

Two-Minute Tuesday Video Script: Cash for Your Ideas

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/hr/two/videos/suggestion/suggestion.html>

Slide 1: Welcome to Two-Minute Tuesday. I'm Tim Closterman. Our topic is the Employee Suggestion Award Program.

Slide 2: Do you have a great idea to improve productivity or save money at work? Let's hear from two dedicated employees who earned \$1,250 each for their innovative idea.

Slide 3: *video clip of Dean Galate and Juan Arosemena at Solid Waste Operations*

Good morning. My name is Dean Galate and I'm an Electro-Mechanical 2 at Solid Waste Operations. Hi. My name is Juan Arosemena and I'm an Electronic Equipment Technician 2 here at Solid Waste. We work together in maintenance.

Today we are standing in front of the RO section of the water treatment plant. This is reverse osmosis. And each one of these cylinders you're looking at holds 7 individual filters. And there's 28 cylinders per RO unit, and there's two units which gives us 392 individual filters. And that's important because following the guidelines for these filters in operation is important to the condition and longevity of these filters.

Each individual filter, the replacement cost for these filters is about \$1,000 apiece so that's important when we get into our next step of the CIP situation. The water that we make here, we clean it from the pond and we feed it to the waste-to-energy plant across the street there. And our main purpose is to supply their cooling tank with water, the cooling tower. We supply about a million gallons a day on average.

We're now inside ... standing in front of the CIP, Clean In Place system, where we had a design problem. This drive motor would increase on startup to 100% causing 180 pounds of pressure to drive into our system. This caused hammering of our pipes which were shaking back and forth, ripping our supports off the wall, causing excess pressure to our filters and possible damage to our RO filters.

To correct this problem, Juan and I came up with a solution. Juan decided that electronics could control this with a VF2 variable frequency drive that would allow a soft start on the motor, control pressures that go over the RO to save our filters, and have two speed controls for the operators for different stages of cleaning on the RO. We also installed sensors for the heaters so the water isn't overheated preventing potential damage to our filters of overheating.

Here at Solid Waste Operations we are always trying to make improvements for safety for our employees and for the longevity of the equipment.

Slide 10: To submit your great idea, visit www.pinellascounty.org/HR/suggestion. Thanks for tuning in to Two-Minute Tuesday.