

Safety & Health Award

This award recognizes companies whose safety and health initiatives have benefited employee and customer well-being.

Entry Requirement

Program must be voluntary and not the direct result of mandates by regulations or enforcement decrees.

Submissions Overview

Safety & Health Award Submissions - 13 Nominees		
Company Name	Program Name	ID Number
Atmos Energy	<i>Damage Prevention Ambassador Program</i>	SH-1
CenterPoint Energy	<i>Achieve Your Degree - Training Program to Associates Degree</i>	SH-2
Enable Midstream Partners	<i>Contractor Safety Oversight Team</i>	SH-3
Nicor Gas	<i>Virtual Safety and Wellbeing Fair</i>	SH-4
NiSource	<i>Know Your Home</i>	SH-5
Southern Star	<i>12 Days of Safety</i>	SH-6
	<i>Covid 19 Pandemic Work Management</i>	SH-7
	<i>Safe Day</i>	SH-8
	<i>Summer Safety Series</i>	SH-9
Summit Utilities	<i>A Life - Changing Choice</i>	SH-10
TC Energy	<i>Wellness Wednesdays</i>	SH-11
Vimocity	<i>PGS Industrial Athlete</i>	SH-12
Xcel Energy	<i>CPR - Employee Training</i>	SH-13

Nomination SH-1							
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Atmos Energy						
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member						
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2009						
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Damage Prevention Ambassador Program</i>						
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-1a-Doc1-Damage%20Prevention%20Awareness%20Brochure%20%28UOC38%202021%29.pdf?_t=1624904300						
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>Excavation damage represents one of the greatest threats to pipeline systems. Atmos Energy created the Damage Prevention Ambassador Program to encourage all team members, such as service and construction technicians, engineers, measurement, and compliance representatives to proactively stop at excavation sites and ensure that locating and safe digging practices are being followed.</p> <p>As a part of the program, employees stop at active excavation sites, confirm locate ticket requests, visually check to ensure that facilities were located, and then crews that are working safely. If gaps are found, employees are empowered to stop work, distribute 811 literature, and take photos of the excavation site for documentation in a mobile application. In 2021, this app will be expanded to allow technicians to document stops with those working near above ground facilities as well. Contractors working to remove ice or snow, performing right-of-way maintenance, building demolition, and storm cleanup after hurricanes also run the risk of damage to our natural gas systems.</p> <p>The mobile app logs the GPS coordinates of the site and allows the user to record 811 ticket numbers, as well as photos of the jobsite. If no active 811 ticket can be found, excavators are supplied with Atmos Energy damage prevention brochures and state 811 center literature. These brochures explain in detail the importance of submitting a locate request ticket prior to digging.</p>						
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>In 2020, more than 2,000 Atmos Energy Damage Prevention Ambassadors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performed 34,059 safe digging audits which helped prevent innumerable potentially dangerous and costly accidents. Communicated with homeowners, contract excavators, public utility workers, city public works team members, and street construction workers to call 811 before any type of excavation. Distributed Call 811 literature to nearly 10,000 people across Atmos Energy's eight state footprint. Influenced an 8 percent reduction in damages to Atmos Energy's system from 2019 to 2020 and a consistent improvement in Atmos Energy's Damages per Thousand (DPT) metric for the past 5 years. <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Year</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">#Damages</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• 2019</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">5864</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">• 2020</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">5374</td> </tr> </table>	Year	#Damages	• 2019	5864	• 2020	5374
Year	#Damages						
• 2019	5864						
• 2020	5374						
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+						
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-1a-Doc2-Picture1.png?_t=1624904300						
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage Prevention Awareness Materials: https://shared-assets.adobe.com/link/e899044a-c4b2-45e1-448c-3036d0696c77 Damage Prevention Ambassador video: https://atmosenergy.wistia.com/medias/t86n4xat0j 						

Nomination SH-2	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	CenterPoint Energy
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2009
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Achieve Your Degree - Training Program to Associates Degree</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-1-Doc1-SGA%20Award%20Application.pdf?_t=1623431957
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	Statement of Purpose

CenterPoint Energy has partnered with Ivy Tech Community College in Indiana for a voluntary education program called “Achieve Your Degree,” crediting employees for the completion of the internal CenterPoint Energy Gas and Electric Line Apprenticeship Program with 31 college credit hours and pre-approved deferred tuition reimbursement for remaining course work. The remaining 29 college credit hours are spread over smaller milestones that cumulatively reach an Associate of Applied Science in Energy Technology. This concretizes the training expectation and the value it brings. Specific course requirements detailed in the attached Appendix A and employees must satisfactorily complete each task prior to being given college credit.

What is Ivy Tech?

Ivy Tech is an Indiana State-wide community college and technical school with over 40 locations and teaches classes in 75 communities. Ivy Tech is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. More detail on Ivy Tech can be found at <https://www.ivytech.edu/>

What is the “Achieve Your Degree” program?

“Achieve Your Degree” is an exclusive program allowing CenterPoint Energy Gas Construction and Electric Line Workers to earn an Associate of Applied Science degree through a combination of apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and Ivy Tech Community College coursework. This program met the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission Accrediting Body, so the academic purview has been achieved – and this is training/testing/experiences that happens prior to operator qualification processes. Ultimately, by completing the defined and approved CenterPoint Energy Gas and Electric worker Apprenticeship Program internally, employees are automatically credited 31 college credit hours upon satisfactory completion. Participating in this program is completely voluntary, and clearly sets the stage for employee career growth, continued learning and future opportunity.

The partnership between Ivy Tech Community College and CenterPoint Energy, coupled with tuition reimbursement benefits, provides our employees with the opportunity of no up-front tuition cost for continued education. Ivy Tech offers admissions assistance, individualized advising, and tutoring to assist employees with courses and help foster success.

Why does this help Safety and Health?

This program improves Safety and Health, of the employee and the public by transferring knowledge, experience and expectations to new employees, and recognizing the achievement with college credit. This builds an improved understanding of our assets and expected practices. A couple key points include:

- Safety Management System models reference employee education, training, awareness and competence as key components to risk reduction and positive safety and learning cultures. A clear training plan is critical to a good safety culture.
- Human Performance Improvement Principles even point out that error likely events can be predictable, manageable and preventable, and individual behavior is influenced by organizational processes and values. People achieve high level of performance based largely on encouragement and enforcement from leaders and peers, including the sharing of lessons learned from past events. The growth of a psychologically safe reporting environment is critical to a learning culture, and well trained and engaged employees can create/sustain that model.
- Our colleagues in Human Resources share that employees that are engaged put forth discretionary effort beyond what is expected – supporting the goal of becoming high performing organizations with improved performance management, teamwork and communication competencies.
- By using resources of the Ivy Tech, we can promote careers in the energy industry into new diverse populations, educating high school students on the benefits of working in the energy industry. This strategic step grows the broad net of inclusion in the recruiting space for employees of the future.

What else does “Achieve Your Degree” improve?

In addition to the improvement of employee and public safety and asset knowledge, considerations including employee recruiting, attraction and retention are benefitted from this program by rewarding employees further, not by just the completion of the CenterPoint Energy training program and a good career in the industry, but crediting the employee’s 31 college credit hours toward an Associate of Applied Science in Energy Technology. Employees can transfer previous college credits, study in parallel or take courses at Ivy Tech after the completion of the full Apprenticeship Program. Employee engagement is improved while combining growth of technical knowledge, higher expectations, career growth, service to colleagues, improved business outcomes and industry leadership. Personal ownership of helping get to 100% complete has reinvigorated employees to be supportive of the

	<p>process, but also each other as a support and mentor. This program sets the stage for continued growth in other States that CenterPoint Energy serves. Many Ivy Tech courses are available online today as a part of the program, and those courses not yet available online are being modified for future online availability. This obviously helps provide this service to a broader group of employees that are geographically dispersed.</p> <p>Attachments and Examples Appendix A – Stackable Credentials and specific Ivy Tech courses for each level Appendix B – Poster Boards in Learning Centers and Operating Centers marketing the program Appendix C – Ivy Tech Physical Locations in Indiana Appendix D – CenterPoint Energy new hire Gas Training and OJT requirements Appendix E - Achieve Your Degree Flyer – Natural Gas Construction, Electric Line Construction and Process Checklist (submitted separately)</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>Our Training Program, which is a precursor to any Operator Qualification, sets the stage for improved risk management by educating employees and formalizing experiences to grow knowledge and understanding. Sharing required learning objectives, operating controls and procedures, incorporating lessons learned and putting this into a formal structure with testing, OJT's and clear recordkeeping improves employee competency and awareness and has set a new standard of the employee lifecycle of learning, improving the safety and learning culture with more highly engaged employees.</p> <p>This program started in December, 2019, and four employees are currently enrolled and working toward a degree they never thought was attainable. Five additional are currently in the enrollment process. This is impacting their lives and families and kids are seeing parents go back to school while also working full-time. As we hire more employees and expand to other States, we expect continued growth. Our organization has over 4000+ field level employees on the Gas and Electric side of the business that will all be eligible for this opportunity in the future. The stage is set for the future and gas and electric industry employees will all be asking about organization's "college credit" programs, or maybe go to companies with those programs.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	0-25
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-1-Doc2-AYD_VectrenGas_Flyer_v3.pdf? t=1623431889
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	The full document, including multiple appendices and marketing materials used for employees are linked above.

Nomination SH-3	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Enable Midstream Partners
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2009
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Contractor Safety Oversight Team</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-2-Enable%20Contractor%20Safety%20Presentation%202020.pdf? t=1624902716
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	The Contractor Safety Oversight Team (CSOT) is a cross functional team of Enable employees who monitor our 3rd party contractors from a safety perspective. We partner with our 3rd party contractors through ISN to be industry leading in our measure of TRIR, DART, Recordable and Safety Evaluations. With this group's implementation and constant engagement, we have gone from 21 contractor OSHA recordable incidents in 2015 to zero (0) contractor OSHA recordable incidents in 2020.
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	Active participation and partnering with our contractors with our safety programs and monitoring of those programs through ISN have led to continuous improvement. We went from 21 contractor OSHA recordable incidents in 2015 to zero (0) contractor OSHA recordable incidents in 2020. We engage our best practices with onboarding, during activities and post activities to continue this trend.
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	0-25

Nomination SH-4	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Nicor Gas

SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Virtual Safety and Wellbeing Fair</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-3-Doc1-Email%20Graphic.pdf?_t=1623433729
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>There is nothing more important than the safety and wellbeing of our employees. Safety is the number one value at Nicor Gas. To support our number one value, we developed and hosted a virtual Safety and Wellbeing Fair. Our CEO, John Hudson, promoted and welcomed employee participation. The virtual fair offered an opportunity for us to provide internal and external resources for Nicor Gas employees. Employees were able to interface with various vendors offering education around mental, emotional, physical, nutrition and financial wellbeing.</p> <p>We used two platforms of technology which allowed employees to register for the event and personalize their agenda. During this three-hour event, they interacted with vendors, which allowed each employee an opportunity to visit up to 13 booths. Our wellness partners offered multiple 20-minute sessions which gave employees an opportunity to engage, ask questions, and gain knowledge about resources available.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	We had 256 attendees register for the event. Each participant averaged between 3 and 4 sessions equaling just under 1000 total sessions attended. In response to the post-event survey, respondents felt the Safety & Wellbeing Fair was a success and they would attend again. The feedback received from the employees indicated the sessions were timely, relevant, and advantageous.
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	101-300
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-3-Doc2-Thank%20you%20for%20attending.PNG?_t=1623433729

Nomination SH-5	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	NiSource
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2009
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Know Your Home</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-4-Doc1-NiSource_KnowYourHome_SGA2021_Creative.pdf?_t=1623434076
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>As part of NiSource’s continued focus on safety, we organized a Customer Safety Marketing and Communications Team to develop a plan to educate our customers on gas safety inside and outside their home. By developing an enhanced safety awareness campaign, we could educate our customers and encourage them to take steps to protect themselves, their families and their property from unsafe natural gas situations and practices.</p> <p>In order to develop an education plan, we conducted a content audit of our legacy and current customer safety communications. Through this review, we discovered that we focused primarily on 811 and odor of gas. We also surveyed our customers and learned through their direct feedback that they wanted to learn more about safety in their homes. We compiled this research and decided to focus on three key areas: Do It Yourself (DIY), Appliance Maintenance and Carbon Monoxide (CO).</p> <p>In an effort to keep all customer safety information under one umbrella that would resonate, we created our Know Your Home brand and service mark.</p> <p>Once we identified the three key areas of concentration, we developed a list of quick wins that would get information into the hands of customers as quickly as possible. This included bill messaging, website content and customer care center on-hold messaging. This was implemented within the first quarter of 2020.</p> <p>Once we completed the initial quick wins, we began efforts to launch a more robust marketing and education plan. The full marketing plan, implemented in-house in the third quarter of 2020, added:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new safety section with robust content on each of our distribution company websites • An interactive house on each of our distribution company websites • Bill inserts • Social media • Customer newsletters (digital and print) • Newspaper advertisements • Digital paid ads <p>Once we completed our marketing plan, we used our data and analytics to develop additional topics to keep the Know Your Home content fresh.</p> <p>Through analytics reviews, we were able to identify the rooms on the website that had the most to least interest. We took those topics that garnered the most traffic and adjusted messaging, content and placement.</p> <p>We also identified some additional awareness opportunities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasonal safety information and graphics • 811, Odor of Gas and RP1162 communications including Spanish versions • Additional CO and appliance content • Organizing the rooms of the interactive house in order of interest • Incorporating electric specific information for NIPSCO, our only natural gas and electric subsidiary <p>These additional topics also added channels to the Know Your Home portfolio, including billboards and brochures.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know Your Home content increased safety pageviews across all websites by 104% • Compares pageviews from March 2019 - February 2020 (old sites) to March 2020 - February 2021 (new sites) • The Know Your Home webpages generated 17,484 pageviews with an Average Time on Page of 46 seconds (July 2020 - February 2021) • 3 Customer newsletters (electronic) sent since Know Your Home launch • 4.1M emails, 1.1M email opens (28%) and 47K clicks (1%)
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	0-25
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-4-Doc2-NiSource_KnowYourHome_SGA2021_Data.pdf?t=1623434076
ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING LINKS AND MATERIALS	https://www.nipsco.com/knowyourhome https://www.nipsco.com/safety https://www.columbiagasohio.com/knowyourhome https://www.columbiagasohio.com/safety https://www.columbiagasky.com/knowyourhome https://www.columbiagasky.com/safety https://www.columbiagaspa.com/knowyourhome https://www.columbiagaspa.com/safety https://www.columbiagasmd.com/knowyourhome https://www.columbiagasmd.com/safety https://www.columbiagasva.com/knowyourhome https://www.columbiagasva.com/safety http://nisource.custhelp.com/ci/documents/view/1/AvMg~wriDv8S~~r9GmUm~yK6nbsoBi77Mv95~z7~Pv_w http://nisource.custhelp.com/ci/documents/view/1/AvMu~wr2Dv8S~~r9GIEi~yJBnbsoBi77Mv~5~z7~Pv_8w http://nisource.custhelp.com/ci/documents/view/1/AvMq~wqaDv8S~~r9Gj1e~yK_nbsoBi77Mv~_z7~Pv_83

Nomination SH-6	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Southern Star
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member

SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>12 Days of Safety</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-5-SGA%20-%2012%20Days%20of%20Safety%20%281%29.pdf?_t=1623434732
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>Southern Star’s Safety Awareness Team participated in a fun activity to celebrate safety during the holiday season! The “12 Days of Safety” social media campaign involved posting a holiday-themed picture and safety message to Southern Star’s social media accounts each day on the 12 days leading up to Christmas. Our goal was to promote safety in a fun way that applies to everyone, while adding some holiday cheer.</p> <p>Users that have access to the Southern Star Facebook and LinkedIn profiles were greeted by fun holiday-themed safety messages on their news feeds. The program shared relevant safety information that could impact anyone during the holiday season.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>The program was very successful. On Facebook, each post reached an average of 1,351 users during the program, with an average of 700 impressions for each post. As a reference, our company page has nearly 1,400 likes/followers. Southern Star’s LinkedIn profile received similar engagement among its users.</p> <p>Users appreciated the personal touch of each post as it contained a holiday-themed safety tip as well as a picture of the Southern Star team member who submitted the tip dressed in holiday attire.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	0-25

Nomination SH-7	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Southern Star
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Covid 19 Pandemic Work Management</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-6-SGA%20Pandemic%20Work%20Management%20Success%20%281%29.pdf?_t=1623435463
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>With the onset of Covid-19 Southern Star was committed to using technology to reduce the potential for contracting the virus through work practices. Work Orders were created for daily disinfecting field offices and common meeting areas in addition to PPE requirements. Scheduling and routing employees to begin work from reporting locations increased the risk through personal contact. OptimoRoute technology was utilized to allow people to take work vehicles and begin their workday from their homes. Riding together in company vehicles was also discouraged except in extreme cases with additional PPE requirements. Change from daily scheduling to weekly scheduling for flexibility. Deployment of automated enhancement request forms.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>Acceptance of weekly scheduling was accelerated by the collaboration of affected individuals in the decision-making process. Southern Star’s commitment to inclusion and diversity fostered the necessary adoption to make this change successful. Changes were seen in Key Performance Indicators and Metrics within days of implementation. Southern Star was able to increase productivity while protecting the health and safety of field employees with zero workplace Covid-19 transmissions.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	101-300

Nomination SH-8	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Southern Star
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Safe Day</i>

PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-7-Safety%20SGA%2006%20-%20Safe%20Day.PNG? t=1623436306
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>Safe Day is an annual event for Southern Star team members. Typically (in a non-Covid work setting), the event involves a live presentation from a guest speaker to discuss how a preventable occupational injury impacted their lives and those around them. As several other companies adapted to Covid-19 challenges, Southern Star developed a virtual Safe Day event. It involved sharing a recorded video presentation from guest speaker Kina Repp, who suffered a workplace injury as a young woman following a failure to lock out and tag out equipment.</p> <p>Kina described losing an arm during a tragic workplace accident at a fish processing plant in Alaska. Her powerful theme “never give away your safety” resonated among Southern Star team members following the presentation.</p> <p>In addition to Kina’s presentation, the video included safety messages from Kevin Clark, Director of Safety & Training; Jimmy Staton, President & CEO; Shawn Patterson, VP & COO; Tami Wilson, VP & CFO; Chris Davis, Director of Field Operations; and Jeremy Troutman, Director of Integrity & Reliability.</p> <p>This recorded presentation offered Southern Star team members to feel like they were seeing Kina and our leadership team firsthand, while offering the flexibility to view at a time that fit into their work schedule. As Covid-19 changed many facets of daily work life, the message and flexibility this presentation provided was effectively distributed among our team.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>The virtual event was well-received among all team members. The Safety Team received positive feedback from several team members. As previously mentioned, Kina Repp’s powerful theme “never give away your safety” resonated among Southern Star team members following the presentation.</p> <p>The presentation encouraged team members to not only look out for others’ safety, but to not forget about their own safety in the process. The recap from Southern Star’s leadership at the end of the presentation reinforced the importance of safety to prevent accidents that could negatively impact someone for the rest of their life.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+

Nomination SH-9	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Southern Star
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Summer Safety Series</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-8-SGA%20-%20Summer%20Safety%20Series%20screenshots%20%282%29.pdf? t=1623436413
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>The Summer Safety Series was an interactive program aimed to encourage safety among all Southern Star team members. Each month during the summer of 2020, a timely safety topic was presented. June highlighted driving safety, July focused on heat safety, and August covered line of fire safety. At the beginning of each month, a member of the safety team released a new video to kick off the activities and encourage team members to participate.</p> <p>In June, the Safety Department tracked and rewarded team members for good driving habits in company vehicles, specifically to prevent “backing” accidents (a collision while a vehicle is in reverse gear). Team members in the Wichita District won the contest by reducing the amount of times they put their vehicle into reverse by 46% compared to an average of the previous month before the challenge began. In addition to the driving challenge, team members were encouraged to enter a “Safety Selfie” contest where team members shared their pictures depicting how to avoid common safety hazards related to vehicles driving in reverse.</p> <p>In July, several stories relating to heat-injury safety were published in Southern Star’s weekly company newsletter. The stories covered how to prevent, recognize, and treat heat-related injuries. These stories were relevant due to a large portion of our workforce routinely working outdoors in the summer heat.</p>

	In August, a challenge began for team members to share their “line of fire” safety moments from over the years. The stories could be work-related or personal. The term “line of fire” means a person is in the direct path of an object or hazard that could lead to injury. Several team members shared their stories and supplemental pictures on the company’s intranet platform.
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	The Safety Team received positive feedback from team members, and we saw strong engagement with each activity. As a result of the June driving challenges, some work locations saw reductions up to 42% in potential reversing accidents simply by eliminating the need to put a vehicle in reverse. Other indirect results of the program were education on heat-related injuries to all team members and spreading awareness of real “line of fire” events that our staff has encountered in their lives.
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+

Nomination SH-10	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Summit Utilities
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2021
PROGRAM NAME	<i>A Life-Changing Choice</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fJ-jT1vgcTM&t=11s
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>Summit Utilities Inc. parent company to Arkansas Oklahoma Gas (AOG) produced a safety video in the Fall of 2020 entitled, A Life – Changing Choice. This safety video expresses the importance of following safety protocols and using the correct tools on the job, no matter how simple the task may be. The video tells the story and repercussions of one of our very own team members, Houston Southerland, Corrosion Technician. On September 10, 2019 Houston suffered what ended up to be a serious and life-threatening injury when he accidentally punctured his forearm with a pocket knife.</p> <p>The intent of this safety video is to focus on the impacts an injury can have on co-workers and family, not just the injury itself. It is important to keep safety in mind at all times - if not for yourself, then do it for your family. The response showed our team of 400 members and industry figures the repercussions on how a simple and easy mistake impact yourself, your family, and your team.</p> <p>While our goal at AOG remains to have zero injuries, AOG has since invested in the purchase of a variety of safety knives for all team members. Further, each and every member of the organization has been trained on the importance of utilizing this tool.</p> <p>Special thank you to Houston & Jessica Southerland for sharing their story.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	While our goal at AOG remains to have zero injuries, AOG has since invested in the purchase of a variety of safety knives for all team members. Further, each and every member of the organization has been trained on the importance of utilizing this tool.
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	301-500

Nomination SH-11	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	TC Energy
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Transmission SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2012
PROGRAM NAME	<i>Wellness Wednesdays</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southernngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/Sh-10-Doc1-How%20my%20mental%20health%20disorder%20fueled%20my%20physical%20disease.pdf?t=1623436814
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>TC Energy started a program to focus on mental health in the workplace and beyond. The company was hoping to find champions to promote mental in their respective business groups, and April Keatley answered the call. April has been a driving force behind the program in the TC Energy Technical and Operational Services (TOS) group.</p> <p>When the work from home/quarantine began, April started posting formal communications to the TOS team channels to educate the group on a variety of topics from potential warning sign in others, self-</p>

	<p>evaluation, communication strategies related to concerns, stress relief, and many other mental health topics.</p> <p>April has been brave enough to share her struggles with us to encourage and empower others to tackle the often-silent suffering that accompanies mental health struggles. In a particularly personal post from November, she recounted how her mental health issues began to affect her physical wellness as warning for the rest of us. She recounted the challenges those events brought including hospital stays and surgery. But the thing that cried out to me from her account was the feelings around stepping away from work and co-workers having to carry her workload. This is emblematic of so many of us in today's world. We feel like we can't even take a vacation without keeping up with emails or making those "important" conference calls.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>April's communications reach over 550 individuals on a weekly basis, I often see responses and comments from people on those posts. And surprisingly they are almost always from different people. The variety of April's content has a way of reaching people where they are. That is crucial to the effectiveness of the program. April says "It's important to me that I can support anyone experiencing a mental health disorder. Whether that be through sharing my own experience, modeling positive behaviors or just being there to listen, help someone find the right resources..." And I can assure you her efforts have positively impacted at least one of us.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-10-Doc2-Headshot%20-%20Favorite%20-%204%20MP%20Crop%20-%20Copy%20-%20Copy.jpg? t=1623436814

Nomination SH-12	
SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Vimocity
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	SGA Associate Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2021
PROGRAM NAME	<i>PGS Industrial Athlete</i>
PRIMARY LINK	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-11-Doc1-Vimocity%20Overview_May_2021.pdf? t=1623437016
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>In 2018, the TECO People's Gas Executive leadership team identified reducing MSDs (Musculoskeletal Disorders) incident rate as a company objective and as part of their strategic plan, they partnered with Vimocity to implement the "PGS Athlete" program. The PGS Athlete program is a comprehensive approach to injury prevention that focuses on 1) Body Care, 2) Body Position, 3) Ergonomics, and 4) Lifestyle. The roots of this program are founded on Vimocity co-Founder, Dr. Kevin Rindal's clinical experience of performing over 35,000 treatment sessions targeting muscle and joint injuries and the 10 years he served on the Sports Medicine team with the US Olympic Swim Team. The PGS Athlete program adapts the injury prevention strategies used by elite athletes to the specific job tasks of their workforce. All PGS Members receive training focused on the 4 steps listed above, and are then supported through the digital resources and web/phone app developed by Vimocity which provides real-time specific solutions to help them warm-up for specific job tasks or solve stiffness in an area of their body. The program also utilizes regular safety meeting content targeting MSD prevention and App-based Team competitions to drive long-term adoption and engagement.</p>
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	<p>In the first year, all "field-based" members participated in the program and experienced a 75% reduction in recordable MSDs compared to the previous 2-year average and a sustained reduction of 50% (2018-2020 compared to 2016 & 2017). Since 2019, the program has been extended to the entire workforce, including those who primarily work in the office. As of January 2021, over 90% of the eligible workforce have downloaded and interacted with the mobile app and the technology-based injury prevention program that is incorporated in monthly meetings and as part of the daily pre-work warm-up (Daily Body Care). In 2020, despite the disruption of the normal pre-work group warm-up due to COVID, nearly 14,000 Daily Body Care sessions were recorded by PGS Members. Additionally, 92% of participants either agreed, or strongly agreed that the training was valuable and relevant to their life.</p>
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	https://southerngas.org/wp-content/wpdm-assets/2021-SGA-Awards-Program/Safety%20%26%20Health/SH-11-Doc2-PGS%20Athlete_Florida%20Chamber_10.1.19.pdf? t=1623437016

Nomination SH-13

SGA MEMBER COMPANY NAME	Xcel Energy
SGA MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Distribution SGA Gas Member
SGA MEMBER SINCE	2010
PROGRAM NAME	<i>CPR - Employee Training</i>
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	This program trains and educates our employees of the techniques and skills required to perform an emergency lifesaving procedure needed when the heart stops. As a frontline utility worker performing work on a distribution gas system this is a critical tool for our employees.
RESULTS OF/RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAM	LaCrosse: Gas Tech, Nathan Langrehr was shopping at Farm and Fleet after his workday and was alerted to someone in the building that appeared to be having heart problems. Nathan rushed to the scene and immediately took charge by having someone call 911 and asking store employees if they had an AED. An employee ran to get an AED and Nathan began chest compressions. The AED was delivered to Nathan and he applied the device and followed the prompts to deliver a shock. The person was revived due to Nathans quick action. He mentioned Xcel's training he has received on AED's helped with his quick action in knowing what to do in the situation he was presented with. Safety is helping to submit a Life Sustaining Award from the company.
PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES	501+