

## Message from the Regional Manager

Thanks to all of you who participated in the Proactive Safety Stand-Down in late March. The goals of the sessions were to recognize the **excellent safety performance** to date at that time and to express the need to remain diligent throughout the year. As you will recall from the Stand-Down we have had a number of near misses or vehicle damage cases indicative of conducting work without adequate planning. Please ensure staff understand the value of **pre-task hazard identification** and planning to ensure that the activity can proceed safely. As we discussed in the Contractors HSSE Expectations meetings in early March 2009 RM will be **introducing the HSSE Management System** (including Control of Work) in **June of this year**. When fully implemented the HSSE Management System will replace the old RM HSSE Assurance Plan. In the near future a formal invitation will be extended to each company to provide 2 delegates to attend a meeting to discuss the HSSE Management System and understand the implementation schedule which includes program **roll out** in June 2009, **gap assessment** due August 31, 2009, **implementation** plan due September 30, 2009 and **compliance** with the HSSE Management System by December 31, 2009. Thanks and be safe! – *Chris Winsor, Regional Manager*

## FROM THE FIELD . . .

EBM Don Pratt considers **traffic his number one safety concern** for his retail crews, and with the high volume of traffic at some retail locations, he has found that **RM work is sometimes best scheduled for the early morning** hours, before the sun is up and the general public is out driving. Rescheduling retail work to the very early morning has also fostered a greater sense of **physical safety** among his crews pertaining to crime, as some high crime inner-city areas are more often targeted in the late night hours, rather than early morning hours, when the sun will eventually be rising and the general populace getting ready to begin their day. An added benefit of working in the early morning dark hours is the fact that the **extra lights** required for work **draw specific attention to RM work crews**, which natural daylight does not. Regardless, he emphasizes to his crews that drivers still may not be paying attention and crews need to, “assume they cannot see you.” – *special thanks to Don Pratt, EBM, LA West Retail Portfolio*



## Consider This . . .

The month of May is National Physical **Fitness** and Sports Month, **Better Sleep** Month, National High **Blood Pressure** Education Month and **Mental Health** Month. What do these all have in common? Well, maybe YOU. How are these affecting **your ability to focus, concentrate and make sound judgments on the job – or work safely?** With pay cuts, layoffs and foreclosures affecting us all directly or indirectly, you may be under extra pressure and emotional stress. What can you do: 1) **take care of yourself** and make time for sleep, exercise and good nutrition – as well as space for something you enjoy, 2) **connect with others**, and 3) **pick one “good for you” habit a week** to focus on – sleep, exercise . . . with the aim of keeping you healthy without becoming overwhelmed. For more ideas, visit <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/go/liveyourlifewell>.

## Additional Resources

**HSSE Bi-weekly communication** <http://rmhsse.bpglobal.com/communication/hsseweeklycommunication/2009/>

**Shared Learning** <http://rmhsse.bpglobal.com/communication/sharedlearninglessonslearnedsafetycommunicationsuccessstories/>

**SOCs Minute Resource Site** <http://socs.dataaccel.com/> (user ID: socs, Password: safety)

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## Contractor's

Groundwater sampling has a multitude of steps, each of which poses its own risk. One risk that may contribute to an incident is removing well lid bolts. Sounds easy and hazard free? Nonetheless, in 2008 Groundwater & Environmental Services (GES) incurred a recordable injury while doing just that. During a groundwater sampling event a sampling technician strained the right shoulder rotator cuff while attempting to loosen well lid bolts. The investigation revealed a few root causes, one of which identified that a **ratchet wrench may not have been the best tool** to loosen over-tightened well bolts. In response, GES revised the activity specific JSA, updated the H&S



ergonomic module to foster employee training, and provided field staff with a more appropriate tool – a ratchet with breaker bar for leverage. Because GES makes an effort to **encourage employee input regarding incidents and investigations**, local teams were **able to discuss** the event during their monthly H&S meetings, and one employee offered an alternative to the ratchet and breaker bar. With help from others and weeks of discussion and feedback, the **employee devised and built the new “T – Handle”** tool to help eliminate the possibility of a repeat incident. Some of the T – handle tool advantages include even pressure distribution on tight bolts, more leverage than typical breaker bar or ratchet, less kneeling (inclement weather, stress on knees), and better sight lines for sample technician for increased awareness of traffic and pedestrian hazards. – *Special thanks to Julius Pachy, Bill Lovenberg and the GES team*

## @Traction

This past month the RM Group reported 3 incidents regarding the acid contained in **sample vials**, resulting in two minor skin burns. With the summer temperature changes coming, take a moment to review your STPs regarding sample vials. Consider if **caps are tightened** appropriately, **storage** before use (upright, cool environment) and **use of PPE** when handling the vials. As well, consider **temperature changes** throughout the day which **may cause a build-up of pressure inside the vial** – or affect your other equipment. Elsewhere in BP during April, precautions taken to protect a small rig from freezing in the morning caused it to overheat and leak later on in the day when the temperature warmed up.