



SAFETY GUARD FOR OPEN U-DRAINS

WESTROCK – FLORENCE, SC MILL

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June 15th, 2022

U-DRAIN SAFETY GUARD

PROBLEM: OPEN U-DRAINS CAN BE A SIGNIFICANT SAFETY HAZARD

- Grating removed for many reasons:
 - Wash up from process upsets
 - Repair / replace the grating
 - Repair the u-drain lining
 - Un-clog overflows
- Low light conditions make it difficult to see an open u-drain.
- Historically will use barricade tape and/or plastic cones.
 - Unless it is continually managed, barricade tape will sag or fall away over time or contact.
 - Cones float. Or they can be inadvertently moved and not put back in place.
- After a significant near miss we wanted something more robust and more visible in low light conditions.



U-DRAIN SAFETY GUARD

SOLUTION: EASILY MOVABLE BUT SOLID GUARD FOR THE U-DRAIN OPENING

- Fellow employee in our Maintenance Dept. designed and built this guard.
- Can be built in-house if you have a maintenance shop and welders.
- Customized to fit the exact size of the grating it is replacing. Sits into the channel of the grating.
 - Set solid in place
 - Flush with floor
 - Base opening large enough to facilitate wash up without sacrificing safety.
- All aluminum. Light enough for one employee to handle.
- Highly visible from a distance and in low light conditions.
- Will stay in place even if hit by employee with wash up water.
- In most cases it can be set up easier and quicker than barricade tape and cones.



U-DRAIN GUARD IN USE

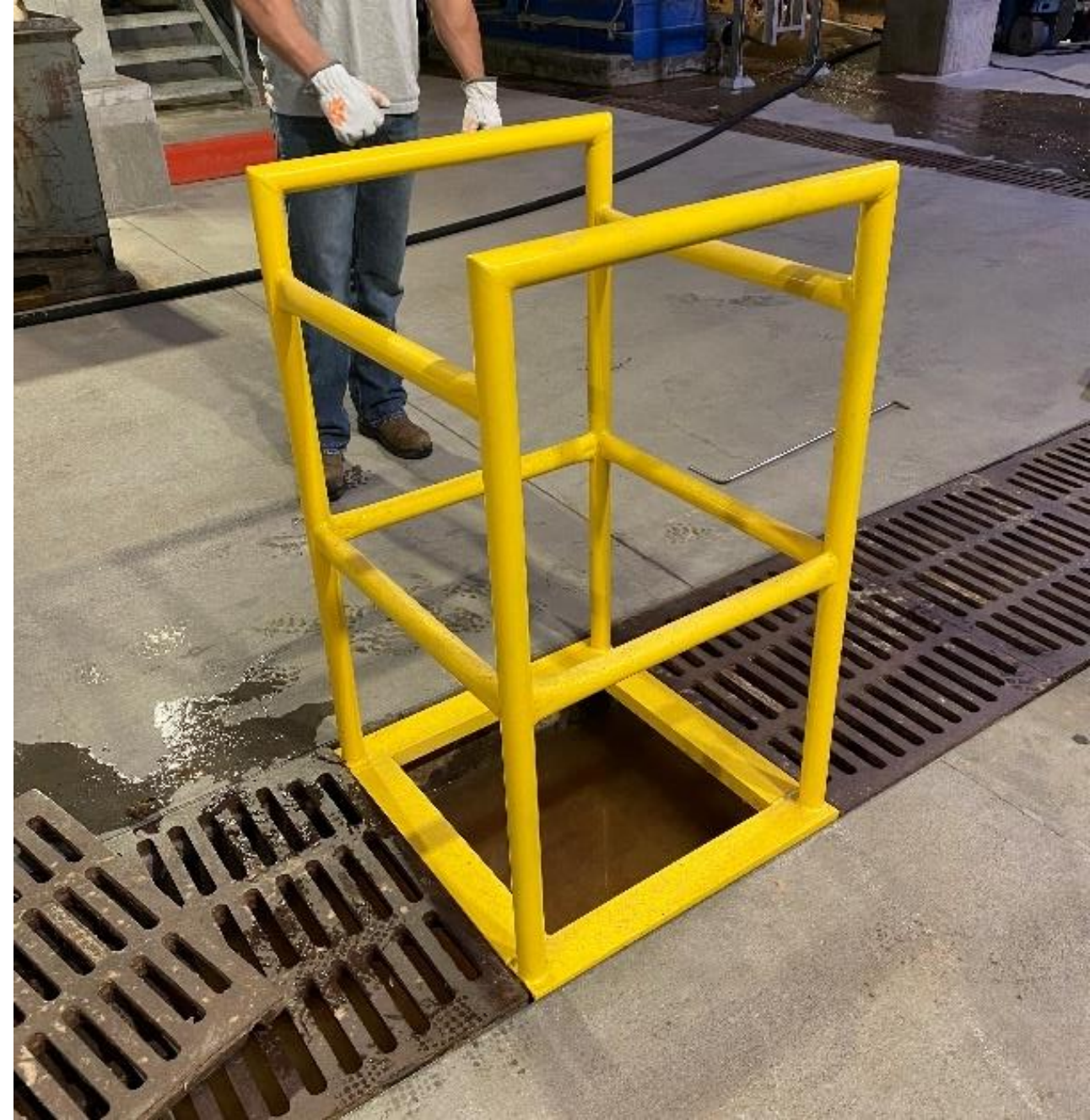


U-DRAIN SAFETY GUARD

COST / BENEFITS:

- Approx. \$400.00 materials and time (in-house).
- Approx. \$800.00 if contracted out.
- Direct cost of a lost work day injury can easily exceed \$100,000
- Indirect costs (retraining, overtime, productivity loss, potential absenteeism, etc.) can be up to 4X direct costs.

- Simple extra layer of protection to eliminate the error trap of an untended / unguarded open u-drain.
- This guard helps us get closer to 100% Safe by building more capacity into our safety systems.



THANK YOU

