

SaskEnergy turn to technology to monitor the safety of their front line operations personnel

SaskEnergy provide transportation and storage services to natural gas producers and consumers across Saskatchewan. With a network of 14,000 kilometres of natural gas pipelines, their operators spend much of their working day travelling to and between sites, and may spend large portions of their day working alone.

Travelling on the road is one of the greatest and most uncontrollable risks workers around the world face each day. Last year in Canada there were 1,923 fatalities and 165,306 injuries related to vehicle accidents, while there were 1,157 fatalities to drivers while at work due to roadway incidents.

SaskEnergy is a business dedicated to the health and safety of their employees, providing personal protective equipment and training for when they are on site. However, they recognised the unpredictable nature of travelling alone and wanted to do more to monitor their workforce's safety during these periods, as well as when working on site.

While looking for a self-serving technology solution, SaskEnergy decided StaySafe was best suited to their needs. The company were previously operating a check-in policy in which each front line operations person was expected to call their supervisor at pre-determined intervals throughout the day. A supervisor would be responsible for 8-10 employees at a time and would be expected to call an employee if they had not heard from them.

This resulted in down-time where both the employee and supervisors were making several phone calls before refocusing on the job at hand. SaskEnergy searched for a solution that was efficient and time saving with quick check-ins and alerts only being raised when necessary.

As well as panic and duress features, StaySafe comes with man-down and session expiry alerts so that a monitor can be notified even when the employee cannot get to their phone, allowing help to be sent directly to them. This is particularly helpful when travelling alone to remote locations where there may be no one around to provide assistance should an accident occur.

A-Jay Medwid, Manager, Operations Effectiveness at SaskEnergy comments "Our team can now check-in at the touch of a button, freeing up time and allowing supervisors to focus on other important tasks, while feeling confident that an alert system is in place to assure the safety of front line workers. The intuitive nature of the app means that it is very easy to implement and easy to pick up. It has been well accepted and embraced by our supervisors and frontline staff alike who feel safer knowing that the StaySafe solution is there."