2016 Safety Award Entry
(Best Safety Innovation)

SLV Regional Solid Waste Authority

SWANA Member # 869953

Courtesy Safety Vehicle and Equipment Inspection

San Luis Valley Region
Rio Grande, Saguache, Alamosa, Costilla, Conejos, Mineral Counties

Serving a population of approximately 46780
Executive Summary

Safety for the SLVRSWA comes in many forms at the landfill site but one of the newest and progressive programs has been the Courtesy Safety Inspection done along with the waste screening process. This program is set up to do a courtesy vehicle and equipment inspection on rolling stock that enters and leaves the landfill. The process takes just a few minutes and help to prevent safety hazards that could cause a problem at the working face or to and from the landfill site out on major roads. The program came about as an incident that occurred at the working face causing an injury to an operator of another truck not associated with the truck equipment that caused the injury. Consequently the inspection program has been working well to promote better and safer equipment at the landfill site and on roads leading to the landfill.
2016 Safety Award

The San Luis Valley Regional Solid Waste Authority (SLVRSWA) was started in February of 1995 with its first load of trash. Since then the landfill has tried to be a leader in all aspects dealing with the landfill and solid waste management industry. One of the more important components of the landfill is the association around safety. The landfill not only believes in safety for the landfill site along with employees on and off of the job site but also the general public that enter the landfill daily. One of the concerns came after an incident when two commercial trucks were unloading at the working face and a swinging door from a roll off unit became unhooked and swung around striking the operator of the tuck unloading next to the roll off unit.

After a short investigation it was discovered that the roll off unit had a latching system that was unsafe and failed letting the large tail gate swing loose striking the operator next to the unit. In doing a Root Cause Analysis it was determined that spacing was part of the issue but the real concern was the equipment with unsafe conditions. So it was determined to start a courtesy safety inspection of equipment along with the waste screening process. A concern was some of the equipment coming to the landfill site had very visible unsafe conditions. In our safety meeting the team decided to implement a program to do a quick inspection of rolling stock coming to the landfill. The idea was if it was a major safety concern the entity would be asked to get the safety item fixed before the load could be unloaded on site. From that point it expanded to the area of not only major equipment concerns but items such as turn signals, back up alarms, tires, strobe lights and even air leaks on the equipment. Most all inspected items found are only suggestions to be fixed with the exception of a condition that could cause an injury to someone at the landfill site.

Before the program was started there were several units of rolling stock coming to the landfill site with very visible unsafe conditions. Many of the employees would mention that they saw something wrong but nothing was said to fix the concern. So the unsafe condition would just come then leave the site and go out onto major roads leading to and from the landfill.
2016 Safety Award

Currently we are seeing rolling stock coming back that has been fixed and providing a safer environment for not only the landfill site but also the general public outside the landfill area of concern. In some cases the operator was unaware of the condition and was thankful of the information given to correct the problem as was many of the owners of the equipment.

The program was implemented in August of 2015 with a cover letter going out to all commercial accounts coming to the landfill site. We made some flyers to hand out at our counter when customers came into the office. We did promotion by word of mouth when customers came to the office and explained our safety awareness and concern for safety while at the landfill site.

Again we feel the program has been a success as we see equipment that we had a concern about with safety issues and has been fixed. We feel the information from the program that we have given out has been supporting a better safety environment outside the landfill site on roads to and from the landfill.

I feel the safety innovation that we have developed is one that you don’t see around other landfills or similar sites. It has taken the safety environment that we had a concern for employees and public to a new level of awareness and safety. If we can develop a program that helps to alleviate accidents or incidents I feel it is a successful program and we can move on to other safety areas of concern.
# RANDOM VEHICLE INSPECTION

**DATE & TIME:** ___________________________________________  **Invoice #**

**LICENSE PLATE:** __________________________________________

**Type of Vehicle:**
- Truck____
- Trailer____
- Semi____
- Car____
- Pickup____

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>GOOD</th>
<th>NEEDS ATTENTION</th>
<th>REJECTED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Load tarped or covered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door/Gate Latching System</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door/Gate Safety Chains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door/Gate Hinges</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rear view Mirrors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back-up Alarm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Brake</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Load Rejected: **YES____**  **NO____**

If YES reason for rejection:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Inspector: _____________________________________________

Printed Name of Driver: _____________________________________________

Driver Signature: _____________________________________________

---

**THIS FORM IS FOR LANDFILL ENTRANCE AND LANDFILL USE ONLY.**