

SafetyRoadtracks

August/September 2004



Safety is Job #1

Thank you Jim Gobbi... For keeping water in the water jug ☺ The Paving Crew

Example of Excellence...

*Results of recent jobsite inspection performed by Lupe Sandoval on the El Cerrito/
Fairmont Avenue Project relayed the following:*

“Curbs and gutters were being poured and finished. Landscape work was underway. This project is complicated by high vehicle and pedestrian traffic in this area. Excellent traffic and pedestrian controls have been implemented. Plenty of delineators, barricades, and warning tape protected hazardous areas. Lots of rebar and all properly capped. All equipment in operations was in good working order, operated safely and operators were seen wearing their seatbelts. All employees were wearing high-visibility vests, and hardhats. Concrete crews all had their kneepads on. In addition, the foreman, Angel, had a collection of disposable cameras. They were each dated for photos taken of pedestrian controls left in place at the end of each workweek prior to weekends. He said these are used if there are claims or complaints of inadequate controls leading to incidents/losses.”

Thank you for setting the perfect example...

The Safety Committee

Special Acknowledgments...

“The Paving Crew has done a great job safety wise this past summer on a number of very tough jobs. The traffic control has been exceptional. Thank you to Rick Cohn and the Paving Crew for jobs well done!”

“Thank you Charlie Williamson for the job you and your crew have done safetywise at Gordon Ranch. The extra precautions taken, due to the sub-standard soil conditions, while installing the sewer piping reflects your high safety standards.”

John Klapperich & The Safety Committee

Marin Builders Association Announces...

2004 CONSTRUCTION MAN OF THE YEAR!

“We are thrilled to announce that Dick Ghilotti will be the recipient of the Lou Della Valle Construction Industry Award for 2004. Dick and his company have made many contributions, donating labor and materials to worthy causes and being active in the management of the industry as a whole. Congratulations Dick!”

Thank you Dick for your years of dedication and contributions to the Construction Industry! You make us proud to be part of the GCC Team,

GCC Management, Staff & Crews

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Safety Committee

2004 Members

Richard Ghilotti
Brian Ongaro
Damon Calegari
Gene Petrini
John Klapperich
Julie Thornton
Charly Whitney

Remember:

Information on GCC Safety Policies and Procedures is available at www.ghilotti.com under the Safety and Health section. If you have any questions regarding matters of safety, speak to your supervisor, or contact Julie @ (707) 585-1221.

E-mail topic suggestions for the next Safety Roadtracks to Julie@Ghilotti.com.

Safety Reminders:

- ☛ Back-up alarms on equipment must be functioning at all times!
- ☛ When parking, chock tires and use the parking brake (chocks are available from the shop)
- ☛ All GCC vehicles should have a camera/report packet readily available. See Damon or Sara for supplies.
- ☛ When returning vehicles to the yard, return to keys to the dispatch office - do not leave them in the vehicle!
- ☛ Jobsites need to be secured when shutting down for the night or weekend. Remember to lock & block containers!
- ☛ If you find drug paraphernalia at the jobsite, do not pick it up! Proper precautions must be used to avoid potential exposures. Contact the local police department to request assistance, when appropriate.

Union Laborers - FREE TRAINING!

To be successful, a union laborer must be skilled, safe and productive. Thanks to a joint labor-employer program, union Laborers can receive free, high quality training on many skills that are needed on today's jobsite.

Benefits:

Classes are free to you. In fact, you will even be paid \$2 per hour for each class you attend, plus \$5 per day for commuting to training. You will also receive a free hot breakfast and free hot lunch. If you live far away from the main Training Center in San Ramon, you can live on campus free. You can collect unemployment benefits while you attend class. When you finish a class, you will receive a certificate that you can show employers to prove that you have certain skills. There are a variety of classes offered in English and Spanish.

For more information call (925) 828-2513, or visit the website at www.norcalaborers.org.

(Source: Training News publication, Issue No. 51, Fall 2004)

ClickSafety Reminder

Foremen - Have you completed the mandatory ClickSafety Extended Training?

DriverCheck - GCC Behavior Analysis

(Period: 3/1/04 thru 9/14/04)

Total Number of Complaints: 19
 Total Number of Compliments: 1

Top Five Categories of Complaints:

Improper Lane Change	40%
Failure to Use Signals	23%
Unlawful Speed	14%
Tailgating	14%
Weaving in Traffic	9%

DriverCheck Tips for Lane Changing:

1. Before a lane change, use both short and long range scanning. Check your mirrors and know what is ahead of you, behind you, and beside you.
2. Signal your intentions to change lanes.
3. Check mirrors again.
4. Be on the lookout for other vehicles trying to move into the same lane, and when passing, assume the person you are passing does not see you.

True Story:

A company employee left the keys in an unattended, unsecured vehicle and the vehicle was subsequently stolen. Although the vehicle was recovered, there was approximately \$4,000 of miscellaneous tools stolen. Yes, this a GCC incident! Do not leave the keys in your unattended vehicle. Vehicles should be locked at all times when not in use.

Is your First Aid Kit Stocked?

Please refer to the company Emergency Action Plan to confirm that your First Aid Kit is stocked with the required supplies. Supplies can be obtained from the Equipment Department.

Equipment Operators:

Remember to turn off master locks, and make sure the back-up alarm, mirrors and lights are working!



Seeking ideas for new Safety Incentive Program (2005)

Please submit your ideas for a new Safety Incentive Program to be implemented in April 2005. Examples of other companies and details on how the program works would be helpful. It would be our goal to implement a program that is fair to all employees, and manageable at the same time. The program should be designed to reward positive behavior and not create a deterrent for reporting accidents and injuries. Thanks for your input!

Safety starts with you!

WHY DO WE HAVE SAFETY MEETINGS?

Safety meetings provide the opportunity for communication. Topics discussed may be topics that you are familiar with, or topics that you have limited knowledge about. If the topic is something that you are familiar with, it may be easy to tune-out and not listen to the safety information presented. Do yourself a favor and hear what is being discussed. You may learn something new or you may have some important information to add to the topic. Information passed on in a safety meeting has a purpose... To stop you or your co-workers from being injured. Safety meetings can also allow employees an opportunity to relay safety and health concerns or ideas for improvement.

Accidents result from unsafe acts or unsafe conditions. According to some experts, unsafe acts typically account for 90% of all accidents. Safety meetings serve as a preventative measure against unsafe acts by educating employees on how they can do their job safely. Following are some of the potential costs of accidents and how you can be directly affected:

- **DEATH** - The ultimate unwanted result. Where does that leave your loved ones?
- **FINANCIAL COST** - Lost pay or reduction in pay. Who pays the bills? Are you the sole income producer in your household?
- **PAIN & SUFFERING** - An obvious detriment that no one desires.
- **DISABILITY** - A life changing experience. Now you're not able to do what you use to do. Maybe now you can't cast that fishing rod? Ride that bike, hug your wife, lift your child, or simply see? Or perhaps you are now confined to a wheelchair?
- **COMPETITIVENESS ON BIDDING JOBS** - Other than payroll and benefits, workers' compensation insurance and accident costs can represent the bulk of a company's operating expense. When a company's operating expense increases, they are less competitive to bid jobs. No Jobs = No Work...
- **YOUR CO-WORKERS SAFETY** - Perhaps you and your co-worker have been working together for many years. Chances are you spend as much time with your co-workers as you do your own family. It is safe to assume that you wouldn't want something bad to happen to them. Pay attention and watch out for their safety too.

Safety meetings are a perfect opportunity for you to communicate safety ideas or concerns. If you don't participate, then your ideas will not be heard. Who knows, it could be your idea that saves a life...

(Contributing Source: Safety Meeting Outline, Eagle Insurance)

NEW EMPLOYEE SAFETY ORIENTATION

Cal/OSHA requires that "When workers are first employed they shall be given instructions regarding the hazards and safety precautions applicable to the type of work in question..." Effective March 10, 2003, GCC implemented the use of ClickSafety. This program is used to provide and document Cal/OSHA mandatory to communicate issues, as well as identify exposures specific to our industry and provide the relevant training. ClickSafety assists with making sure the primary exposures are communicated, but the use of this program does not remove the responsibility of making sure new employees can perform the duties assigned once they are dispatched to the field. When a new hire is dispatched, it is important that they be monitored for the first few days of employment. Any concerns regarding their ability to perform assigned tasks must be addressed immediately and an additional training documented. The basic rules of any training session include:

1. Tell the employee what they are going to learn.
2. Teach them verbally and with handouts, if available.
3. Show them by example.
4. Have the employee demonstrate their knowledge.
5. Correct and follow-up until the performance is acceptable.

Make sure the jobsite orientation is conducted before the employee actually starts work. Training should include review of assigned tasks and any exposures specific to the jobsite. Failure to do so could result in an avoidable injury and/or property damage. If a language barrier exists, try using bilingual personnel to assist in the orientation.

No employee is permitted to perform a task that he/she has not been trained to perform. If you are unsure of how to perform an assigned task, talk to your supervisor immediately.



FAMOUS QUOTES

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." **Robert Collier**

"A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort." **Herm Albright (1876-1944)**

INDUSTRY FATALITY

GCC extends its sincere condolence to the family and friends of Rebecca Kogan.

On September 3, 2004 Rebecca Kogan died after being run over by a Caterpillar road grader in Napa County. Working as a grade checker for Tri-County Electric, it is believed that she may have been bending over and the equipment operator did not see her as he was backing up. She was pinned by the grader with the tire partially on her right shoulder and chest. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

(Source: Timesheraldonline and Napa News)

GCC Equipment Operators: If you are unsure of the exact location of the workers around you, stop the equipment.

GCC Grade Checkers & Labors: Maintain visual contact with the equipment operator and do not allow yourself to go out of their field of vision.

ACTIVE GCC PROJECTS

Santa Rosa Sewer Backbone; Cotati ADA Accessibility Improvements Project; Bennett Valley Road Stabilization; Eucalyptus Avenue Improvements; Napa Road HES Project; Linwood Subdivision Phase 1; 2004 Overlays/City of Santa Rosa; Measure K/Town of Fairfax; Manzanita Park & Ride Expansion; HWY 116 AC Surfacing; Terrence Wilson Reservoir; HWY 29 AC Surfacing; Marin Country Day School Parking Lot Improvement; Royal Petroleum Cardlock; Farragut Village Utilities, Concrete & Paving; Parcel 316 Hiddenbrooke; HWY 80 Storm Drain Rehab/Vallejo; Napa Junction; Montecito Blvd/Middle Rincon Water Transmission Main; 2003-04 Street Rehabilitation/Town of Tiburon; Surface and Underground at the Orchards; Sidewalk Access Ramps ADA Compliance; Mezzetta Peppers/American Canyon; City of Santa Rosa Overlay/Cycle II- Phase II; Los Alamos Zone Water System/Skyhawk Subdivin; Residential Parkway/Farragut Village; Las Huertas/Hope Lane Drainage; 2004 Pavement Management Project/City of Lafayette; Fairmont Avenue Street Improvements/City of El Cerrito; Gordon Ranch/Christopherson Homes; HWY 84 Digouts; Simeon/Wal-Mart Shopping Center; Ridgway Avenue Sewer & Water; Fountaingrove Pad Regrade; Marin Luxury Cars; Gateway Courtyard Flatwork Replacement; FFMP Bret Harte Pipeline Replacement; Denbeste Regional Park Building; CDBG Curb Ramp Installation/City of Vallejo; Downtown River Apartments; Carneros River Ranch Pond; Orchards; El Rancho Road & Grahn Drive Sewer & Water; Vintage Meadows II; Benicia Point Apartments; Davis Street Entryway; 2004 Street Reconstruction/City of Petaluma



OSHA Inspections - What do they cost \$\$\$

Business #1: Contractor

Why Inspected? Inspected as part of OSHA’s National Emphasis Program to prevent injuries and fatalities in trenching operations.

Fine: \$70,200

Reasons for Fine: 1repeat citation for failure to: Provide employees with warning vests marked with high visibility or reflectorized material while working around vehicular traffic; and 1 willful citation for failure to: protect employees from cave-in hazards; and 2 serious citations for failure to: Remove debris from trench edge, and train employees on avoidance of unsafe conditions.

BULLDOZER CRUSHES HIGHWAY WORKER

(Source: Press Democrat Online)

A worker (not GCC) at a south Petaluma construction site was severely injured when he was crushed between a bulldozer and an earth compactor Wednesday afternoon, September 8, 2004. The 42-year old man, who name wasn’t released, was working the stationary compactor when a bulldozer operator backed into him. He was freed when the bulldozer pulled forward. The man suffered chest, abdomen and pelvic injuries. The man was part of a crew at a site on the South McDowell Boulevard Extension at Lakeville Highway.

GCC Equipment Operators: Your back-up alarm must be functioning at all times - Pay attention to your surroundings. Know the location of workers and equipment at all times.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Quarterly Safety Breakfast (Superintendents, Foremen & Leadmen): Oct 22, 2004, 5:30am @ Santa Rosa Yard

HOLIDAY OFFICE SCHEDULE:

Thanksgiving: 11/25 & 11/26 - Office Closed

Members of the Safety Committee want to help create a program that benefits all employees. Your input is important, so please do not hesitate to speak with any of the committee members, or complete a Safety Information Form available in the old dispatch office. The GCC Safety Newsletter will be published bi-monthly. If there is a topic that you would like to see published, contact Julie @ (707) 585-1221 or email julie@ghilotti.com.