

DARHT— Operational

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The ability to continue to assess the aging U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without underground nuclear testing took a major step forward this month. NNSA announced that the Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test (DARHT) facility at Los Alamos National Laboratory is operational.



"DARHT is an incredible scientific and engineering achievement and is extremely important to assess the nuclear weapons stockpile,"

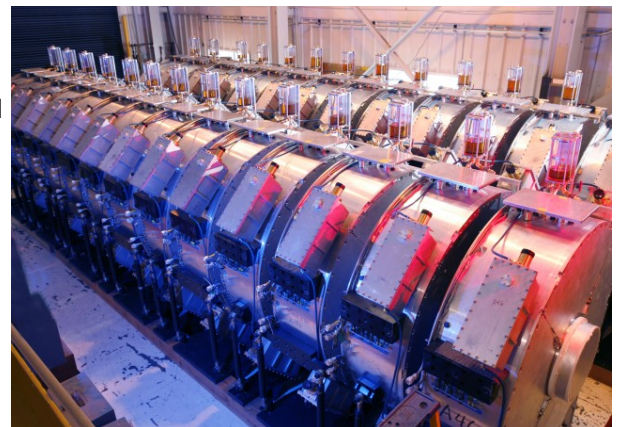
said NNSA Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs Robert Smolen. "U.S. nuclear weapons are 20 to 30 years old, and this high-tech machine allows us to look at how changes made to fix age-related and technical defects may affect weapon performance – all without conducting an underground nuclear test."

DARHT's pictures allow NNSA scientists to thoroughly examine and predict how a particular weapon component from the current stockpile will react during a nuclear explosion.

DARHT consists of two electron accelera-

tors positioned at a 90-degree angle, each focused on a single firing point. It is at this point where nuclear weapon mock-ups are driven to extreme temperatures and pressures with high explosives and where the DARHT electron beams produce high-energy X-rays used to image the behavior of materials and systems under those extreme conditions. Last year these experiments moved into fully contained steel vessels to better protect the environment and improve experiment turnaround time.

Los Alamos National Laboratory teamed with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and private industry to make DARHT's



DARHT electron accelerator

second axis achieve this new capability.

"The dedication and hard work by the entire DARHT team cannot be underestimated," said Charles McMillan, associate director for weapons physics. "Many seemingly insurmountable technical challenges were encountered along the way, but the team rose to the occasion each time, solving the problems and ultimately reaching this important day."

Acknowledgements



LASO folks said bon voyage to Phil Roebuck (right) and Art Mena (below) in April. Art took a job at the Yucca Mountain Project and Phil retired after 25 years of public service

GOODBYE



THANKS

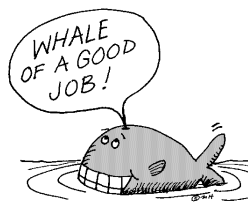
CONGRATULATIONS!



LASO's Bonni Wethington was one of a number of NNSA and DOE employees recognized by NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino for their work on the Pay Banding Demo Project. Each received an appreciation letter and an NNSA coin.



Above—Matt Webber, Adrienne Nash, and Eric Trujillo were recognized for their work on the LANL Earned Value Management System review. Below—Adrienne and Isaac Valdez are thanked for their work on FIRP.



Dan Glenn was recognized with a Secretarial Award for his contributions to NNSA's "Getting the Job Done" initiative



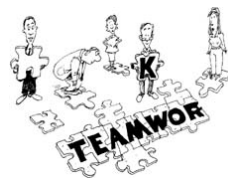
Following an All Hands meeting in late April LASO Site Office Manager Don Winchell recognized folks for their achievements



Five LASO Facility Representatives received their Phase II Qualifications. (Top—Bottom) Dan Carter, David George, Ron Fontana, Bruce Lebrun, and Michael Kline



Steve Frye (right) received his Project Management Qualifications, Bill Gentile (below) was thanked for his help with Headquarters' review of Y-12

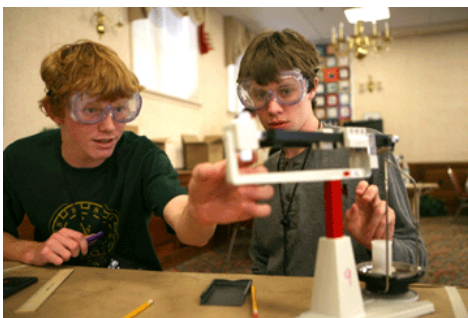


Ron Oberle received a LASO coin for his role on the Nuclear Weapons Complex Tech. Quality Team



National Science Bowl Competition

Teams representing high schools from 42 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico competed in the 18th annual DOE National Science Bowl® May 1 - 6 in Washington DC. Each participating



Evan Greif, left and classmate Jason Hearne from Saint Mary's Hall School, San Antonio, TX work on an exercise during the Science Bowl competition

team emerged from one of 67 regional events to earn an all-expense-paid trip to compete in the National

Finals. Albuquerque Academy represented New Mexico in Regional competition. More than 12,000 students competed in regional Science Bowl events.

Santa Monica High School from Santa Monica, CA won the 2008 National Science Bowl®. The team won a trip to the International Youth Science Forum in London in addition to \$1,000 for their school's science department.

Santa Monica clinched the title by answering a mathematics question.

"I congratulate all of the

students who competed in this year's U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl," Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman said. "You are America's future. And as I look out here today on many of our best and brightest students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, it is clear to me that our future is bright indeed."



Secretary Bodman and Under Secretary for Science Dr. Orbach with students from Cali-

For more information about the National Science Bowl visit <http://nationalsciencebowl.energy.gov>.

NM Supercomputing Challenge

Erika DeBenedictis of St. Pius X High School and Tony Huang of La Cueva won the top prize at the 2008 New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge hosted by Los Alamos National Laboratory.



The team's project entitled *An Analysis of Direct Simulation Monte Carlo and Its Application to Simulating Supersonic Shockwaves,*

modeled a spacecraft's reentry into the atmos-

phere. Each winning team member earned \$1,000.

More than 330 mid and high-school students from

33 schools around the state spent the school year researching scientific problems, developing sophisticated computer programs, and learning about computer science with mentors from the state's national laboratories and other organizations.

A Los Alamos Middle School project titled "Turn Up the Heat, Energy Efficiency Through Smart Wall Design" earned second place.



Tony Huang and Erika DeBenedictis are all smiles after capturing the top prize during the 2008 New Mexico Supercomputing Challenge

Schoenbauer Heading to China



NNSA's Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Operations in the Office of Defense Programs Marty Schoenbauer has been selected to be the next Executive Director of the DOE Office at the U.S. Embassy to the People's Republic of China. Schoenbauer

will join the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation and serve as the

Secretary's Representative and Senior DOE Representative in China.

Schoenbauer has been with Defense Programs since 1993, first as a naval officer, and then as a Federal senior executive. He has held a wide variety of management positions.

"Marty has played a key leadership role in promoting transformation of the complex and the stockpile, which are major initiatives to ensure the long-term

vitality of the Nation's nuclear force,"

said Deputy Administrator Robert Smolen.

"Tom D'Agostino and I have both relied heavily on Marty in a time of significant organizational change within Defense Programs. Marty truly exemplifies what it means to "Get the Job Done!"



In March 2007 Schoenbauer visited LASO and talked to folks about the future of the NNSA Nuclear Weapons En-

LANL SWEIS Finalized

A notice of availability for the SWEIS was published in the Federal Register May 16th the printed document was distributed to the public.

April 4th

NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino approved the public issuance of the Final LANL Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS). The SWEIS considers potential environmental impacts that could result if NNSA continues the operation of LANL at either the existing level of operations, at a reduced level of operations, or at an expanded level of operations.

NNSA's preferred alterna-

tive is the Expanded Operations Alternative.

The NNSA Administrator will issue the first Record of Decision (ROD) for activities considered in the SWEIS no earlier than 30 days after the *Federal Register* notice. NNSA currently expects to issue at least two RODs based on the SWEIS impact analysis. A SWEIS Mitigation Action Plan (MAP) will also be issued by the Los Alamos Site Office Manager.

This MAP will be implemented by the LANL management and operations contractor to reduce potential adverse environmental impacts identified in the

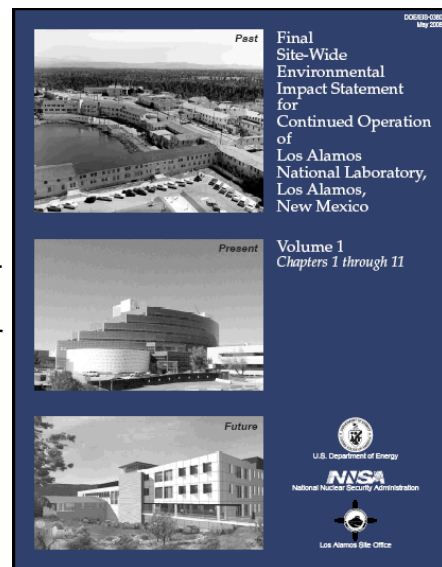
SWEIS for the selected alternative and as further directed by the NNSA's ROD(s).

The final SWEIS is available on the Los Alamos Site Office's NEPA website at: <http://www.doeal.gov/laso/NEPADocuments.aspx>



Above—Public hearings on Draft SWEIS in 2006

Below— DOE SWEIS Document Manager, Elizabeth Withers gives an overview of the document at the hearings





Latest Trends Add Outdoor Style



More and more homeowners are turning their attention to the outdoor areas of their homes. Just as they would when decorating indoors, homeowners are incorporating the latest trends in outdoor living areas.

“Many homeowners find themselves outdoors at night, as they settle in after work and entertain through the evening,” says Jeff Dross, Kichler Lighting senior product manager. “Since they’re outside past dusk, they’re leaving their landscape lighting on for extended periods.



Colored glass is being used as an alternative to mulch and stone, and colored concrete is being applied in benches, pavers, fencing and related products. Bigger, bolder flowers are making a statement, as are landscape lighting pieces. One of the season’s newest color-focused products

is Kichler Lighting’s lit Posies – lighted glass flowers with a splash of dense purple, cranberry red and golden amber, which can be displayed individually or in a bunch. Homeowners are also looking for new ways to showcase their flowers and plants, and as a result, potted plants have a newfound popularity. Flowerpots are being offered in a variety of shapes and sizes, from small, subtle circular pots to large, art-inspired pieces. Embraced for their dual use, lighted urns are turning heads as an innovative way to showcase flowers and add light to the exterior.



Butterflies are setting the stage outdoors with butterfly-inspired chimineas, stepping stones and lighting fixtures.



As homeowners makeover their outdoor living spaces, designers are encouraging them to make a statement by drawing on the latest trends. These influences will bring them more enjoyment in the outdoors, add timeless appeal and may very well make their yard the talk of the town.

Teak has found widespread popularity in outdoor furniture applications, as the wood is known for its durability and natural oils.



Patterns from outdoor furniture cushions are being carried over to complementary outdoor table placements, candles and other accents. Some companies offer a family of complementary pieces.



Courtesy of ARAcontent





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In Case You Missed It



New LASO Radiation Dosimetry Process

Beginning May 19th a web-based system (Dosimetry Evaluation System [DES]) replaced the "Health Physics Checklist" process for enrolling workers in routine dosimetry monitoring programs. In DES, workers will provide in-

formation on where they work and what they do. DES will determine the appropriate required dosimetry monitoring and, following your manager's approval will then enroll you in the correct program(s).

We're on the Web!

<http://www.doeal.gov/LASO/>



DOE & NNSA Career Development Programs

The Programs listed below are looking for applicants. Please note the nomination due dates.

Aspiring Leaders Program –
Nominations Due July 17, 2008

Executive Leadership Program –
Nominations Due July 25, 2008

Executive Survival Skills – Nominations Due July 21, 2008

Leading People – Nominations Due July 7, 2008



For additional information go to www.grad.usda.gov, under "Course and Program Information"

If you have questions, regarding internal training procedures, please contact your organization career development training liaison listed in the announcement.



Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization



DOE Small Business Conference

DOE will host its 9th Annual Small Business Conference, Exposition & Matchmaking Forum, June 24-26, at the Grand Hyatt in San Antonio, Texas.

DOE is the largest civil-

ian contracting agency within the federal government, annually procuring over \$22 billion in goods and services.

The conference, titled "Small Business, Big Ideas: Think Clean Energy," will have sessions on contracting opportunities, teaming and small business innovative research, as well as federal certification booths, networking receptions

and a one-on-one Matchmaking Forum.

"This is a tremendous marketing opportunity for any small business interested in working with DOE," Theresa Speake, Director of DOE's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, said.

For more information on contracting with DOE, visit: www.energy.gov.

CONSUMERS



ENERGY TIPS - Explore ways to save energy and improve the environment by taking simple steps around your home



Department of Energy Launches Energy Saving Tips Website

DOE has launched a

new internet feature which provides tips to consumers on how to make smart energy choices to save money while protecting the environment.

The interactive web page, at www.energy.gov, shows consumers steps to use less energy with household electronics, lighting,

and appliances to save on monthly bills and how to avoid wasting energy by improving the energy efficiency of their homes and cars.

The site also features the Department's work to develop cleaner, more affordable, diverse, reliable and sustainable energy sources