



May 29 — It Was Telling Him

Hole watch was not paying attention to the monitor, even though it was flashing red.

I told him his air monitor was going off then helped him.

The monitor was doing its job. Flashing. Warning. Trying to get attention. But it wasn't being watched. That's the part that matters. Because a gas monitor doesn't stop the hazard. It only tells you it's there.

And if no one is paying attention, that warning doesn't mean anything. The environment can change fast.

Oxygen levels drop. Toxics build. Flammables rise.

And the monitor will tell you — But only if someone is actually listening. In this case, it was already in alarm. Already signaling a problem. And the person responsible for watching it didn't catch it. That's how quickly things can turn.

Because once the atmosphere changes, you don't get much time. And if the warning is missed, the next sign isn't a light or a sound. It's the effect. The work was stopped. The issue was corrected.

Because confined space safety doesn't rely on the monitor alone. It relies on someone paying attention to it.

Hazards

- Toxic or hazardous atmosphere
- Oxygen deficiency
- Flammable gas buildup
- Delayed response to alarm conditions
- Confined space exposure

Stats

- A large percentage of confined space fatalities involve atmospheric hazards
- A large percentage of confined space fatalities involve atmospheric hazards
- Atmospheric changes can occur rapidly with little visible indication
- Continuous monitoring is only effective if actively observed

Words of Wisdom

- The monitor only works if you're watching it
- Warning don't matter if they're ignored
- Pay attention before it becomes an emergency

Pause and Think

It's easy to treat monitoring like a background task.

The device is on. It's working. It will alert you if something changes.

But that only works if you're engaged.

Because once the alarm is missed, you've lost your early warning.

And what comes next doesn't give you time to react.

- Am I actively watching my monitor?
- Do I treat alarms as immediate action points?
- Am I distracted from the responsibility I've been given?
- Would I catch the warning before it becomes a problem?