



Thomas F. Farrell, II
Safety Leadership and Innovation Award
2024 Award Recipients

Power by Association™

CATEGORY: ORGANIZATION AWARD

CenterPoint Energy – Vault Type Transformer Movement

Description of Achievement: Direct control of high-energy hazards related to movement of distribution equipment in excess of six tons in enclosed spaces.

Executive Summary

CenterPoint Energy's Major Underground department presents an innovative initiative for the movement of submersible Three-Phase distribution transformers, meriting consideration for the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Organizational award. In the former process, which required a minimum of six personnel, the transformer, which weighs between 12,000 to 40,000 pounds, was lifted and lowered onto steel rollers or heavy-duty casters, requiring employees to push or pull in a straight line and lift or lower the transformer into its final location. This process consisted of multiple manual lifts and transitions that could take anywhere from four to six hours. Over the last two years, the department has experienced two potential serious injuries or fatalities (PSIFs) due to the proximity of the workers near the shifting load. Fortunately, no serious injuries were sustained, and the involved employees were able to return after a short absence.

Recognizing the need for change in January 2022 for safety and efficiency reasons, the Major Underground department researched and developed a new process to mitigate the high-energy hazards involved in this work activity.

[Supporting Information](#)
[Video](#)

CATEGORY: EEI MEMBER COMPANY EMPLOYEE LEADER

William F. Farber III – PPL Electric Utilities

Description of Achievement: Designing and constructing a battery-powered live line electrical safety exhibit.

Executive Summary

William F. Farber III showed unparalleled innovation, dedication, workmanship, and perseverance in engineering and constructing what is believed to be a first of its kind battery-powered electrical safety exhibit. An enhanced version of a safety exhibit created by Farber in 2015, it is a critical tool used to teach first responders, contractors and the general public about dangers associated with electricity. The new exhibit was designed to safely illustrate electrical contacts and the hazards associated with them. It will play a significant role in helping PPL Electric Utilities live up to its commitments to keeping the public safe and creating a clean energy future.

[Supporting Information](#)

CATEGORY: PARTNER SERVICE PROVIDER

Urbint/Georgia Power – Smart JSB equipped with AI

Description of Achievement: Workforce Utilization of a smart job safety briefing equipped with artificial intelligence.

Executive Summary:

As the world embraces the digital age, Georgia Power is committed to advancing the safety of our employees. Our partnership with an external vendor has resulted in a revolutionary AI-powered hazard recognition and reporting tool. This innovative solution ensures accessibility, predictive and learning capabilities, and advanced data analysis, ultimately enhancing our workforce's safety. Unlike paper job safety briefings (JSBs), this smart JSB provides real-time safety insights, promotes collaboration, and offers cost-effective solutions. As an industry first, it sets a new standard for safety practices and establishes Georgia Power as a leader in leveraging AI technology to prioritize employee safety.

[Supporting Information](#)

[Video](#)