

NOVEMBER 2019

# STREAMLINE

MONTHLY

## STREAMLINE

MESSAGE FROM BOB

ETHICS & COMPLIANCE

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS

INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIVITIES

└ WATER LEAK REPAIR

└ FLEET SERVICES

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CONTRIBUTORS



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It's hard to believe that the holiday season is already here.

**MSA**  
Mission Support Alliance

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

While a season of celebration, the holidays can also be a time of many hazards and distractions. These hazards and distractions mean that we all need to be extra vigilant in watching out for ourselves, our colleagues, friends and family. If you notice someone at work that seems distracted, please take a moment and ask about their well-being. Make sure they are in the right frame of mind and are ready to safely complete the work. No matter how big or small the task may seem, safety is imperative.

The holidays are also a time of increased need in our community. For many of us, that presents an opportunity to give back. It's heartwarming to see the MSA family come together for volunteer events and to sponsor gifts for foster children, victims of domestic violence, seniors, shelter animals and others in need. Together, we make a huge impact.

On behalf of the entire senior leadership team – thank you for your attention to safety, to one Hanford mission and to making our community a better place.

*Bob*

Bob Wilkinson  
President

## ETHICS and COMPLIANCE

### What Doing the Right Thing Means to YOU

This month several MSA employees shared what Ethics and Compliance means to them. See some of the responses in this short video.

Email Ethics and Compliance if you have a special message you would like to share with the MSA community. You could be selected for upcoming employee highlights!

Doing the right thing begins with each of us – watching this video shares how your colleagues put this into everyday practice.



[Watch the video now](#)



[ethicsandcompliance@rl.gov](mailto:ethicsandcompliance@rl.gov)



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MSA Industrial Hygienists from left to right: Josh Smedley, Will Hall, Garin Erickson, Dave Ross, Jon McKibben, Chris Nielsen, Eric Hokanson, Bob McDowell, Lynn Sweeney, and Adam Gaul.

## MSA's **INDUSTRIAL HYGIENISTS**

### An Invaluable Resource to Employees

Working at Hanford, we often hear the term industrial hygiene or know of the industrial hygienist job title. But, do you really know what industrial hygiene means or what the roles and responsibilities are for those in the field? The definition from the American Board of Industrial Hygiene is: the science of protecting and enhancing the health and safety of people at work and in their communities.

Here at MSA, we have IHS assigned to each organization who evaluate chemical hazards

(vapors, gases, welding fumes, particulates, etc.) and physical hazards (heat stress, noise, ergonomics), then work with management and workers to eliminate or reduce employee exposure to the hazard. In many cases, they are looking to prevent long-term effects or injury that may occur from a specific job.

Lynn Sweeney is an IH with Safety Support and shared an example of the work they do. "Fleet auto body technicians occasionally use specialty products that may not be on the approved chemical list," said Sweeney. "Before they apply the paint, the technicians will call me to verify the type of personal protective equipment to be worn, such as gloves and respiratory protection."

"MSA is fortunate to have the quality professionals currently in our industrial hygiene group," said Andy Foster, Safety Support manager. "By recognizing and applying the principles of industrial hygiene to our work environment, our workplace is safer than it has ever been before."

Thank you to our IH employees who make recommendations and implement controls designed to keep employees safe every day on the job.

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Water and Sewer Utilities stationary operating engineers Michael Mendoza and Bobby Dillard remove a broken valve and drain the water from the line so repairs can be completed.



After a new valve is installed, stationary operating engineer, Bobby Dillard and pipefitters Loron Tallett and Mark Dietz disinfect the parts to ensure the sanitary water system is not compromised.

## INFRASTRUCTURE **ACTIVITIES**

### Expedited Water Leak Repair

While performing system configuration activities for waterline maintenance work, a valve broke in the closed position. Water and Sewer Utilities had to shut off water to a number of buildings and fire hydrants to stop a water leak in the south parking lot of 2101M, estimated to be flowing at 3 gallons per minute.

W&SU quickly worked to repair the valve so water service could be restored. While making these repairs, another valve failed. Teams safely and successfully repaired both valves, restoring water to the impacted facilities and fire hydrants over the weekend.

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Fleet Services mechanic Dustin Palazzo assembles a snow plow for installation.



A completed snow plow and hydraulic system are now ready to plow snow!

## INFRASTRUCTURE **ACTIVITIES**

### Fleet Services Ensures Equipment is Winter Ready

Over the last several months, Fleet Services has focused on installing snow removal equipment on the large and medium duty trucks for MSA and other Hanford contractors. Each year there are new trucks to up-fit along with re-installing equipment on existing trucks in preparation for winter weather.

Fleet Services has to complete this work prior to any severe weather to help the responsible organizations ensure safe vehicle and pedestrian travel on the Hanford Site.

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This 115-ton crane will replace the old 80-ton truck mount crane previously used to support activities for other Hanford contractors on and off the Hanford Site. This crane is an all-terrain crane, allowing for highway travel as well as off-road capabilities to access any job site needed.



In September, a new concrete pad was installed so annual mobile crane load testing could be conducted to ensure compliance and safety standards are met.

## IN SUPPORT of **CLEAN UP**

### Crane & Rigging - Equipping Hanford for Success

MSA's Crane and Rigging Services is dedicated to providing continuous improvements in technology, equipment and facility upgrades that support the Hanford Site cleanup mission. Adding two new cranes to their fleet and installing a concrete pad for crane inspections are just a few of the planned improvements.

MSA currently has 25 cranes in service that vary in size ranging from 4.5-tons (Volkswagen Bug) to 200-tons (dump truck). These cranes perform various duties, such as removing HVAC units across the site, loading packaged waste boxes from the Central Waste Complex in the 200 West Area that are up to 25x20x10 feet in size, and picking up waste modules

from K Basin, placing them on trailers and moving them in and out of buildings.

Supporting the cleanup mission is only part of Crane and Rigging's responsibilities. They also inspect cranes regularly to ensure they're compliant with Washington state compliance standards, meet manufacturer crane loading limits and other various quality checks. The organization recently had a new concrete pad installed for crane inspections. This new engineered pad offers a level, compact surface that is required to perform mobile crane load tests. It will also be a cost savings for the company since the heavy equipment to level the ground is no longer needed for inspections.

Crane and Rigging Services is both directly and indirectly involved in nearly all aspects of Hanford Site operations, which requires

personnel to receive training and medical/radiological monitoring that allows access to all locations and environments.

"In addition to providing cranes and crane crews, we erect and inspect scaffolding in support of operations, maintenance and demolition, and install and periodically inspect hoisting equipment, ladders, and fall protection equipment," said Ken Strong, engineer and project manager for Crane and Rigging Services. "Having flexibility in resources and schedule allows for immediate response in support of emergent conditions."

We are fortunate to have the skilled and dedicated workers who set the bar high for safety as well as the equipment and resources to allow them to perform at a high level.

## FOCUS on SAFETY



MSA Conduct of Operations mentor, John Kristofzski is observing resolution of procedure/work package questions with radio maintenance, field work supervisor and fire department staff on site.

### Con Ops Moment

Conduct of Operations is a program that consists of formal documentation, practices and actions that implement disciplined and structured operations, which promote worker, public and environmental protection.

An example of conduct of operations is an employee following a work procedure at the Hanford Site to ensure the work is done correctly and safely. The same concept applies when a person buys a piece of furniture. Following the directions reduces the likelihood of having an extra piece or the furniture not working properly.

The goal of the conduct of operations program is to minimize the likelihood and consequences of human error or technical and organizational system failures by providing guidance (like the furniture instructions or work procedure) in a deliberate and structured manner that is consistent with each worker (or person assembling the furniture) so they reach the same end result.

Safety is our main priority, which is why we promote a strong conduct of operations culture and offer resources to build a strong program within an organization.

For questions on Conduct of Operations or if you'd like an evaluation performed, reach out to John Kristofzski.

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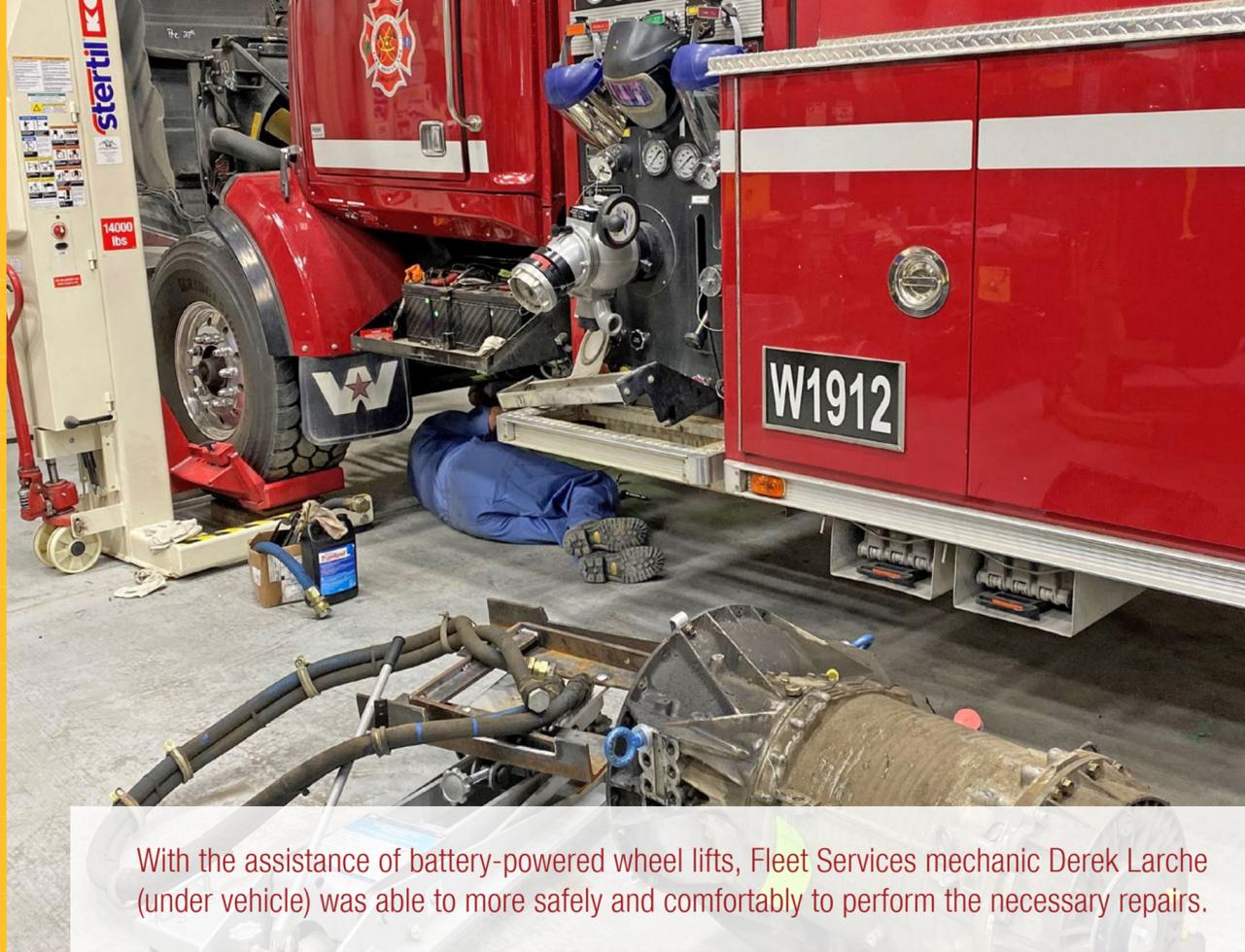
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With the assistance of battery-powered wheel lifts, Fleet Services mechanic Derek Larche (under vehicle) was able to more safely and comfortably to perform the necessary repairs.



Bob Wilkinson presented the Safety Honor Roll award to George and Tami Worby.

## FOCUS on SAFETY

### ▲ Ensuring a Safe Work Environment is Key for Fleet Services

MSA's Fleet Services mechanics often have to work in confined spaces and under or around extremely heavy equipment, making attention to safety especially important. While performing corrective maintenance on a Hanford Fire Department vehicle, Fleet Services determined the issue was caused by a failed automatic transmission. In order to provide mechanics a safer work environment to complete these repairs, they used special battery-powered wheel lifts. The lifts not only eliminated cords, which would have been a tripping hazard, but also gave mechanics the ability to lift the truck to an ergonomic work height. Safety and technology made for a great combination!

### ▲ Safety Honor Roll Award

**George Worby with Fleet Services and Tami Worby with Electrical Utilities** received the Safety Honor Roll award for going above and beyond to help individuals to safety in the midst of a fiery accident. Tami and George came upon an accident between two vehicles and a semi. With one of the vehicles on fire, George moved quickly to help the driver from his burning vehicle. Tami provided assistance to the occupants of the second vehicle and helped keep them calm. Both George and Tami continued to administer first aid until emergency response teams arrived on the scene.



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Bob Wilkinson and Amy Basche pose with General Mattis.



Jessica Esparza with Human Resources talks to someone at Connect Tri-Cities about opportunities at MSA.



A team of students launches their trebuchet while presenting before judges in the STEM Scholarship preliminary competition.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Connect Tri-Cities 2019

MSA recently hosted the third annual Connect Tri-Cities, an event that brings together job seekers, employers, educators, labor, Tribes, veterans and industry to help build the local workforce of the future. Several MSA employees were involved in the planning and execution of the event and many more, including much of our Human Resources team, helped make sure the event was a success.

More than 1,200 high school students attended the event and nearly 300 veterans and community leaders enjoyed a special veteran's luncheon, highlighted by keynote speaker General James Mattis, USMC (Ret), 26th Secretary of Defense. General Mattis spoke

about the importance of leadership and events such as Connect Tri-Cities in building strong communities. "We are here to work together to open doors, to find solutions, to listen and then to act, in unison, to focus on the younger generation," he said. "Connect Tri-Cities is demonstrating that we can make a difference if we work together."

Another exciting part of Connect Tri-Cities was the High School STEM Scholarship competition. Seventeen teams of students, including a team representing the Tribes from Lapwai High School in Idaho, competed for more than \$28,000 in scholarships awarded by MSA. Several MSA employees served as judges for the STEM competition, designed by our chief engineer, Grant Ryan.

Attendees at Connect Tri-Cities experienced many hands-on demonstrations, including virtual reality.



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Students demonstrated their trebuchet's ability to meet the challenge requirements during the Connect Tri-Cities STEM competition.

MSA employees served as judges during the preliminary judging held at HAMMER.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Engineering a Bright Future

Connect Tri-Cities STEM competition is an opportunity for employees to get involved and support students interested in STEM. The competition offers local high school students the chance to highlight their skills and win up to \$2,000 in scholarships for each student and \$1,000 for the faculty coach.

“In this year’s STEM competition, 17 teams were challenged to build a trebuchet that could launch an object a specific distance to hit a target,” said Grant Ryan, MSA chief engineer and creator of the STEM competition challenge. “Cards were picked at random by each team to determine the object and the distance it was being launched. While launching the object, the trebuchet also needed

to generate enough electrical power to light an LED bulb for two seconds.”

For the past three years, Grant has enjoyed creating the challenge and also serving as a judge, “I continue to be impressed with the creativity, initiative, and drive displayed by the students as they showcase their logic in solving the challenge while expanding their interest in science, technology, engineering and math.”

Five other MSA employees helped with the preliminary judging held at HAMMER. Along with Grant Ryan, Jennifer Ollero, Mike Winkel, Marnelle Sheriff, Drew Thomas and Joy Shoemake reviewed the students’ written project summary and evaluated their presentation based on their problem solving skills, oral presentation and meeting the overall intent of the competition. Over a span

of two days, five teams emerged from the preliminary competition and competed in the finals at the Connect Tri-Cities event.

At the finals, teams were again asked to present their work to a new panel of judges, which included MSA president Bob Wilkinson, MSA COO Amy Basche, chief engineer Grant Ryan, and several other STEM experts. The judges were so impressed with each of the teams that they awarded two third place teams, one second place and two first place teams – giving out \$28,000 in scholarships.

This event would not be as successful as it is without the creativity of Grant Ryan and the participation from all the employees who organized the event and served as judges.

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Cindy Hemsworth with MSA's Information Management (left), serves on the board of Women Helping Women Fund Tri-Cities and was joined at the lunch by her colleagues Vicki Wilson and Brittany Scales.



Thank you to all of the MSA employees who made time to attend the Women Helping Women annual fundraiser.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Lori Araujo and Reneé Brooks with Communications, Mike Winkel with Water & Sewer Utilities, Eva Cisneros with Reliability Projects and Jennifer Ollero with Operation Support Services, were a few of the MSA attendees at the fundraiser.

## Supporting Women Helping Women Fund

More than 20 MSA employees took time off during the day to attend the Women Helping Women Fund Tri-Cities annual fundraising luncheon. They celebrated the local organizations receiving grants to help women and children in our community and were inspired by the words of keynote speaker Maja Kazazic, a survivor of the Bosnian genocide in the 1990s.

Maja shared her thought that “positivity is a matter of perspective and perspective is a matter of choice.” The event raised more than \$85,000.

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The 16,000 pounds of bread sorted by volunteers from MSA and Lincoln will provide nearly 13,500 meals for local families.



Patty Hruby and Stephanie Brooks, teachers at Lincoln Elementary, along with Renee Brooks from MSA Communications and Larissa Reza, also from Lincoln, all volunteered to help. Stephanie and Renee are sisters who came up with the idea to collaborate and let the two organizations learn from one another.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Collaborating for our Community at Second Harvest

Members of the MSA Cares family shared their love of volunteering for Second Harvest with a group of new volunteers from Lincoln Elementary School in Kennewick. The teachers and staff members at Lincoln know firsthand the impact adequate nutrition has on students. The school has many students who receive the Bite2Go weekend food kits, which MSA helps sponsor. The two organizations came together and sorted more than 16,000 pounds of bread for those in need in our community. Join MSA Cares at our next Second Harvest volunteer event or let us help you plan one for your own group!



Nadine Johnson with Safety & Health Program Support, brought her two children to help volunteer. Her daughter Madeline was overheard saying "This is so much fun, I LOVE helping others."

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**STREAMLINE** is published by Mission Support Alliance Communications and highlights company business and employee contributions.

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Right solution.  
Right time.  
Right value.

**At MSA, we are committed to providing innovative solutions that fit the needs of our customers. We work closely with the DOE and Hanford contractors to determine timing and value, ensuring that Hanford cleanup continues to progress.**