

The Dangers of Dropped Objects

In my new position as Deputy Director of Safety for Electric Boat my intent was to write my first article about the Total Safety Culture effort. Focused on the immediate threat, I'm shifting the focus of this Article from Total Safety Culture to a very specific subject: Dropped Objects. Looking at current 2022 data, the two biggest threats to our ship builders are "Dropped Objects" and "To From" related events.

Our SIF program is currently tracking 8 events at Electric Boat this year. In all cases, objects greater than a couple pounds, fell far enough such that if any of them had struck someone the results would have been life changing and potentially fatal. As shipbuilders, this number of dropped objects is not tolerable. As a demonstration of how serious this problem is 5 out of 8 of the 2022 events are listed below:

- In January, a valve body weighing approximately 500 lbs. fell off a table (It was not properly secured to the table)
- In January, a 200 lb. plate fell off a chain fall approximately 10 feet to the floor below (It was not properly secured to the chain fall)
- In February, a lock slid off a job box and over a rail that was on a second level approximately 20 feet about the work area below. (The lock was not properly secured.)
- In March, a stanchion weighing approximately 1000 lbs. fell off a table (It was not properly secured on the table)
- In March, a 15 foot tall fixture piece with a base approximately 2' wide by 2' feet deep fell over. (The piece was not properly secured to the rest of the fixture.)

All of these events were properly reported. People stopped, secured the scene and notified management. Stop secure and notify behavior is healthy behavior and the reason we have this data to analyze and learn.

Everyone should ask: How can I protect myself and my fellow ship builder (200% accountability)? Actively look for unstable, unsecure objects or objects that are not placed in the correct location. Ask for help. Deal with these objects and place them in a safe condition.

Many of you have heard the term "Stop the Drop." Talk about this with your coworkers and build awareness. Training Video E212313 shows a dropped object striking a

watermelon demonstrating how dangerous dropped objects are to our people. Cabinets, Fixtures, and objects that are tall and narrow are unstable and want to fall over like dominos. They must be secured.

When working at heights, topside, on staging, secure your tools and secure material. Remove excess material. Unsecured material becomes a danger to unsuspecting people below. Don't depend solely on toe boards to prevent objects from falling. When work is performed at heights, it's appropriate to isolate the drop zone below with danger tape. It's imperative that we form good habits, clean up and remove unnecessary clutter.

Approach each job with a questioning attitude. If you work with heavy material on a table ask yourself, "Is this table rated for this weight?"

"Is it possible for this item to fall off the table?"

"What do I need to do to ensure this object doesn't fall off this table?"

A good rule to follow: If it's twice as tall as it is wide or deep, it needs to be secured.

How do I secure objects? Riggers (D230/920), Carpenters (D252/925), Manufacturing Engineering (D467) have experience with securing objects and are a good resource. Whenever possible ratchet straps should be used in place of rope and knots. When rope must be used make sure its nylon rope and proper knots are used. When in doubt, ask for help. No one is expected to have all the answers and do it by themselves. Guessing and hoping things will turn ok will not keep you or your coworker safe. Approach tasks and work areas with a "Questioning Attitude." Stop and ask for help when things are not correct! If something does go wrong, report it to your supervisor or a member of management immediately.

Dan Vieira

Director, Environmental Health & Safety

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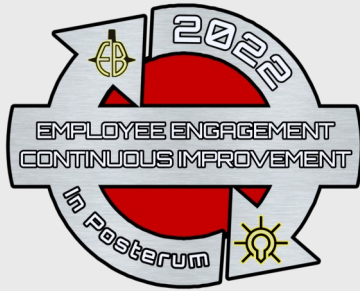
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Continuous Improvement

Downtime Series

Waiting



Whether you're sitting in traffic, waiting for a winning lottery ticket, or standing in line for lunch, you are most likely getting irritated as you watch the clock and think about how you could be doing something much more productive. Waiting is an obvious example of waste in your personal time as well as one of the most common types of waste that we encounter in a manufacturing setting and does not provide any value to our assigned task, or Electric Boat.

The Longer the Line — The Longer the Wait — The More the Waste

In many cases, waiting can compound itself, amplifying the impact it has on the company. That means that each minute you wait, additional labor minutes behind you that are being wasted as well.

Did you know that if eleven customers stand in line for a transaction that takes four minutes each person to complete the combined loss of time totals 4.4 labor hours? IT'S TRUE!

Now think of all the time you spend daily waiting for tools in a crib, waiting for your supervisor to sign a document, waiting for assistance from another employee, or waiting for preheat to reach the necessary temperature. It all adds up!



There is no one solution to waiting, and each case should be evaluated individually. However, there are some solutions that can help alleviate some of the more common sources of waiting.

1. Personal Issue Tooling
2. Welder Make Ready—One person retrieves the wire for all the welders on their crew
3. Active Communication between Departments and Organizations ensuring timely support

Do YOU have any ideas on how to reduce the time you spend waiting?

Have a process improvement idea, or simply just want a board to bounce ideas off? Discuss your idea with your Supervisor. If additional resources are required for implementation, your Supervisor can contact Sean Zandan at szandan@gdeb.com or 2-2798.

Becoming More Self Critical and Embracing the DLS/TLS Process

Recently, Electric Boat was issued a Method C Corrective Action Report (CAR), detailing that there is a general weakness associated with problem resolution and sustainment of corrective actions and resolving them in a timely manner. The team assigned to provide the response to the Method C CAR identified that Electric Boat does not embrace solving Level 3 and 2 issues, instead letting them linger and develop into Level 1 issues. Level 3 and Level 2 issues are intended to be bounded and solved via the DLS/TLS process in accordance with MDD-00664. The principal of a DLS/TLS is to continuously improve quality and maintain a self-critical mindset to minimize falling into complacency. It is important to recognize that a DLS/TLS shouldn't be treated as a punishment or a method for pinning on an organization. Rather it should be utilized as a method to learn from a previous mistake and prevent it from happening going forward.

If we look at the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (NNPP) model, embracing self-criticality and learning needs to be a part of Electric Boat's culture if not second nature. The core concepts of the continuous improvement are: Standards, Problem Prevention, Learning, and Ownership. We need to treat submarine building (or Electric Boat) similar to the way the NNPP looks at a crew as a system in "unstable equilibrium"; where the objective is to continuously apply corrections, look consistently for improvements to maintain stability within an organization, or to prevail over external forces such as complacency or inexperienced personnel. The DLS/TLS process is intended to maintain these positive forces and adhere to the core concepts, keeping the program in a positive balance and constantly looking at everything we do with an inquisitive attitude to improve and maintain a quality based outlook. It is important to live with a quality mindset and strive for excellence rather than speak it and live with deficiencies. If a deficiency or less than ideal process is identified, it is every employee's responsibility to identify the deficiency and speak up to implement or recommend even the simplest change to improve the work. This creates an environment where a solution is proposed and utilized to maintain operational excellence rather than creating a work around.



Charles Montalbano

Director of COLUMBIA Class Construction

Complacency, Gaps in Knowledge, Inexperienced Work Force, Unidentified Deficiencies



Continuous Improvement, Self Criticality, Identifying Deficiencies, Continuous Learning

Electric Boat Shipbuilding



Run to Home Base 2022 | Electric Boat Fast Attack

General Dynamics Electric Boat is sponsoring an EB employee, family and friends team—*Electric Boat Fast Attack*—for this year's Run to Home Base event on **July 30, 2022**.

In cooperation with the Run to Home Base Foundation, Electric Boat is covering the registration cost and getting fundraising minimums reduced to make it a successful fundraising effort for team members.

Entering code GD22 during registration will waive the \$40 registration fee.

Team member fundraising minimums are discounted: \$550 for civilian adults 18+ [instead of \$750]; \$400 for military (veterans, active duty, guard, reserves) [instead of \$500]; and \$50 for children 6-17 [instead of \$100].

Electric Boat will assist in your fundraising efforts by allowing organized gate collection dates to be determined in May and June; POC William Dodge.

We are working on securing a bus to make it easy for team members to be able to go up and return on the same day. Should that not work out, we will set up ways to commute up together to the even.

Team members will get a [team shirt](#) (blue, 50/50 Gildan DryBlend), along with race swag, including a Red Sox hat, race shirt and any fundraising achievement awards.

CHALLENGE YOURSELF THIS MAY



Your UnitedHealthcare Wellness Coaches are here to help encourage you to eat more fruits and veggies this Spring through the **Nourish Challenge!** Can you eat add just one more serving of fruit and veggies for two weeks? If you're up for the task, this two-week challenge is for you. Coaches will provide tips, recipes and fun facts to encourage you along the way. Set a goal and track your progress. Notice how good it tastes and how good you feel as you freshen up your meals and snacks with produce this spring.

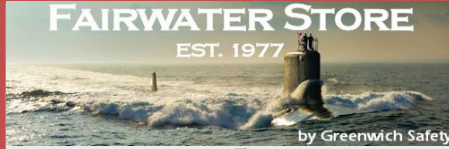
Did we mention there are raffle prizes for completion? If you complete the challenge, including filling out and turning in your tracker, you will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win one of several grocery store gift cards of varying values (\$50, \$25, \$10).

Sign Up for the Nourish Challenge Now	A Coach Will Meet With Your Team
Sign-ups start as soon as you receive this email and are open on a rolling basis.	Ready to gather the team for a Wellness Break? A coach will come to your department with a fresh fruit snack for your group to enjoy, discuss the benefits of and give practical tips to make eating more fruits and veggies tasty and easy. Coaches will also explain the Nourish Challenge and offer an opportunity to participate. All attendees earn a chance to win this month's raffle prize.
The challenge starts on May 16 and goes through May 28. (but feel free to join in any time in May).	Call your coach to arrange your wellness break now!
One-on-one coaching sessions are available prior to the challenge starting.	
Be sure to reach out to a coach below to sign up.	

Eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables can help reduce the risk of many leading causes of illness and death, such as cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, some cancers, and obesity. Despite these positive health benefits, few adults meet the recommendations. You can be the exception as you challenge yourself to reach your fruit and veggie goals!

To our off-site locations: Don't forget our coaches want to help your teams eat more fruits and veggies too! Reach out to AnnMarie or David to set up a Zoom session if your team would like a Wellness Break.

Groton/New London/Off-site locations	Quonset Point location
AnnMarie Bartelli annmarie.bartelli@plusone.com 860-822-3160	Jennifer Fine jennifer.fine@plusone.com 401-465-1097
David Zaldivar David.zaldivar@plusone.com 332-257-5164	



- Ladies Nike golf shirts in stock!
- Tire feet? Timberland anti-fatigue insoles now available!
- Get your Energizer 300 Lumen headlamp today!
- Red, White, and Blue EB Logo pint glasses just arrived!

Hours of Operation

7:30 am to 4:00 pm

7 am on Wednesdays 6/1, 6/15 & 6/29

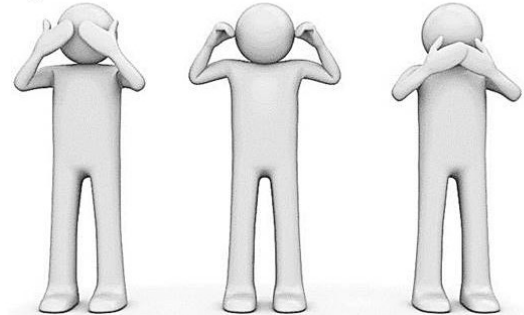


EB Weekly Safety Briefing Wk-20
05/15/22 – 05/21/22

- I DIDN'T SEE THE RISK
- I DIDN'T HEAR THE WARNING
- I DIDN'T REPORT THE HAZARD

PAY ATTENTION
TO WHAT YOU'RE
DOING

EXCUSES
NO LONGER
ACCEPTED



GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat

Policy Statement # 13: Electric Boat Corporation has established Occupational Health and Safety as the Company's Number One Priority.

NOTE TO SUPERVISORS: Do your utmost to make any safety presentation relevant to your crew.

COVID Vaccines available in the Dispensary every Friday from 8:00am to 4:30 PM. No Appointment required.

QDC E-Waste Recycling Event

Thursday, May 26, 2022 - 8:00am to 12:00pm - 95 Cripe St. North Kingstown, RI 02852

ACCEPTED at NO charge:

- Computers, laptops, servers, routers, and peripherals such as mice, keyboards, plastic speakers, and microphones.
- TVs, monitors and flat screens. TVs must be whole and intact (No broken or exposed TV tubes).
- Hard drives, optical drives, motherboards, daughter boards, ram, CD ROMs, power packs, etc. We do not re-market or reuse any data storage devices.
- Printers, fax machines, typewriters, scanners, toner cartridges, cameras, calculators, and small medical equipment.
- Cell phones (including battery), cordless phones, telephones, PDA's, iPod, tablets, and chargers.
- Batteries accepted include auto/marine, laptop, cell phone, lithium and battery backups.
- All types of wires and cables including holiday string lighting.
- Audio/visual equipment, stereos, CD/DVD Players, console gaming systems, cassette players, remote controls (no wooden cased items).
- Small household appliances like toasters, microwaves (not glass plate), toaster ovens, blenders (not glass bowls), mixers, vacuum cleaners (remove dust bag) and power tools.

NOT ACCEPTED: any type of light bulb, disposable/single-use batteries, smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, thermometers, thermostats, glass blender bowls, ceramic pots, or microwave plates, VCR tapes or CD/Floppy/DVD disks, wood-cased stereo speakers, furniture, electric organs, heating pads/blankets, blood pressure cuffs, cushioned chairs, mattresses, plastic bags, cardboard, rigid plastic bins, Styrofoam, wood, firearms, or hazardous waste such as paint or chemicals. These materials will be sorted out at the truck and returned to our customer for proper disposal elsewhere.