

SAFETY MATTERS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023

NEW GEM STAC CARD

Revised card asks, 'What's your reason to get H.O.M.E. today?'

"To be with my grandson."
"To play guitar."
"To watch my kid's ball game."
"To get ready for vacation."
"To celebrate my kid's birthday."

Those are some of the responses on the new GEM Safety Task Analysis Card. The STAC has been redesigned and asks those filling it out to answer a simple question: "What's your reason to get home today?"

GEM Safety and Field Operations Director **Bill Cornett** says the question gets to the heart of the GEM safety program: To go home in the same condition as when you reported for work.

"We want people thinking about what they need to do to get themselves and their co-workers home safely so they can still do the things that are important to them," Cornett said. "The STAC card serves as a reminder to work safe in order to get home safe."

H.O.M.E. also stands for: Identify the **H**azard. **O**wn it. **M**anage it. **E**liminate it. The idea for H.O.M.E originated in RLG's Northeast Ohio office.

"Home is our goal and H.O.M.E. is also our way to get there," said Northeast Ohio Field Operations Manager **Stan Piecuch**.

The redesigned STAC also has a QR code that directs workers to mental health resources. Another QR code directs users to the free RLG health and safety app. Users can download the app from either the Google or Apple stores and enter their Find It/Fix It discoveries to improve jobsite safety and win prizes.

NEW HEALTH AND SAFETY APP POSTERS AVAILABLE



PLEASE REMOVE OLD POSTER WITH EXPIRED QR CODE

NEW POSTER & NEW QR CODE

New poster, QR code promotes the RLG health and safety app

All old posters featuring the QR code for the RLG Health and Safety application should be removed from jobsites and offices and replaced with new posters that feature the new QR code.

If your jobsite needs a new poster, contact either the RLI or GEM Health and Safety departments.

The RLG Health and Safety app is a key tool to keep associates, subcontractors,

customers and the general public safe as we work on their projects.

Through the app you can submit:

- Find It/Fix It entries.
- Jobsite Safety Audits.
- GEM Daily Planner/RLI Pretask Plans.
- Incident reports.
- Toolbox attendance forms.

You can also find resources such as the RLG Safety Manual, Safety Data Sheets, hotlines and phone numbers, and the ability to send messages.

THANK YOU FOR WORKING SAFELY

*Right: Cement finisher **David Contreras** safely operates a 10-foot Multiquip riding trowel.*

Most of the concrete has been poured and finished at First Solar's PGT-04 work site in Perrysburg Township.



RUDOLPH LIBBE INC
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GEM ENERGY
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DETAILED PLANNING EQUALS PROJECT SAFETY, SUCCESS

Demolition of St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center parking garage required contingency and pre-planning

Toledo — Meticulous pre-planning that considers ongoing customer activity as well as existing utilities is critical to a demolition project’s success. RLI’s recent demolition of the parking garage at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center stands out as an example.

The safety of hospital personnel and traffic, as well as construction workers, was paramount. Several utilities were fed through the parking garage, which was located behind the medical center but also near a central utility building. These had to be rerouted prior to demolition.

Then the demolition plan was followed to ensure the safety of the structure and surrounding hospital infrastructure.

“Communication throughout the entire process is the primary key to success,” Project Manager **Rob Wissolik** said.



Communication is the primary key to success during a demolition such as the one at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center.

“We took our time and communicated our plan with all parties. We would rather err on the side of overcommunicating rather than risk under-communicating.”

There was contingency planning, including:

- Vibration monitoring.
- Monitoring the protection and health of adjacent facilities.

- Pauses for special hospital events.
- Vehicular and pedestrian traffic control.
- Dust control.

Key elements of the demolition plan included the establishment of work zones, attention to all regulatory requirements, a survey of existing conditions, utility kills, protection and relocation, and traffic control and site logistics.

The demolition crew was trained to study and learn how the building reacts to the demolition process.

“They start slowly and monitor each movement,” Wissolik said. “Generally, we utilized a top-down approach using a high-reach excavator. Lower floors were removed first to avoid overloading certain floors with debris.”



*GEM Safety and Field Operations Director **Bill Cornett** teaches the Foundations for Safety Leadership class in NE Ohio.*

SAFETY LEADERSHIP CLASSES HIT THE ROAD

Course reinforces the requirement of leaders to take an active role

North Ridgeville, Ohio — Success at ensuring a safe work environment requires skilled leadership. The Foundations for Safety Leadership course presented in Walbridge was so well-received that taking it to regional offices was sure to follow.

Northeast Ohio Field Operations Manager **Stan Picuch** said two groups of foremen, craft superintendents, project engineers, account managers, group leaders and managers recently were trained in safety leadership at the Cleveland Campus Training Center.

“We thought it would be a good idea to have the class and get our training enhanced for our managers and safety leaders,” Picuch said.

SAFETY GEAR TRAILER

Conex box has everything required to do the job safely, efficiently

RLI “pipe crews” install sanitary and storm sewers, fire water lines and similar underground utilities. Having all the safety gear and tools they need in one specific spot at a work site goes a long way to ensuring those items are available when they need them, said RLI Supervisor **Kevin Burtchin**.

“When we deploy a pipe crew to the field, it is both safe and convenient to have all safety gear and tools neatly organized in a Conex box designed specifically for our pipe crews,” Burtchin said.

‘It’s pretty specific to the pipe crews’ tasks, so that’s why this was set up.’

**— Kevin Burtchin
RLI Supervisor**

A team effort between the RLI Yard, Tool Committee, Field Operations and Continuous Improvement led to the development of the Conex box.

“We organized this Conex box to include our first-aid kit, safety gear including face shields for cutting, extra PPE, fire extinguishers, and all of the necessary rigging and tools,” said RLI Foreman **Donnie Fredritz**.



The Conex box was the result of team work from many RLI associates from RLI Yard, Tool Committee, Field Operations and Continuous Improvement.

“Everything is carefully secured so everything stays secure when transporting our box to the work site,” Fredritz added.