A large oil and gas producer was in the market to outfit lone workers with new safety equipment at one of its operations in the western United States. Lone worker solutions have come a long way in taking full advantage of current technology. While lone worker solutions are important, they only make up a small portion of the PPE (personal protective equipment) market.

**Challenge**

The challenge was to determine the best lone worker solution for the oil and gas producer. As companies work hard to improve safety programs and more solutions enter the market, it is critically important to determine which solution meets the needs and goals of each organization.

For an overview of safety solutions, consider OSHA’s Hierarchy of Controls. The Hierarchy of Controls is intended to help supervisors keep their workers safe by using the most effective controls (elimination of hazards) first, and less effective controls (PPE) only as a backup, or when other controls are not an option.

The nature of the oil and gas industry dictates that PPE, listed at the bottom of the Hierarchy of Controls, is a must to keep workers safe and potentially save lives. So what is the most cost effective solution that provides the highest level of safety for oil and gas workers, including lone workers?

**Solution**

Already familiar with Industrial Scientific’s gas monitors and iNet® Exchange gas detection as a service, this oil and gas company took a closer look at its overall safety program. Personal gas detectors can also be lone worker monitors and can be part of a solution that takes safety to the next level in the hierarchy. Industrial Scientific’s Ventis® Pro Series Multi-Gas Monitors provide gas detection, lone worker monitoring, and the necessary data to change the way people work. Using iNet® Now, the level of safety in the hierarchy can be elevated to Administrative Controls.
iNet Now is Industrial Scientific’s live monitoring software that identifies where workers and their instruments are located and whether they have encountered hazardous gas, pressed the panic button, or activated man-down alerts. When an alert is activated, the safety manager immediately receives a text and/or email notification letting him know about the hazardous condition and allowing him to view a map. Armed with information about the hazard and location, he can better inform first responders. Using LENS™ Wireless adds another layer of safety for groups of workers. The monitors can communicate with each other and provide peer-to-peer readings while sending alerts to other workers and supervisors. Through real-time safety observations, supervisors can work to fix non-compliance issues and ultimately change the way their people work.

Results

Outdated and failing gas detection equipment has been replaced with Industrial Scientific Ventis Pro Series gas detectors that provide the latest in gas monitoring technology. With LENS Wireless and live monitoring capability, the instruments communicate readings to one another and report real-time data to iNet Now. This oil and gas producer’s workers, both on-site and in lone worker environments, are now fully protected. Industrial Scientific’s solution covers the need for personal protection equipment and administrative controls across the entire operation.