Foot</b>	Is appropriate foot protection for the job or work area being worn? Is foot protection appropriate for the risk? Is it in good condition?
<b>5.9</b>	<b>Seat Belt</b>	Do the passengers and/or operator wear their seat belts?

In a recent safety tailgate meeting, a supervisor asked how to tell if a hardhat is in good condition or outdated. This is a fitting question for our PPE definitions this month. The ANSI statute Z89.1-2009 is a suggestion which says that the longest a hardhat should be worn is four to five years from the manufacture date. An idea that is suggested is to write the date you started wearing the hat with a sharpie inside the hardhat. Also, if you squeeze your hardhat brims together and there is not any flex to it, then it should be replaced. The sun and extreme hot weather will damage hardhats. If your hardhat looks faded from the sun—replace it. It is also suggested that the suspension in hardhats be replaced every year. The manufacture date is found on the brim on the inside of the hardhat. Use good judgement and make a wise call about your hardhat and suspension. If there is any visible damage or the hardhat does not pass the mentioned tests—replace it.



**SAFETY FIRST**

Please stay safe out there and do some quality, engaging observations during the outage. Ask yourself how the person you are observing could be injured in the next five to fifteen minutes.