

Midway City Sanitary District

DESCRIBE THE RESULTS AND OUTCOMES OF THE INITIATIVE

Since installing the Amerex Fire Suppression Systems, MCSD has significantly reduced the risk of catastrophic truck fires and strengthened its response readiness during hot-load incidents. Operators now benefit from both automatic and manual activation capabilities, enhancing employee safety through immediate fire suppression when it matters most. By containing fires at the source, the District has also reduced property and liability exposure, helping protect nearby neighborhoods and structures.

In addition, this investment has improved operational resilience by minimizing vehicle damage and downtime, ensuring consistent service delivery while lowering repair costs. With fewer potential fire-related incidents, MCSD has also strengthened its overall risk profile, contributing to reduced insurance exposure and claim frequency. This initiative highlights the District's commitment to proactive safety, innovation, and protecting both its workforce and the community.

DESCRIBE THE RISK OR CONCERN

Midway City Sanitary District (MCSD) provides curbside solid waste collection to residents of Westminster and Midway City. A growing safety concern in recent years has been the improper disposal of batteries in residential garbage carts. When compacted inside collection trucks, these batteries can ignite and cause what is commonly known in the solid waste industry as a "hot-loads."

These truck fires pose a significant safety risk to drivers and the public, potentially leading to complete vehicle loss, damage to nearby property, and interruption of service. Additionally, such incidents can increase insurance claims, maintenance costs, and operational downtime.

DESCRIBE DETAILS OF THE PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTED:

To address the ongoing risk of "hot-load" fires, MCSD proactively invested in installing Amerex Automatic/Manual Fire Suppression Systems across its solid waste collection fleet. These systems provide dual protection by automatically detecting excessive heat or flames within the hopper and deploying a specialized suppressant, while also allowing operators to manually activate the system at the first sign of smoke or heat for an immediate response.

Implementation included a fleet-wide assessment to ensure proper placement and configuration, comprehensive training for all operators on system use and emergency procedures, and integration into existing maintenance and safety inspection protocols. This investment reflects MCSD's commitment to protecting both employees and the community by directly mitigating one of the most serious hazards in solid waste operations.

