

blacklinesafety

# POWERED BY SAFETY



## EMPOWERING AND PROTECTING UTILITY WORKERS ON THE JOB

A 3.5-fold increase in workplace violence incidents in seven years was reported by a west coast energy company.\* This statistic speaks to a larger trend: workplace violence toward frontline uniformed workers is on the rise.

That's why companies across the utilities sector (electricity, natural gas and renewables) partner with Blackline Safety to keep their workers safe. Not just from violence on the job, but from other occupational hazards, too:

- ✓ Exposure to harmful and combustible gases
- ✓ Confined space entries
- ✓ Working alone

\*Company presentation at American Gas Association Summit, 2024.

### CASE STUDY

#### NISOURCE KEEPS UTILITY WORKERS SAFE ON AND OFF THE JOB

See how NiSource used Blackline to protect utility workers in five incidents. Read the [case study](#).





**4.2** /  
DEATHS  
**100,000**  
WORKERS

The utility sector is ranked the 6<sup>th</sup> most dangerous industry with 4.2 deaths for every 100,000 workers.\*

Power line workers in particular have the 10<sup>th</sup> most dangerous job across industries.\*\*

## COMMON HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS FOR UTILITY WORKERS

### LONE WORK

- ✓ Many workers are field-based—responding to gas leaks, fixing or installing meters or solar panels, performing inspections and conducting maintenance work on pipelines.
- ✓ Work alone or in areas where cellular coverage is unreliable.
- ✓ Exposed to unsafe city locations, falls and other accidents, exposure to high voltage and dangerous gases, weather incidents and irate customers.
- ✓ Can be isolated even when surrounded by others, for example, noisy machinery in busy power plants can drown out calls for help.
- ✓ May be unable to use a cell phone to call for help if working around potential gas leaks that require intrinsically safe devices.
- ✓ Face workplace violence, which is at an all-time high.



### TOXIC AND COMBUSTIBLE GASES

- ✓ Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are the most typical gases encountered by workers.
- ✓ Exposure stems from leaks in natural gas storage plants, power plants, drilling and extraction activities, and the transportation and distribution network of residential and commercial gas, like liquefied natural gas (LNG).



### CONFINED SPACE ENTRIES

- ✓ Some natural gas facilities and power plants require work in confined spaces--storage tanks, manholes, vaults, narrow trenches.
- ✓ Risk of oxygen deficiency and exposure to toxic and flammable gases.
- ✓ Darkness creates poor visibility and additional fall and tripping hazards.

#### CASE STUDY

### METER CHECK TURNS DANGEROUS

Lone workers are the most vulnerable workers, with 44% reporting they feel unsafe and 20% struggle to get help after an incident.\*\*\* Read the real-life incident of what happened to meter checker Sasha [here](#).



\* National Safety Council, Industry Facts, 2023.

\*\* ISHN

\*\*\* National Safety Council, 2023, Using Lone Worker Monitoring Technology to Protect Workers.



# THE POWER OF CONNECTED SAFETY

Utility workers face occupational hazards that underscore the need for intrinsically safe devices with gas detection and communications capabilities—especially critical for workers out of sight and sound.

With Blackline Safety's wearable safety devices and portable area gas monitors, you can have it all.



## REAL-TIME VISIBILITY

Location-enabled equipment, via the [Blackline Live](#) web portal, for situational awareness from any internet-connected device.



## BOOSTED LONE WORKER PROTECTION

Extensive person-down safety features include fall and no-motion detection, missed check-in alarms, and a silent emergency SOS to call for immediate assistance.



## RELIABLE CONNECTIVITY

Integrated cellular, or optional satellite\*, connectivity for a failsafe way to keep in touch—no matter where your workers are.



## FAST DEPLOYMENT

Instant connectivity gets you up and running in minutes, requiring minimal training. Plus, easily assign and manage devices in [Blackline Live](#).



## TRUSTWORTHY GAS SENSOR PORTFOLIO

Choose from 20 advanced gas sensors and monitor up to five simultaneously. Swappable gas cartridges mean you can tailor gas sensors to match the possible hazards.

Have union or privacy concerns around using connected technology as part of your safety program? Read [our article](#) on the five steps for safeguarding workers and protecting their right to privacy.

\*Not available in all regions

# THE POWER OF CONNECTED SAFETY



## SCALABLE PROTECTION

Lone worker devices can be upgraded to include gas detection by swapping to single-gas, or multi-gas cartridges—with an optional multi-gas pump module.



## PERIMETER AREA GAS MONITORING

Protect neighbors and get ahead of odor complaints, like methyl mercaptan added to natural gas, by detecting gas and odor levels before they become an issue.



## 24/7 LIVE AWARENESS

Professionally trained agents are available around the clock to expertly manage emergency alerts in real-time through an optional services.



## TWO-WAY COMMUNICATIONS

Intrinsically safe with two-way voice, text and push-to-talk options to stay connected in any situation.



## AUTOMATED ANALYTICS

Out-of-the-box or custom reports use actual data to analyze risks, compliance and productivity, identifying actionable opportunities for proactive safety.

## CONNECTED CONFIDENCE

Blackline's all-in-one connected safety solution offers what you need to improve the safety and efficiency of your operations, whether it's natural gas, electricity, water-wastewater or renewables.

Join 2,200+ brands that use Blackline Safety, including these utility companies.



**blacklinesafety**

[blacklinesafety.com/industries/utilities](https://blacklinesafety.com/industries/utilities)

## READY TO POWER UP YOUR SAFETY?

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