



National Nuclear Security Administration

# NEWS

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**  
**Jonathan Kiell, 202/586-7371**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, October 4, 2001**

***NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION TO HELP  
TRAIN FORMER SOVIET WMD SCIENTISTS IN COMMERCIAL  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FIELDS  
--REDUCES PROLIFERATION THREATS--***

The Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and a leading Russian Information Technology (IT) company are cooperating to help reduce the threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). The NNSA's Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention (IPP) program seeks to engage WMD experts at former Soviet facilities in the development of commercial technologies for peaceful purposes.

Kenneth E. Baker, NNSA Acting Deputy Administrator stated, "The Initiatives for Proliferation Prevention program prevents such expertise from spreading to states or terrorist organizations that seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction by engaging WMD experts in non-military applications."

LUXOFT, a member company of the IBS Group, and its U.S. partner, CTG, Inc. of Wayne, PA, plan to train as many as 500 nuclear professionals at the Moscow-based Kurchatov Institute, Russia's premier nuclear research facility, in a broad range of IT applications in the next few years. LUXOFT experts will spend nine months training Kurchatov scientists. After the initial nine-month training program, LUXOFT plans to expand the training to other nuclear weapons facilities.

Both LUXOFT and CTG are members of the U.S. Industry Coalition (USIC), a non-profit association of companies and universities that are active partners in the NNSA-IPP program. USIC works to facilitate technology commercialization for its members.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington, concerns about potential use of WMD technologies by terrorist groups have been heightened. The IPP program is critical to U.S. national security as it works to reduce this threat. Since 1994, the IPP program has engaged thousands of former Soviet scientists and engineers in peaceful technology development, thereby preventing such experts from exporting their knowledge to those seeking to acquire weapons of mass destruction.

-NNSA-

**NA-01-15**