



video transcript

Day in the Life: Refinery Shift Leader

human energy®

Oh, I've been here thirty-five years. As a young man I came in and I thought "I can do this," but I learned that four crews working together, not just one crew working is really the key to being a lot more efficient, a lot more reliable and finally a lot more satisfying.

My name is Bill Laster, I'm a refinery shift leader at the Chevron refinery in El Segundo, California. I'm responsible for the safe environmental compliance of the refinery. We make energy for the public. So, my job, my challenge, is to insure that we do that every day day-in-day-out, incident and injury free.

The El Segundo Refinery is a twenty-four hour seven day a week operation that's operated by four crews working rotating shifts. One of the challenges of working rotating shifts inside the refinery is the sleep schedule, but you can focus on really some of the good things about doing that. You get days off during the week. I have six children. I could be the dad that went on field trips. I could be that dad that read in class that day or did the science experiments for the group.

My day starts at 4:00am or 4:00pm. What gets me up in the morning and makes me come to work is the people here at Chevron. The crew consists of a refinery shift leader, an optimization operating assistant, a battalion chief, five shift supervisors, and the seventy plus operators that operate the units inside the refinery. So, at four o'clock we set up for the next shift. Then I'm going to go around the refinery and I'm going to go to the various areas where I know I'm needed. It's that teamwork and collaboration that really take us from thinking to knowing that we're safe, environmentally compliant and reliable.

The ROC is the Refinery Optimization Center. Years ago our control rooms were in the field right next to the units. We modernized in 2012 when we brought all those control rooms to the ROC in a central location. The ROC has not only improved our efficiency to operate inside the refinery, it's improved our safety as well. It's not a coincidence that just last year we were recognized as the safest refinery in the United States of America. And I know the success of our refinery was really built on our past leaders and I'm excited about the new leaders who are coming on who are going to build on the success that we now enjoy and they're going to take it to 2020 and really exceed.