

New weapons prove successful in Nevada tests

by Navy Lt. David Gai

A new generation of weapons, known as thermobarics, has proven successful in testing conducted by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) at the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

Thermobarics belong to a class of fuel-rich compositions that release energy over a longer period of time than standard explosives, thereby creating a long-duration pressure pulse when detonated in confined spaces. When detonated, thermo-

barics generate higher sustained blast pressures in confined spaces such as tunnels and underground facilities.



Pre-shot view of the portal at the Nevada Test Site showing the target for the BLU-118/B.

A successful flight test of the Bomb Live Unit (BLU)-118/B, a BLU-109 penetrating warhead with a thermobaric explosive, was conducted against a mock tunnel target at the NTS on December 14, 2001. The test culminated a two-month accelerated effort to rapidly transition a *continued on page 2*

Mother Nature makes a tempestuous visit to southern Nevada

by Kurt Arnold

April 15 is usually associated with Uncle Sam reaching into our pockets for tax dollars, but this year Mother Nature upstaged him by making a dramatic appearance in southern Nevada.

According to the Air Resources Laboratory/Special Operations and Research Division, on Monday, April 15 at 11:45 a.m.

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Portions of the Mercury's gas station and fleet operation's roof are blown off due to the high winds at the Nevada Test Site.



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New weapons prove successful in Nevada tests

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developmental explosive to improved lethality against underground facilities.

The December test was conducted with a Guided Bomb Unit (GBU-24) laser-guided weapon using the BLU-118B warhead launched by an Air Force F-15E Strike Eagle aircraft. The weapon effectiveness experiments conducted by DTRA show that the thermobaric explosive outperformed the conventional explosive in terms of range-to-effect down the length of a tunnel.

Recently DTRA received an approval to start a three-year Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration for a thermobaric weapon system to defeat hardened underground targets. While awaiting fiscal year 2002 funding to initiate the program, the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks motivated changes in priorities. On October 11, 2001, DTRA



photo courtesy of DTRA

Post-shot view of the portal at the Nevada Test Site showing the rubble and debris ejected outward from the portal. The test demonstrated the successful and accurate of the BLU-118/B delivery and detonation. (It was snowing when this photo was taken.)

organized a quick-response team that included the Navy, Air Force, Department of Energy, and industry experts to identify, test, integrate, and field a rapid solution that would enhance weapons options in countering hardened underground targets using Defense Emergency Reaction

Funds allocated by Congress to the Department of Defense.

The explosive experts at the Naval Surface Weapons Center, Indian Head, Md., responded with a developmental explosive that clearly provided enhanced blast effects. The Air Force Precision Strike Program office at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., led the team performing the weapon system integration, safety and flight clearances, and produced a modified fuzing system for the new warhead. The Indian Head facility conducted static testing of the fuze to demonstrate reliable initiation of the new explosive. Both static and flight tests were then conducted at full-scale tunnel facilities at the NTS.

The Air Force completed verification and validation of the technical data and operational flight clearances needed to deploy the BLU-118B warhead. Ten warheads were immediately made available to the U.S. Air Force for deployment.

Mother Nature makes a tempestuous visit to southern Nevada

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the wind measured 73 knots/84.5 miles per hour in Mercury. This is the highest wind recorded at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). The high winds kept NTS emergency personnel busy responding to numerous reports of building and vehicular damage, downed power poles and lines, false fire alarms, and several vehicle accidents along U.S. 95. The wind caused a variety of damage to several buildings at the test site, reduced visibility to near zero, and forced the early release of about 1,000 nonessential NTS employees for the day.

Buildings in Area 6 and Area 25 sustained damage to their roofs, leaving one building with its ceiling beams exposed. Occupants of wind damaged

buildings were safely evacuated to nearby buildings. The high winds also caused the collapse of an empty trailer in Area 6 and blew debris around the area.

In Las Vegas, the lights in the North Las Vegas facility flickered throughout the day. Safety precautions were taken to secure secondary entrances and exits to the B Complex to prevent doors from flying out of employees' hands. Employees were encouraged to remain indoors and to use extreme caution whenever leaving any of the buildings.

An earlier tractor trailer rollover accident along northbound U.S. 95 closed the roadway for more than 12 hours as crews cleaned up the cargo of paint and a hazardous material. The cause

of the accident is still under investigation. Several other accidents involving high-profile vehicles and the high winds occurred throughout the day causing minor delays.

For a short time, flights in and out of McCarran International Airport were delayed due to blowing sand causing low visibility. Flights inbound for McCarran were diverted to other airports while scheduled flights were delayed or cancelled. Operations returned to normal about two hours later.

April 15, 2002, is definitely a day that people will not soon forget. To some, it is just another day to add to the rich history of the Nevada Test Site.

Safety Focus

This article highlights the various components that comprise Bechtel Nevada's Construction Safety Program. Over the next several months, a new monthly article will address a different component of Bechtel Nevada's unique Construction Safety Program.

PBSP helps Bechtel Nevada work toward zero accidents

by Jennifer Morton

In an effort to work towards zero accidents, Bechtel Nevada's construction department uses an employee-directed Performance Based Safety Process Program (PBSP) approach to accomplish this goal.

In this process program, peers periodically and with consent, observe each other's safety-related behaviors for a period of about three to five minutes. Immediate feedback is given to the co-worker, starting with what was done correctly and followed by suggested improvements. The observer and co-worker come to an agreement regarding which safety measures to take. This data is then shared once a month with Bechtel Nevada management, but the people observed remain anonymous, coining the phrase "no name, no blame."

PBSP started at this facility in 1994 and used the two highest accident-rate departments, electricians and housing and feeding workers, as pilot groups. After implementing the program, management noticed that the accident rates dropped, proving that the program was effective. Bechtel Nevada implemented this program at the beginning of its contract in 1996 and has highly promoted it.

The Construction Safety Program uses PBSP to monitor at-risk behavior at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). A common observation involves ladder safety. "We look specifically for issues such as the size of the ladder, whether or not it is secure and whether people climb above the allowed step," said **Gabe Kline**, Bechtel Nevada engineer and construction PBSP champion.

The Advanced Testing Line for Actinide Separation (ATLAS) facility, a program that supports the development and refinement of actinide chemistry techniques, will soon move to the NTS from Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. Erecting this new facility is a major project now for the construction department and PBSP observers, who currently make two to three observations a day. Safety-behaviors such as lifting and body positions are monitored as workers pour concrete and erect the new facility.

According to Kline there are currently about 20 construction employees who perform observations several times a day at

NTS, but that number will probably grow since the program is so responsive.

"This program [PBSP] is effective because it is about co-workers helping co-workers, and co-workers valuing another co-worker's opinion," said **Kathy Long**, the chairman for the PBSP Steering Committee.

"It is important to keep people motivated about PBSP," Kline said. To ensure this, safety meetings are held weekly and a core committee, established by the construction department, meets once a month to keep this program strong and efficient.

The Construction Safety Program is not the only program using this safety process. Other departments are encouraged to get involved with PBSP.

"We advise a member from each department team show up to the steering meetings," said Long. Steering meetings are held the last Thursday of every month, alternating monthly between North Las Vegas and Mercury.

PBSP is one of the programs attributed to Bechtel Nevada's current safety record of 150 days without a recordable incident

For additional information about Bechtel Nevada's construction safety PBSP, contact **Gabriel Kline (702-295-6997)** or **David Marshall (702-295-3665)**. If you are interested in becoming an observer for the Steering Committee, contact **Kathy Long (702-295-7895)** or **Yvette Mason (702-295-2509)**.

In the next issue of *SiteLines...*

- * FEMA Director Allbaugh visits NTS
- * Children return to work
- * Corporate Challenge results

This Six Sigma feature focuses on the Process Improvement Projects (PIPs) at the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations' complex. Over the next six months, a different article will detail each PIP, the team associated with the PIP, and the anticipated benefits and cost savings involved with implementing the recommendations of the PIP team.

Personal property PIP saves tax dollars

by Jennifer Morton

The dreaded tax day has come and gone, but there is good news for Bechtel Nevada. The company will save \$116,000 for fiscal year 2002 thanks to the Personal Property Process Improvement Projects (PIP) Team.

Shirley Brown, Doris Burnett (champion), **Trey Johnston** (black belt), **Craig Mercadante, Rita Neal** (process owner), **Karol Novak**, and **Ronnie Sparks** comprised a team that devised cost cutting measures and efficiencies to avoid paying unnecessary taxes on personal property. The PIP team hopes to save more than \$250,000 per year by improving the process for tracking the status of personal property in the Bechtel Nevada system.

Personal property, which consists of 15,000 items, is grouped according to two status categories, either "in service" or "inactive." Items that are "in service" are taxable items and "inactive" items are non-taxable. "Inactive" personal property, items for which there is no intention or foreseeable need for use, are stored at a designated storage site.

A problem arises when an item that was once active becomes inactive or vice versa and is inaccurately reported. Poor notification of property status changes often results in over or under paid property taxes and an increase in cost to store and account for personal property.

Another identified problem is failure to notify personnel on activity status changes. The team devised measures and came up with the following action plan:

- 1) Formally identify storage sites through coding and annotate the property status in the Sunflower Assets System (SFA), an Oracle driven database

- with inventory tracking capabilities that for tax purposes tracks the percentage of personal property in use;
- 2) Code the SFA database to automatically update property status dependent on storage location,
- 3) Educate organization personnel as to the presence of formal storage sites.

A control plan and a property process map were created to delineate the course of action. If everything goes as planned Bechtel Nevada will not have to pay approximately \$274,000 to the tax assessors in fiscal year 2003 on inactive personal property, enabling the utilization of the saved money in other areas of work.

Personal property is defined as the following:

- Capital property with a value of more than \$25,000 (cranes, buildings, some specialized equipment);
- Equipment with a value between \$5,000 and \$25,000;
 - Sensitive equipment (property that is exchanged into cash quickly- Palm Pilots, laptops, etc.);
 - High-risk equipment (property that has export controls because of unique capabilities); and
 - Administrative equipment (desktop computers, calculators, televisions, etc.).

Correction

On page 2 of the March issue of SiteLines, the Vito logo was inaccurately credited to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The logo was actually a courtesy of Los Alamos National Laboratory. – Editor

Sunlight, hot weather, and your health

by Dr. James Collet and Darryl Randerson

Summer is on its way to the desert southwest. The arrival of summer brings two serious health concerns, hot temperatures and brilliant sunlight. Excessive heat can put your body under stress and the bright sunlight can cause severe sunburn.

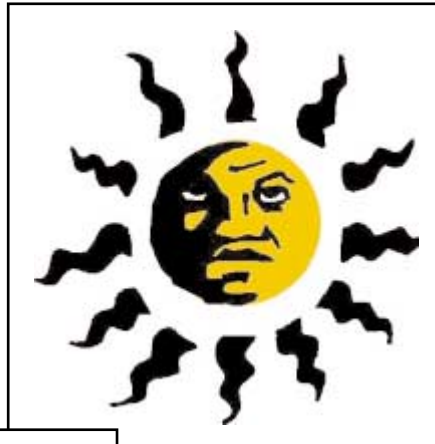
Excessive Heat: Daily maximum temperatures of 105° to 115°F do occur on the Nevada Test Site (NTS), primarily in July and August. However, hot weather can begin in May and extend into early October. Listed below are some examples of extremely high temperatures that have been measured on the NTS.

LOCATION	TEMP
Mercury	110
Desert Rock	112
Well 5B	115
Yucca Dry Lake	109
Gate 510	114
Area 1	110
Area 25	112
Area 2	110
BEEF	109
Area 16	107

As atmospheric temperatures approach the normal body temperature (98.6°F), physical discomfort can lead to physical danger. The discomfort we feel is a warning signal from our body that it is having difficulty maintaining the constant normal body temperature. To regulate your internal temperature, your body makes use of the process of evaporation to cool your skin as perspired water is evaporated. This process is quite efficient in the normally dry desert; however, there are limits as the air temperature begins to exceed 102°F.

Remember to replace any perspired water to keep your body from physical danger. Moreover, as the relative humidity of the air increases, evaporation from your skin slows, reducing the cooling efficiency. Should your body begin to over heat, you must become aware of several critical warning signals of heat disorder. It is worth noting that the thirst mechanism lags behind actual body dehydration.

Heat Disorders refer to several clinically recognizable syndromes relating to excessive exposure to very hot weather. The disorders generally have to do with an overload or collapse of the body's ability to shed heat by circulatory changes and sweating, or with a chemical imbalance caused by too much sweating. Heat disorders strike individuals of any age. The severity of the disorder tends to increase with age. The symptoms and degrees of heat disorders and first-aid measures are:



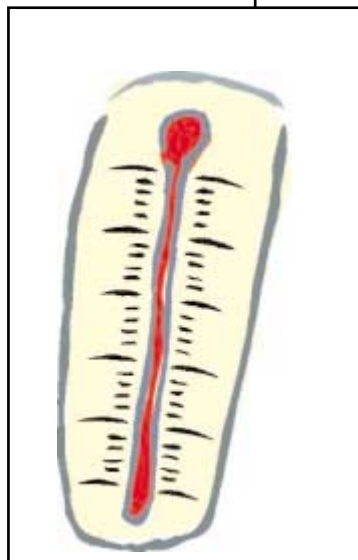
Heat syncope (fainting)

Simple fainting may occur suddenly after exertion in a hot environment. Get out of the heat; drink plenty of fluids; rest lying down in a cool place. Receive professional evaluation at a medical facility. Heat cramps
Painful spasms of voluntary muscles, contraction of flexor muscles in fingers, then larger muscles in legs and abdominal wall. Ingest large amounts of water. Rest in a cool place, massage sore muscles. Receive professional evaluation at a medical facility.

Heat exhaustion
Profuse sweating, weakness, dizziness, and sometimes heat cramps. Skin is cold and pale, clammy with sweat, pulse is thready and blood pressure is low. Move to cooler environment immediately. Loosen or remove clothing, cool down with water and fanning. Apply cold compresses, seek medical help, call 911. Give victim water to sip. No caffeine products.

Heat exhaustion

Heat stroke
Dizziness, nausea, headache, heat cramps, small pupils, and weakness. Sweating stops just before heat stroke. Then body temperature rises sharply, often to 106°F or more, pulse is bounding and full, blood pressure elevated. Delirium or coma is common. Skin is hot, red, and dry. THIS IS A LIFE THREATENING CONDITION! Medical care is urgently needed; call 911. Move victim to cooler, indoor environment. Wrap victim in cool wet sheets or



Heat stroke

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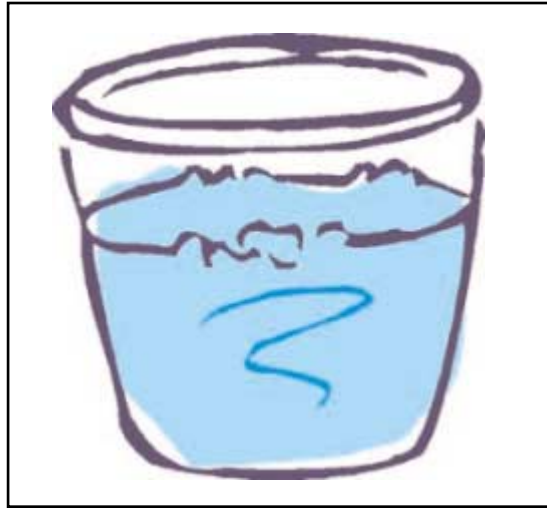
Sunlight, hot weather, and your health

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clothing and fan the air for faster evaporation (cooling). It is not advised to give anything by mouth until stabilized.

Some Safety Rules for Hot Weather:

- Reduce food intake
- Drink plenty of water
- Slow down
- Dress for summer, wear lightweight clothing. Avoid dark colors.
- Add a little more salt to your food, if you are perspiring a lot and your diet permits.
- Don't get too much sun - try to get out of the heat for a few hours each day.
- Know the symptoms of heat disorders and the proper first aid
- Wear a hat
- Don't travel alone. Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Travel with extra water



Fluid Replacement Guide:

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE (OF) RECOMMENDED WATER INTAKE

- Less than 103° - ½ pint every ½ hour
- 103° TO 106° - ½ pint every 15 minutes
- Greater than 106° - ½ pint every 10 minutes

Sunlight: Light from the sun is rich in ultraviolet (UV) radiation. It is this radiant energy that burns your skin. A reddening of the skin is referred to as erythema. Overexposure to UV is thought to be the primary cause of skin cancer, although the disease may not appear for decades.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in collaboration with the UV Monitoring and Assessment Program (UMA), has proposed the Minimal Erythema UV Dose (MED) as a possible index for public health warnings. The biological effectiveness of UV radiation is measured in MED/hr. One MED/hr would cause minimal

redness of the average skin after one hour exposure to UV radiation. If the UV flux is 3.0 MED/hr, the exposed individual is receiving three times the minimum recommended dose.

The sunlight (UV) at the NTS and in Las Vegas is very intense during the summer months. Average hourly solar UV data collected daily at the Desert Rock

Meteorological Observatory (DRA) have been converted to MED/hr. The data reveal that for June through August the UV flux can be between 3.0 and 5.5 MED/hr between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. PDT. During this four-hour period, unprotected fair skin would begin to redden in approximately 10 to 20 minutes. Hourly plots of UV data from DRA can be viewed by accessing the Air Resources Laboratory (ARL) website at

www.srrb.noaa.gov/surf/pick.html, entering the date, checking the "UVB Radiation" block, and "Plot Data."

NOTE: The UVB data in units of mW/m² can be converted to MED/hr by multiplying by 0.018.

Some Protective Actions:

UV light should be of special concern for those who work outside in conditions with little or no shade. Simple protective actions should be taken to reduce the risk of sunburn and skin cancer. These include:

- Cover up with clothing.
- Wear a hat with sunshade or bill.
- Wear sun screens with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15.
- Wear UV-blocking sunglasses.
- Restrict "sunbathing"

For additional medical information, contact **Dr. James Collet, BN Medical Director (702-295-1473)**. For additional information on local weather or trends, contact **Darryl Randerson, Director, Air Resources Laboratory/Special Operations and Research Division (702-295-1231)**.

Beyond the call

LO employee helps with scientific quest

by Jann Bisterfeldt

A Bechtel Nevada Livermore Operations' employee recently helped kick-off the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Science Odyssey 2002. **Jann Bisterfeldt** recently gave up one of her Saturdays to act as a volunteer judge.

Science Odyssey 2002 was designed to celebrate and encourage all types of scientific discovery for children in kindergarten through grade 12. The day-long event included the more traditional science and engineering fair with student projects, displays and wonderful prizes. Included this year were Make and Take activities where everyone actively participated in hands-on, science-based activities sponsored by Teaching Opportunities for Partners in Science (TOPS) representatives and community partners. Some of this year's activities included magnetic attraction, dry ice, and the making of gak.

Next year's event sounds even better. Bechtel Nevada employees interested in additional information on future educational outreach activities in the Livermore area can contact **Jann Bisterfeldt (925-960-2622)**.

Energizers shine at area contest

by Kirsten Kellogg

And the winners are . . . the Energizers!

Who are the Energizers? The Energizers are members of a Toastmasters club that was started in 1996 for employees of the Nevada Operations and its contractors. Toastmasters are an international organization whose mission is to make effective oral communication a worldwide reality. Through its member clubs, Toastmasters



photo by Rick Boster

Jann Bisterfeldt, Bechtel Nevada employee, judges science and engineering fair entries submitted as part of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Science Odyssey 2002 in Livermore, California.

helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking – vital skills that promote self-actualization and enhance leadership potential.

On Saturday, April 6, two members of the Energizers Toastmasters club participated in the Area C-3 contest. **Wendy Clayton**, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations (NNSA/NV), competed in the International Speech Contest with a speech titled "IT Happened" about the power of Toastmasters

in building courage and creating a safe place for members to communicate misfortunes, such as rape. Energizers were represented in the Tall Tales Speech Contest by **Jennifer Dudley**, Bechtel Nevada, who told a story about the winds in Wyoming entitled "Tommy's Roar." Five clubs, including Energizers, make up Area C-3 so the competition was tough, but Wendy and Jennifer were victorious. Both women took first place in their contests and will move on to compete at the division level.

In addition to her first place win, Wendy was also named the Area C-3 Toastmaster of the Year. This distinct award was given to Wendy because of her dedication and commitment to Toastmasters.

An additional award was given to Energizers President **Ken Mitchell**, a retired NNSA/NV consultant, for all of his help "behind the scenes."

The area contest was a huge success for the Energizers. Out of the five awards presented, Energizers took four of them. Congratulations to everyone who participated and especially the winners.

The first Toastmasters club was established in 1924 in Santa Ana, California. Today, more than 8,500 clubs meet in more than 70 countries around the world.

If you would like additional information or are interested in joining Energizers, please call **Kirsten Kellogg, NNSA/NV (702-295-1821)**.

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Beyond the call

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Bechtel Nevada takes a walk for Multiple Sclerosis

by Tamiko Brown

On Saturday, April 13, 2002, a team of 24 Bechtel Nevada employees took a walk at the Howard Hughes Center in Las Vegas, Nevada to help raise funds to find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The team, in conjunction with Bechtel Nevada Corporation, raised \$3,305.00.

The Bechtel Nevada team members were **Shelie Anderson**, husband Boyd, and son Blue; **Ginnia Bills**, **Carrie Booker-Johnson**, **Tamiko Brown**; **Judy Chappell**; **Bruce Clough**, son Andrew, and daughter Rachel; **Joe Dumas**; **Tammy Erickson**; **Dennis Fulkerson**; **Jon Gilleres** and son Jonathan; **Jill Jacoby** and daughter Brynn; **Beth Knotts**; **Kathy Lombardo** and husband Chuck and grandson, **Charisa Peltzer**; **Marti Szramek** and daughter Alexi; and **Yvonne Townsend**.

MS is a chronic and unpredictable disease of the central nervous system that causes damage to the brain and spinal cord. MS produces mental and physical symp-



photo by Chuck Lombardo

A team of Bechtel Nevada employees join other participants in the annual Las Vegas walk for Multiple Sclerosis.

oms that may relapse, remit, and/or worsen over time. There are approximately 250,000 to 350,000 diagnosed cases of MS in the United States; however it is estimated that the actual number of Americans with MS may be higher, because many people with mild symptoms never seek medical attention. MS typically begins in early adulthood and symptoms vary from person to person.

To learn more about this disease there is a wealth of knowledge on the Internet at www.multiplesclerosis.com

Lessons Learned

Field modifications can increase risk of injury

by Dawn Starrett

Modifications made in the field may not conform to equipment specifications. This can lead to serious injury. The following two incidents were reported in March 2002.

A cable retaining hook on one of

Bechtel Nevada's Roll-Off Box Truck was modified and approved for use. As the hydraulic winch system was being operated to tighten the cable, the retaining hook broke and the cable recoiled around the operator striking and breaking the front windshield of the truck cab. Upon investigation, it was determined that the stowing hooks were not pointing in the same direction. The hook that broke faces toward the license plate and was modified to . The broken hook was intended for stowing the cable end, not a load-bearing hook. The stowing hook that broke bypassed the roller that is a load-bearing component on the vehicle.

A Pantex Plant drill rig operator placed

a backout wrench on the tool slot of the drill stem. The drill stem disengaged, and suddenly the discharge swivel, which was located approximately 25 feet above the ground, unexpectedly released from its supporting chains and fell. The drill rig operator was injured when the discharge swivel fell from its supporting chains and struck him with a glancing blow to the head. He was pushed off a work platform onto a pile of sand approximately one foot below and suffered a broken right wrist and an additional injury on his left wrist.

The direct and root cause of this event

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Partnering for Education



This new feature will highlight the programs and activities of the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Operations Office and Bechtel Nevada's partnership with the Clark County School District's Focus School Program.



photo courtesy of Jim Bridger Junior High School

Jim Bridger students create life-size drawings of the characters from Hatchet, the latest book being read by the class.



photo courtesy of Jim Bridger Junior High School

Ms. Paradiso and the Jim Bridger Junior High student council.

Say cheese!

by Judith Lacuadra

Through Bechtel Nevada's involvement in the Clark County School

District Partnership Office's Focus School Program, disposable cameras and a donated 35 mm camera were given to Bechtel Nevada's Focus Schools, Kit Carson Elementary and Jim Bridger Junior High. The cameras

are used throughout the school year to capture various student activities for posting in their newsletters and year-books. Some of this year's activities included:



photo courtesy of Kit Carson Elementary School

Dr. Jim Siebert, News 3's meteorologist, gives a weather lesson and answers questions from Mrs. Marlow's first grade class at Kit Carson Elementary School.



photo courtesy of Kit Carson Elementary School

Derrick Jones, a Kit Carson Elementary School student from Mrs. Marlow's first grade class, conducts a science experiment to demonstrate the principles of a liquid to a solid, a solid to a liquid, and a liquid to a gas.

Field modifications can increase risk of injury

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was that the equipment was defective due to a field repair to correct a crack in the lifting fixture which altered the original manufactured part. This modified configuration allowed the chain to slip from the lifting fixture, which eventually led to the injury. Personnel error was identified as a contributing cause because the modification to the lifting fixture did not match the original manufactured configuration.

Corrective actions taken included requiring the subcontractor to notify the project manager and construction safety personnel when field repairs are made during a project. It may require a further investigation to determine if the rig needs re-inspection or to certificate that the specific repair

meets the manufacturer's specifications.

Both of these events underscore the importance of ensuring that equipment modifications or repairs meet or exceed the original manufacturer's specifications. If modifications or repairs are necessary during the course of the job, the project manager must determine if there is a potential for a change in the configuration of the equipment that could compromise personnel safety.

If you have a lessons learned that you want to share with others, contact **Dawn Starrett**, site lessons learned coordinator (702-295-4297).

Classification oversight review

by Nancy Tufano

An oversight review of the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations (NNSA/NV) and Bechtel Nevada (BN) classification, declassification and unclassified controlled nuclear information programs occurred in early March 2002. The review revealed that all expectations were met, and in some cases, exceeded, and no findings were identified.

Oversight reviews are usually conducted every two years to assess each program's performance. The review team, composed of federal and contractor classification specialists, examined 29 performance expectations and conducted 36 interviews over the course of a two-day period. Oversight review criteria are outlined in U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) orders and manuals, the *Federal Register*, Classification Bulletins, and memoranda.

The classification training programs scored high marks. The review team determined that the training programs for derivative classifiers and unclassified controlled nuclear information reviewing officials surpassed DOE Manual 475 performance requirements. Oversight reviewers were impressed with one-on-one training sessions and additional local training,

not mandated by Manual 475, provided to address the specific needs of Nevada Test Site (NTS) information.

"I'm glad the oversight team recognized that we have an outstanding program in Nevada and that protecting national security receives priority attention," commented **Pat Bodin**, NNSA/NV's classification officer. "We're very pleased with the results, but we work hard at maintaining a good program."

Kathy Carlson, manager of NNSA/NV stated, "This audit proved what we have known about our classification program, it is one of the best - if not the best - run programs within NNSA."

The oversight review made special mention of the annual NTS Classification Symposium, a forum that provides information to the classification community, as part of ongoing training, concerning current and future scientific and technical programs, activities and exercises involving the NTS.

The classification training at NNSA/NV and BN defines classified information and its basis, as well as the levels and categories of classified information for trainees. At the conclu-

sion of training, trainees must describe the general process of identifying classified information and know where to get classified guidance.

"Derivative classifiers (DC) are subject matter experts in all program areas. The training teaches the process of classification, but the training in conjunction with the DC's expertise determines the classification of the material in question," explained **Don Wright**, BN's classification officer.

Trainees must also pass a general knowledge classification test with a score of at least 80%. These stringent standards are what ensures the success of the NNSA/NV and BN classification programs. All documents intended for distribution, whether or not addressing a classified subject area, must be reviewed by a designated authorized derivative classifier to reduce the possibility of an inadvertent release of classified information.

Employees wanting additional information on the classification programs, can visit <http://bnhome/PEComm/Classify/Default.htm>. For information on becoming an authorized derivative classifier, contact **Don Wright (702-295-0412)**.

Counterintelligence after September 11

by Darlene Holseth

Educating employees and the public that threats are real and truly threaten our national security and way of life is a challenge that counterintelligence professionals face. As a result, the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Operations (NNSA/NV) and Bechtel Nevada's Counterintelligence (CI) office representatives have implemented changes to their normal business plan in an attempt to protect employees and resources from becoming targets.

The CI Office's role in combating terrorism is to detect, deter, and neutralize any information that would allow terrorists to target NNSA programs, facilities, technology, or personnel.

The first step taken by CI representatives was to reeducate employees on their mission. The reeducation was accomplished through briefings, guest speakers, employee communications, and updates to the internal CI web page. In addition, more detailed and aggressive awareness briefings on topics such as counter-terrorism, economic espionage, and social engineering are offered to employees. To further the understanding, CI implemented a weekly threat briefing for management personnel. The weekly briefings provide management with information to better control potentially dangerous situations and help ensure the safety of employees.

Next, the CI Office strengthened ongoing relationships with local and federal agencies by participating on the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), headed by the local Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) office. As members of the JTTF, CI discusses threat-related issues with the local law enforcement community on a weekly basis, enabling the CI Office to correlate information not related specifically to DOE/NNSA. Awareness of the distinct potential for collateral damage from terrorists targeting other areas within or close to Las Vegas, provides a greater understanding of the actual and potential threats to personnel, resources and technologies.

The Travel Briefing Program was expanded to better equip employees for official and personal foreign travel concerns. Employees traveling on personal business to a non-sensitive country are encouraged to access Bechtel Nevada's CI web site (through the BN Intranet) to review travel-related information regarding the countries they plan to visit. There is now a CI module to the standard deployment process. Before leaving on official travel employees are now contacted, either in person or via a briefing package.

There are plans to expand the "Spy of the Month" articles on the CI web site. Previously, articles provided a brief biography on confessed individuals or one convicted of espionage. Articles now provide information on espionage agents and related stories on technologies and events that have shaped the history of espionage and collection activities directed against the United States.



"By reaching forward in the awareness aspect of CI, we are able to interact with more personnel on a continuing basis and through this interaction we are able to increase our knowledge of inconsistencies that occur during your foreign travels and conference attendance," said **Darlene Holseth**, Bechtel Nevada's counterintelligence officer. "The Nevada CI office depends on the eyes and ears of employees to help identify and minimize potential threats and it is important you realize that you are the key to the success of the CI program," she added.

The CI office continues to evaluate reports of possible foreign intelligence activity and to educate employees regarding foreign intelligence threats to personnel and technology,

both at home and abroad. Protecting and safeguarding national security is CI's major concern and they continue to address as many areas needing specialized CI assistance whenever possible.

For additional information about Nevada's counterintelligence mission, programs or Travel Briefing Program, contact a CI representative (702-295-7700).

The dos and don'ts of yard work

by Lynette Taylor

Now that winter is gone, it is time to get the yard into shape for summer. Collect all debris that gathers under shrubs and along fences and pick up leaves, sticks, and other natural clutter. It may seem like an easy chore, but beware; disaster can lurk under the brush.

Follow these safety tips to ensure a trouble-free spring spruce up.

- **Limber up!** The itch to get active is great, but remember where you spent most of the winter, indoors. Doing too much too fast can create pain and needless discomfort from muscle strain.
- **Rake before you cut.** Before you mow your grass, rake it to ensure you have collected any stones, bottle caps, twigs or other debris that could become a projectile under the mower's blades.
- **Don't mow your toes!** Give your lawn mower a spring tune up and safety check before you start it. Always keep small children and pets away from a running power mower.
- **Don't wear loose clothing and never operate a power mower in bare feet.**
- **Don't use electrical appliances in wet or damp areas.** Always use extra caution with outdoor electrical tools. If someone sustains an electric shock, turn off the power source before you try to help the person.
- **Store fertilizers, pesticides and other toxic chemicals safely.** When handling pesticides, fertilizer or other chemicals, always wear protective clothing, such as gloves, goggles and a mask.
- **Use a ladder safely.** Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Don't overreach when trying to get to something.
- **Don't fool with fire.** Burning

debris is extremely hazardous. There is always the chance of the fire getting out of control and burning more than you bargained for. If the smoke and fumes from the release of unknown toxins do not get you, the police might as open burning is illegal in many urban areas.

- **Don't fall off the roof.** If your annual ritual includes cleaning gutters, use extra caution. Tie yourself off with rope to a sturdy fixture, such as the chimney,



before working near the edge of the roof.

- **Don't take safety for granted.** Get first aid.

Some plants are no fun to touch

A nature walk on a fresh spring day is great fun for many people. There is nothing like the smell of the forest in spring as all the plants come back to life.

Many times we're tempted to pick a flower or plant as we meander along a budding path. That can spell trouble if you're not careful. There are plants in the woods that can cause nasty repercussions from even a gentle touch. Poison ivy, sumac and oak are only some of the toxic plants awaiting the unsuspecting hand. It pays to know how to identify such plants and how to avoid them. Poison Ivy, for example, is a common woodland plant with oily leaves that grow in threes. The plant

also produces white berries. For those who have the unfortunate luck of coming into contact with poisonous plants, first aid is essential.

First Aid for absorbed poisons

Most poisons absorbed by the skin cause irritations at the place of contact, but rarely affect the rest of the body. The irritation, called contact dermatitis, can include redness, itching and blisters.

Take the following action to reduce the effect of poisonous plants.

- Do a complete body survey to locate all infected areas.
- Flush the area with large amounts of clear, cool water.
- Remove any clothing that has been in contact with the poisonous substance. Do not touch the clothing again until it has been thoroughly washed.
- Try not to touch the affected part of the body to other parts of the body as this may spread the infection.
- Wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water. Pay careful attention to hidden areas such as the scalp and under fingernails.
- Seek medical care for serious conditions that do not respond well to treatment.

Treat chemicals with respect

Before you begin to clean up, take stock of what you are working with and dress appropriately. Rubber gloves will save you anguish from many hazardous chemicals spill or may dump on you. Safety footwear is also a good idea when working in areas where footing is insecure.

When it comes to disposing of chemicals, follow safety directions on any product packaging. If no warnings are evident, keep the substance separate from other chemicals and seek professional disposal. Never mix chemicals in one container.

First Aid for Chemical Burns

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The dos and don'ts of yard work

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- Always begin by surveying the area to ensure the risk of further injury is eliminated.
- Check the casualty for vital signs, breathing, pulse.
- Remove the chemical from the body by flushing the area with large amounts of cool water. If the chemical is a dry powder, quickly brush off any loose chemical before

flushing with water.

- Continue flushing the area with fresh water for at least 15 minutes.
- When the area has been flushed, loosely cover the burn with a clean, lint-free sterile dressing. If the area is large, use a bed sheet. Secure the dressing with tape, making sure no tape touches the affected area.
- Seek medical help immedi-

ately. Monitor the casualty for vital signs and symptoms of shock until medical professionals take over.

- Never use chemical neutralizers such as vinegar, soda or alcohol to treat any chemical burn, unless under the direction of a doctor.

Following these simple safety reminders will ensure any safe and enjoyable spring activity.



Bechtel Nevada

- 40 years *Las Vegas* - **Robert Mazurkewiz**
- 35 years *Nevada Test Site* - **Derek Engstrom**
- 30 years *Las Vegas* - **Donald Wright**; *Livermore Operations* - **Donald Little**
- 25 years *Las Vegas* - **Ruth McGlothen**; *RSL-Andrews* - **Jon Schumacker**
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— Compiled by Tamiko Brown

What items are recycled?

by Al Karns and Dodie Haworth

As Federal and contractor employees, we are required to recycle. Each employee is responsible for collecting their recyclable waste at their desk or work location and transferring those recyclables to the appropriate recycle containers.

Several months ago, Recycle Centers were set up in most work locations. These Recycle Centers include containers for collection of mixed paper, aluminum, and #1 plastic, and space for cardboard collection. Not all Recycle Centers have containers for all four materials. It is based on the individual needs of the facilities where the Recycle Centers are located.

One of the most frequently asked questions is "What items are recycled?" There is some confusion as to what materials are recycled, and what should go into the trash for solid waste disposal. Although we can recycle a wide variety of materials at home, the materials that we recycle at work are more limited. The following is a list of examples of materials that are and are not recycled for each category (not all-inclusive):

Cardboard

Recyclable

- All forms of Cardboard Boxes
- Mailing tubes
- Fed Ex envelopes
- Tissue boxes (minus the plastic around the opening)

Non-Recyclable

- Packaging materials
- Foam
- Styrofoam
- Plastic bags
- Plastic ties
- Spare parts

Mixed Paper

Recyclable

- White paper

- Colored paper
- Newspaper
- Envelopes (with and without windows)
- Post-it® notes
- Scratch paper
- Magazines
- Phone books
- Shredded paper (from strip shredders)



Non-Recyclable

- Facial tissue
- Napkins
- Candy wrappers
- Coffee cups
- Drink cups
- Shredded paper (from crosscut shredders)

Aluminum

Recyclable

- Soda cans
- Juice cans
- Aluminum foil

(A good test to tell whether it's aluminum or not is to see if a magnet sticks to it. If it does, it's **not** aluminum.)

Non-Recyclable

- Shiny silver potato chip bags
- Shiny candy wrappers
- Tin cans
- Soup cans
- Tuna fish cans
- Cat and Dog food cans
- Slim Fast cans (mostly tin, some are aluminum)

Plastic

Recyclable

- Water bottles
- Soda bottles
- Juice bottles
- Salad oil bottles
- Cooking oil bottles
- Peanut butter jars

Non-Recyclable

- Caps and lids from #1 plastic containers
- Frozen microwavable food containers
- Milk jugs
- Plastic wrap
- Plastic bags
- Bubble wrap
- Plastic candy wrappers
- Straws
- Plastic drink cups and lids
- Styrofoam

Plastic recycling causes the most confusion. Currently, only the #1 PETE plastic is collected. How can you tell if it is #1 PETE? Somewhere near the bottom, you will see a small triangle with a number from 1 to 7 in the middle of the triangle. We accept **only** containers that have a number **1** within the triangle.

Number 1 PETE is commonly used to package soft drinks, water, juice, peanut butter, salad dressings, and cooking oil. Usually, this plastic is clear, although it may have a colored tint to it. If the plastic is translucent or opaque, it is probably not #1 PETE.

The caps to these containers are made from a different type of plastic. Discard these caps into the trash. Place all other non-recyclable materials into the trash for solid waste disposal.

If you need recycle containers, desktop containers or have questions, contact **Al Karns (702-295-5689)** or **Dodie Haworth (702-295-0656)**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 14 (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)
Energizers Toastmasters club meeting. Amargosa Conference Room (C112), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Alice Shillock, BN (702-295-5581)**.

May 27
NNSA/NV and contractor offices closed in observance of Memorial Day.

May 28 (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)
Energizers Toastmasters club meeting. Amargosa Conference Room (C112), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Alice Shillock, BN (702-295-5581)**.

May 29 (11:30 a.m., repeated at 12:15 p.m.) (DATE AND ROOM CHANGE)
NNSA/NV's Brown Bag Film Series: "Plumbbob." Sedan Room (A-110), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Jeff Gordon, BN (702-295-1628)** or **Michael Brown, RAI (702-295-0552)**.

May 29
NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

June 5
Community Advisory Board meeting. Grant Sawyer Building, 555 E. Washington Avenue, Room 4401, Las Vegas, Nev. Contact **Kelly Kozeliski, NNSA/NV (702-295-2836)**.

June 11 (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)
Energizers Toastmasters club meeting. Amargosa Conference Room

(C112), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Alice Shillock, BN (702-295-5581)**.

June 19-20
Annual Nevada Test Site Classification Symposium. Nevada Support Facility, North Las Vegas, Nev. Contact **Hilda Guerrero, NNSA/NV (702-295-0178)**.

June 20
NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

June 26 (11:30 a.m., repeated at 12:15 p.m.)
NNSA/NV's Brown Bag Film Series: "Hardtack." Great Basin Room (A-106), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Jeff Gordon, BN (702-295-1628)** or **Michael Brown, RAI (702-295-0552)**.

June 25 (11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)
Energizers Toastmasters club meeting. Amargosa Conference Room (C112), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Alice Shillock, BN (702-295-5581)**.

July 24 (11:30 a.m., repeated at 12:15 p.m.)
NNSA/NV's Brown Bag Film Series: "Buster - Jangle [Part I]." Great Basin Room (A-106), Nevada Support Facility. Contact **Jeff Gordon, BN (702-295-1628)** or **Michael Brown, RAI (702-295-0552)**.

July 25
NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1,

Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

August 21
NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

September 24
NTS Public Tour, open to interested members of the public. CP-1, Sedan Crater, Frenchman Flat, HAZMAT Spill Center, Bilby crater, Area 5 Low-level Radioactive Waste Management Site, Apple II houses. Contact **Brenda Carter, BN (702-295-0944)**.

Declassified Film Showings
For information on declassified film showings at NTS CP-1, contact **Denise Langendorf (702-295-4015)**. For information on declassified film showings at NTS Yucca Mountain, contact **Rod Rodriguez (702-295-5825)**.

Upcoming conferences and trade shows

May 19-24
Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics (CLEO)/Quantum Electronics and Laser Science (QELS) Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, Calif. For additional information, contact

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Conference Manager
(202-416-1907) or visit
www.osa.org/CLEO.

June 9-12
Safety 2002 “Advancing
the EH&S Profession.”
Opryland Convention
Center, Nashville, Tenn.
For additional information,
visit American Society of
Safety Engineers’ (ASSE)
web site
(www.asse.org/annual_con
f_main_text.html).

June 9-13
American Nuclear
Society’s 2002 Annual
Meeting, “The Revival of
the Nuclear Power
Option.” The Westin
Diplomat Hotel,
Hollywood, Fla. For addi-
tional information visit

ANS’s website
(www.ans.org/meetings/an
nual/).

June 16-20
Health Physics Society’s
47th Annual Meeting.
Tampa Convention Center,
Tampa, Fla. For additional
information visit HPS’
website
(www.hps.org/newsandev
ents/hpsconferences.html)

June is:

**Children's
Awareness
Month**

**National
Safety
Month**

SITELINES

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Editor
Kurt Arnold
Bechtel Nevada

Layout and design:
Nancy Tufano
Bechtel Nevada

Contributors:
Kurt Arnold
Jann Bisterfeldt
Michael Brown
Tamiko Brown
Wendy Clayton
Dr. Jim Collet
Lt. David Gai
Dodie Haworth

Darlene Holseth
Al Karns
Kirsten Kellogg
Judith Lacuadra
Jennifer Morton
Darryl Randerson
Dawn Starrett
Lynette Taylor
Nancy Tufano

