

ebook

3 Tips to Improve Safety in the Oil Field

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Introduction

Isolation.

When accidents happen in the field it can be deadly. It takes more time to call for help and more time for help to arrive. Yet it's a risk that oil field workers face every day. With oil and gas fields often located in harsh, isolated parts of the country, remote workers need to be hyper-vigilant when it comes to safety protocols.

Working in oil fields will always be tough work that comes with inherent risks. However, there are safety measures that can be implemented to help lower the risks, reduce the severity of accidents, should they happen, and minimize the cost and downtime of safety-related incidents.

Read on for three tips to help improve lone worker safety through the use of a Mobile Resource Management (MRM) solution.



Tip #1

Give mobile workers tools to promote safety

Lone workers need more than just protective clothing and some training before heading out to their assignments. An MRM solution can be used to help provide a more comprehensive set of safety-conscious solutions for these at-risk employees.

- Turn-by-turn navigation that can be specifically customized for commercial vehicles on private roads
- Personal panic buttons for immediate assistance
- Broadcast messaging to all drivers via their navigation devices for critical notices such as weather updates
- Custom electronic forms that can serve as reminders for important safety procedures including pre- and post-trip inspections or site setup
- Simplified view of Hours of Service (HOS), suitable for on-shore oil sites, so drivers always know their HOS status
- Automated back-office notification for a range of vehicle alerts including airbag deployment, engine temperature or tire pressure



An MRM solution provides the tools to help simplify, streamline and automate routine processes so lone workers stay within company safety guidelines and have easy options for requesting help.

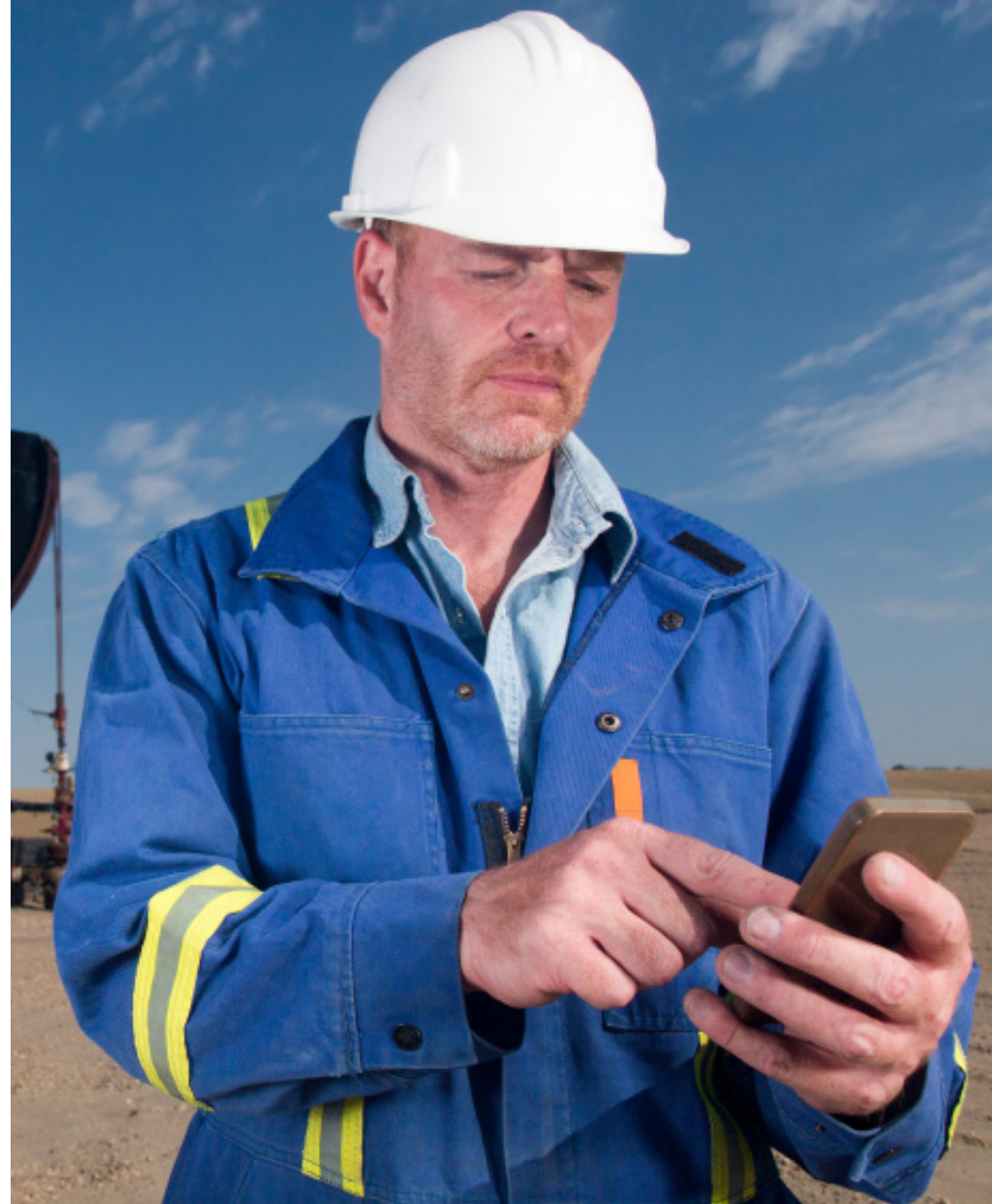
Tip #2

Monitor worker activity in hazardous areas

Restricted areas require additional care and monitoring for worker activity. Some areas are prone to high concentrations of dangerous chemicals such as hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). Lone workers entering these areas, for example to service a well, would not only need to have the correct training but also limit their time in the area.

Automated alerts can instantly let supervisors know when a worker has been in a hazardous area for too long. Areas to be monitored can be completely customized and alerts tailored to the needs of the company.

This type of remote monitoring can be used as an effective safety net for workers, particularly if working alone. It can also be used to track an individual worker's exposure to hazardous sites over time.



You can use an MRM solution to verify workers checked in to a location, for example to service a site, when they were expected there.

Tip #3

Preventing access to restricted areas or roads

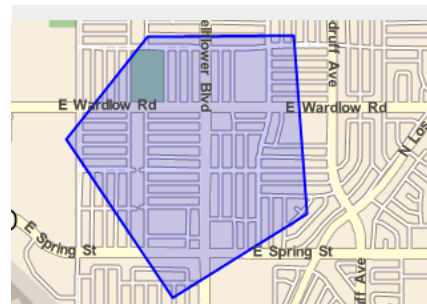
If your operation has no-go area, either restricted for safety reasons, local ordinances or private property laws, then you can use an MRM solution with GPS tracking capabilities to create custom areas on the map to prevent workers from being routed through these areas.

Set up alerts for a variety of scenarios:

- Workers at a location during restricted hours
- Equipment being moved without authorization
- Prevent unnecessary workers in well construction zones
- Stop vehicles from using closed roads
- Prevent hazmat trucks on specific routes
- Stop crews from entering areas where explosives are being used or there is the presence of radioactive material

Geofences are flexible and can easily be updated or removed as needed. It's just another tool to help you keep remote workers safer, no matter how isolated they are.

You can't eliminate accident risk completely but using Telogis' MRM solution can help drastically improve your oil field safety measures. From providing mobile solutions in the field to monitoring hazardous areas and preventing access to restricted roads, you can do more to ensure the safety of your oil field resources. In addition to improved safety, accident reduction can drastically reduce costs and improve your bottom line.



You can “draw” virtual areas on your map (known as geofences) to manage worker locations, or be alerted to anyone entering or exiting these zones.

Improve visibility and safety

Get more visibility and improve safety with near real-time alerts, panic buttons and in-cab coaching.

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