

Message from the Regional Manager

It's hard to believe it's already the end of summer! I would like to personally thank you all for your tremendous patience and hard work as we have gone through the restructuring and "Transformation" of the BP organization. Your consistency and efforts are much appreciated. As we finish up the summer barbecues and prepare to head into fall, take a moment during one of your upcoming tailgates to **re-examine your PPE** policy. Over the course of the last several months, Traction data for RM globally has reported a number of incidents with either inadequate PPE, or the wrong PPE, and perhaps most often, the wrong gloves for the job. Also be sure to **send May your HSSE success stories** and lessons learned so that we can feature your good work in our upcoming editions! See you out there! – *Chris Winsor, Regional Manager*

FROM THE FIELD . . .

What does it mean to be aware of your surroundings? One O&M team was able to implement new procedures when the team discovered that what's immediately **outside the site** is just as important as what's on-site when considering HSSE, after an external incident nearly had serious ramifications for the site. While performing preventative maintenance (PM) within the former site compound, the team noticed remnants of a recent fire between the compound fence and the property perimeter wall. As leaves and debris outside the compound had never been included in any scope of work, JSA or other site document, no efforts had been made to keep the **perimeter of the compound** clean, providing fuel for a live cigarette butt a passerby was able to easily and thoughtlessly toss over the wall (it is thought). Fortunately, the drum inside the compound was unscathed, being at the other side of the compound, but the fence and a portion of the unused PCV piping manifold were damaged. EBM Don Pratt and the GES team were able to implement a new policy regarding PM compound site visits and compound preventive maintenance visits to all compound sites. Take a moment to discuss with your team any **potential hazards** in the immediate vicinity of your site and update site procedures and JSAs/TSEAs appropriately.

Consider This . . .

With summer drawing to an end, yellow jackets, hornets and bees can become **more aggressive**, as fewer flowers are available as a sugar source, and growing larvae no longer secrete sugar to feed adult workers.

- **Be careful with food and garbage.** At this time of year, this new sugar source brings flying scavengers into closer contact with humans.
- **Avoid fragrances**, which may be perceived as sugar sources.
- Avoid bright clothing if possible. (Obviously, for work and field activities high visibility clothing is currently a must for other reasons.)
- **Never strike or smash a wasp or bee** – it may frighten into stinging or release an "alarm pheromone" into the air, signaling other yellow jackets to attack. Quick movements can also provoke attack. Instead, hold still and gently move or blow on it.
- It has been found that yellow jackets almost never sting in an enclosed space, but try to escape. Personnel finding one in a trailer or car are advised to **move slowly and open windows** to allow it to escape. (Note – yellow jackets can sting repeatedly, releasing venom each time.)

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)

To comment, inquire, or obtain information on any item in this publication, or to submit an item for publication, please contact May Marcinek at mmarcinek@envirosolve.com, or 818.889.0090.

Contractor's

An Orange County (CA) remediation team from Delta Consultants recently encountered an incident resulting from defective equipment and equipment design specs that did not fully anticipate a particular shut-off issue, leading to SVE system damage. While defective equipment and designs are encountered periodically throughout RM, this particular case stood out as being remarkably well handled in a couple areas – **communication and investigation**. Because amicable relationships and SVE system communication had been maintained **with the on-site store manager**



and the emergency number list on the compound kept up to date, the store manager

knew what to do, and cared about it enough, to immediately call the posted emergency numbers when the SVE system started smoking. A Delta tech was dispatched to the site and was able to listen to the store manager's observations and then perform his own investigation before calling in the manufacturer to perform a more **detailed analysis** and system check. Ultimately the analysis found two problems, including one design flaw, a sometimes common problem in older, inherited remediation systems. However, the excellent communication and thorough investigation resulted in a clear and timely resolution to these issues. – *special thanks to Aaron Lapine and the Delta team*

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@Traction

A review of Traction data for July shows 2 of RM West's 14 incident reports being the result of 3rd parties accessing **unsecured drums** stored on site, and attempting to **dump product** into the drums. In one case, product spilled onto neighboring property and the RM field team took the responsibility to clean it up. Both incidents occurred while techs were away from the site. Over the past several months, there have also been incidents within the RM Group of theft and attempted theft. Take a moment to look over your site and **be sure your equipment is secure**.