



## Improving Security Within the Department of Energy

As we continue to move forward in 2005, it's appropriate to reflect on the recent accomplishments of the Department's security and safety communities. These were made successful through the teamwork and cooperative spirit of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA); Energy, Science and Environment (ESE); and the Office of Security and Safety Performance Assurance (SSA). In December 2003, SSA was created to provide better integration and collaboration among the security and oversight communities, to generate a synergy that facilitates communication, and to be more responsive to the needs of the security and safety communities.

The Department has been actively working to improve the overall effectiveness of the Department's security and safety programs. Many of our challenges and subsequent accomplishments were focused around former Secretary Abraham's Security Initiatives. Highlights of our past year of working together include:

- Contributing to the definition of the Secretary's Security Initiatives announced in May 2004 and continuing to implement the actions to address each.
- Reevaluating the terrorist threat to DOE facilities. This resulted in the revised Design Basis Threat (DBT), issued in

October 2004, which outlines the adversary threat capabilities used by the Department as a baseline for designing the security measures to be implemented at its national security facilities.

- Establishing the "Center of Excellence for Technology Deployment" in support of our commitment to seek cost-effective technological, training, and organizational solutions to the increased threat, rather than simply responding with an expensive increase in the number of protective force members assigned to our facilities.
- Implementing technology development and deployment efforts that are driving Department-wide improvements in physical security measures, including improved detection systems, access controls, and vehicle barriers to more effectively meet the revised DBT. This supports the strategy of identifying and implementing the various security system upgrades necessary to ensure effective protection against the DBT adversary by the end of FY 2008.
- Conducting DBT Site Assistance Visits to identify technology, creative tactical approaches, and opportunities for the elimination or consolidation of special nuclear material (SNM) to assist field

sites and Headquarters program offices in identifying resource requirements to meet the revised DBT.

- Enhancing the capabilities of the Department's armed protective forces by upgrading weaponry, equipment, and training and by proposing additional improvements through an "elite protective force" initiative, designed to improve the physical performance standards, performance testing, and tactical response of these forces.
- Initiating the relocation of TA-18 SNM and developing plans for reconfiguring the nuclear weapons complex to bring it more closely in line with current and anticipated missions.
- Providing greater protection for the immense amounts of nuclear weapons design data, including initiatives to provide stringent accountability for classified removable electronic media (CREM) and exploring the application of automated electronic accountability tracking systems.
- Continuing to improve security policy and the security policy process through collaboration with the field. A draft set of streamlined policy documents was distributed for comment in May 2004.

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Comments have been reviewed, and the proposed comment resolution will be distributed in February for concurrence. The final set of directives will be issued in the third quarter of FY 2005 following the resolution of any outstanding issues.

- Increasing cyber security performance testing to ensure that the Department can implement effective measures to dramatically improve the protection afforded to its computer systems and networks.
- Striving to improve the Department's security and safety human capital expertise by developing strategies to improve the training and development programs for current and future security and safety professionals based on new leadership and a new mission at the National Training Center (NTC). On November 5, 2004, the NTC was designated as the "Center of Excellence in Security and Safety Professional Development for the Department of Energy."
- Increasing the focus of safety oversight, based on feedback from the field, on the implementation of safety requirements at the working level, providing detailed and specific feedback to help managers improve protection of their workers, the public, and the environment.
- Institutionalizing the DOE Continuity of Operations (COOP) program planning requirements and expectations for both DOE Headquarters and field elements. With exceptional support from the

former Deputy Secretary and other senior managers, the DOE Continuity of Operations Plan and DOE Notice 150.1, *Continuity of Operations*, were issued to provide the requirements for an integrated Department-wide COOP program.

- Addressing the 2004 Security Management Challenge. Recognizing that the security management challenge affected the entire Department, a Task Force was formed that reached across programmatic boundaries to address this challenge area. With the support of senior managers within NNSA, ESE, and SSA, the Task Force continues to be successful in addressing the key elements of this challenge area, to include publishing the DOE order on foreign visits and assignments and issuing a DOE order page change requiring that security be integrated into the capital acquisition process.
- Developing the draft policy and order on DOE oversight to establish implementation strategies for oversight and a foundation for assessing Federal and contractor performance in the areas of safeguards and security, cyber security, emergency management, business operations, and environment, safety, and health. This ongoing effort is a product of a multi-disciplinary team composed of technical staff and managers from NNSA, ESE, and SSA.
- Initiating a new partnership between the Office of Emergency Operations and SSA, capitalizing on improving policy and guidance through oversight. Enhanced oversight has also led to an

expanded series of joint emergency management and security performance tests designed to evaluate response capabilities following events caused by malevolent acts. A special review will be conducted of emergency management and security program capabilities related to chemical and select biological agent work activities. These inspections are an integral part of efforts to sustain improvement in site emergency management programs.

- Fostering a tremendous improvement in the collaboration between the Office of Security and the Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance, within SSA, to assist line managers in implementing effective safeguards and security and safety programs. This effort has resulted in SSA streamlining its own operations.

SSA is very proud to be a part of these accomplishments. We realize that this is a continuous process. SSA was created to place added emphasis and focus on security, with the ultimate goal of working with the security and safety communities to provide unchallengeable levels of protection for the national security assets we hold in trust for our nation. SSA, in coordination with the security and safety communities, will continue to focus on security policy and technical support, safety and security training and professional development, and independent oversight. The strong partnership of SSA, NNSA, and DOE line management will ensure that the safeguards and security community is proactively addressing changing threats and the national security needs of our nation. ■



## Solicitation of Comments, Questions, and Suggestions

SSA welcomes your thoughts about our newsletter. Please send or phone comments, questions, or suggestions to:

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