

Safety (VOL. 1, ISSUE 4 · DEC. 2024



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IN THE KNOW

2024 marked a defining year for our safety initiatives at Bergaila. The numbers tell a compelling story: zero loss time incidents and safety metrics that significantly outperform industry benchmarks. This achievement reflects the dedication of every team member in building a robust safety-first environment.

Our data-driven approach yielded measurable results across all operational areas. The implementation of In-Vehicle Monitoring Systems (IVMS) transformed our fleet operations, leading to quantifiable improvements in driver behavior. We recorded substantial decreases in speeding incidents and aggressive driving maneuvers, while simultaneously improving fleet efficiency.

For 2025, we've identified three strategic priorities to strengthen our safety framework:

1. Enhanced driver safety training programs

- 2. Implementation of advanced auditing protocols
- 3. Modernization of our hazard reporting infrastructure

These initiatives will enable faster risk identification and mitigation, reinforcing our commitment to continuous improvement in safety practices.

The success of our safety program stems directly from the vigilance and dedication of our employees. Your commitment to maintaining the highest safety standards has created a model program, and your ongoing efforts will drive our success in 2025.

As we enter the new year, we remain focused on our core principle: every team member deserves to return home safely each day. Thank you for your role in making this principle a reality through your daily actions and choices.



STEER THIS WAY

Safety Tips for Long-Distance Driving

Don't Drive if You Don't Have to - The safest choice in severe winter weather is to simply stay home until conditions improve. If your trip isn't essential, it's better to wait it out than risk getting stuck or sliding off icy roads.

Make Sure Your Tires are Winter Ready - Check your tire tread depth and pressure before winter storms hit your area. Consider switching to winter tires if you live somewhere with regular snowfall, as they provide better traction in cold conditions.

Get a Pre-Season Check Up - Have a mechanic inspect your vehicle's critical systems before winter weather arrives. Pay special attention to your battery, as cold temperatures can reduce its power by half.

Top off Your Tank - Keep your gas tank at least half full throughout the winter months to prevent fuel line freezing. A fuller tank also adds helpful weight to your vehicle for better traction on slippery roads.

Clean Your Car's Exterior - Remove all snow and ice from your entire vehicle, not just the windows, before hitting the road. Keep your washer fluid full and wipers in good shape to maintain clear visibility while driving.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Jeremy Gonzales, an I&E QA Construction Inspector based in Midland, Texas, has been an integral part of Bergaila's operations since 2017, serving in various Electrical and Instrumentation roles including QA Inspector and Construction Specialist. His expertise and versatility have proven invaluable across multiple projects. This was particularly evident during a critical maintenance shutdown in December 2024, when Jeremy identified a potentially dangerous electrical configuration that could have led to equipment failure. Without hesitation, he stopped work operations and implemented proper safety protocols, preventing what could have been a serious incident. This attention to detail and commitment to safety exemplifies Jeremy's approach to his work - thorough, methodical, and always with safety as the top priority. His ability to identify and address potential hazards, combined with his extensive technical knowledge, makes him an outstanding candidate for the Employee Spotlight. Through his actions, Jeremy demonstrates that excellence in operations goes hand in hand with unwavering safety standards - it's about having both the technical expertise and the courage to speak up when something isn't right. Learn more about Jeremy's journey and technical insights below.

What does safety mean to you?

Safety is a way of life that colors everything around you. By taking that mindset to everything and every interaction it starts to bleed into every interaction. Be the leader that everyone wants to follow.

How do you live safety, in your professional and personal life?

I slow down and objectively look at every task to prepare my mind for all possible outcomes I can perceive. I then adjust my PPE, time and focus accordingly.

Provide an example of your commitment to safety at work?

I was working maintenance at a refinery. We were tasked with de-energizing 4160 volt acid motor/pump. We geared up, barricaded the doors to the substation, and I de-energized the starter. After verifying no voltage, I went to de-terminate leads to attach grounding chains and sleeves. One of the electrical engineers for the client told me I didn't need to do that since it wasn't part of their procedure. I told him it was our procedure and I would need to follow ours to complete. He reiterated that it wasn't necessary. I ushered him out, barricaded the doors, and re-energized. I refuse to put anyone in harm's way if there is an alternative.

SAFETY TIPS

"Every accident is a notice that something is wrong with men, methods, or material. Investigate—then act." - Author unknown

Layer Up Properly

According to OSHA, workers should wear at least three layers of loose-fitting clothing to maintain proper body temperature. Avoid tight garments that can reduce blood circulation, and always include a warm hat and insulated gloves as part of your coldweather work gear. For maximum protection, OSHA Outreach also recommends keeping spare dry clothing available in case your primary layers become wet during work activities.

Clear Walking Path

Perry Weather emphasizes making snow and ice removal a daily priority in work areas. Regularly apply salt or sand to walkways and work zones to prevent dangerous slips and falls that could lead to serious injury. OSHA stresses that employers should establish a system for monitoring and clearing walking surfaces as quickly as possible after each winter storm.

Take Warming Breaks

OSHA's cold stress guidelines recommend scheduling frequent short breaks in warm, dry areas to allow workers' bodies to recover from the cold. These breaks are especially important for new workers or those returning after time away, as they need time to acclimatize to cold conditions. Alert Media advises setting up designated warm-up areas with hot beverages available to encourage workers to take these essential safety breaks.



"We put the **unity** in opport**unity**."



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