November 2008

NNSA Monthly News

NNSA Secures One Of The World's Largest Nuclear Storage Facilities

A major cooperative effort to secure weapons-grade nuclear material is now completed at the Mayak Production Association in Ozersk, Russia, the largest nuclear materials storage facility that NNSA has completed security upgrades on to date. Over the past decade, NNSA and Rosatom have been working on the modernization of security measures at the long-term storage facility.

"NNSA will continue the cooperation with Russia to upgrade security of nuclear material storage both in Russia and around the world."

William Tobey
NNSA Deputy Administrator

"Ensuring the security of one of Russia's largest long-term storage facilities is a signal toward enhancing nuclear security, and shows the continued progress under the agreement signed by Presidents Bush and Putin at Bratislava," said NNSA Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Students in New Mexico's Española Valley elementary schools receive new shoes as participants in the Los Alamos National Laboratory Laces program. See pages 4 and 5 for more on NNSA sites giving back to their communities.

(continued on page 2)

In This Issue

Preventing Nuclear Terrorism

The presidential debates in September and October were a time for the nation to take stock of the two candidates vying to become the next leader of the free world. Millions of people around the country and indeed around the world tuned in to watch. In a post-9/11 world and because of the individuals involved in the debates, security was of the utmost concern.

At these debates some security measures were visible. Others were not. One of those invisible security components at the presidential debates, and at many high profile and important public events across the nation throughout the year, involved NNSA's Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) teams. These teams provide protection against potential terrorist use of

(continued on page 2)

NNSA Secures One Of The World's Largest Nuclear Storage Facilities

(continued from page 1)

Nonproliferation William Tobey.

The U.S. assistance in strengthening security at Mayak, which now protects the largest amount of weapons-grade nuclear material in Russia, is part of NNSA's Material Protection, Control and Accounting program. By securing materials at their source, NNSA helps strengthen the "first line of defense" against nuclear theft and terrorism.

Nuclear security upgrades were accelerated by the Bush-Putin Bratislava Initiative, agreed to in February 2005. Under the Bratislava Initiative, work is focused on five key areas: upgrading security of nuclear facilities, coordinating emergency response, enhancing nuclear security culture, replacing highly enriched uranium with low enriched uranium in research reactors, and sharing best practices.

A joint U.S. national laboratory team, currently led by Los Alamos National Laboratory, helps conduct the important work at Mayak, while credit is also shared with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories for their past leadership on this project.

PREVENTING SMUGGLING: NNSA's Director of the Second Line of Defense program Tracy Mustin joins Roger Van de Bulcke (right), director of Belgium's Inspectorate of Container Terminals, and Michael Van Giel (left), regional director of Antwerp Customs Service, to inspect operational terminals at the port of Antwerp that are used to detect and prevent the smuggling of dangerous nuclear and radiological materials. Belgium's Port of Antwerp is one of Europe's largest ports and trans-shipment hubs. The megaports design covers 10 container terminals.

Preventing Nuclear Terrorism

(continued from page 1)

a dirty bomb or crude nuclear device that may be used to attack one of these high profile events.

Because of NNSA's work on the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, its RAP teams are the nation's premier first-responders to a nuclear or radiological emergency. However, RAP is not just about response after the fact. These men and women help secure major events, like the debates, in order to help prevent an attack from happening in the first place.

After searching an event venue for radiological material, these team members roam through the crowd, incognito, with specialized equipment in normal looking vehicles and backpacks to make sure that no illicit radiological material is somehow smuggled into an event.

February 1, 2009, is Super Bowl XLIII. Once again, NNSA will be there doing a job they do many times a year - protecting the United States from a terrorist attack.

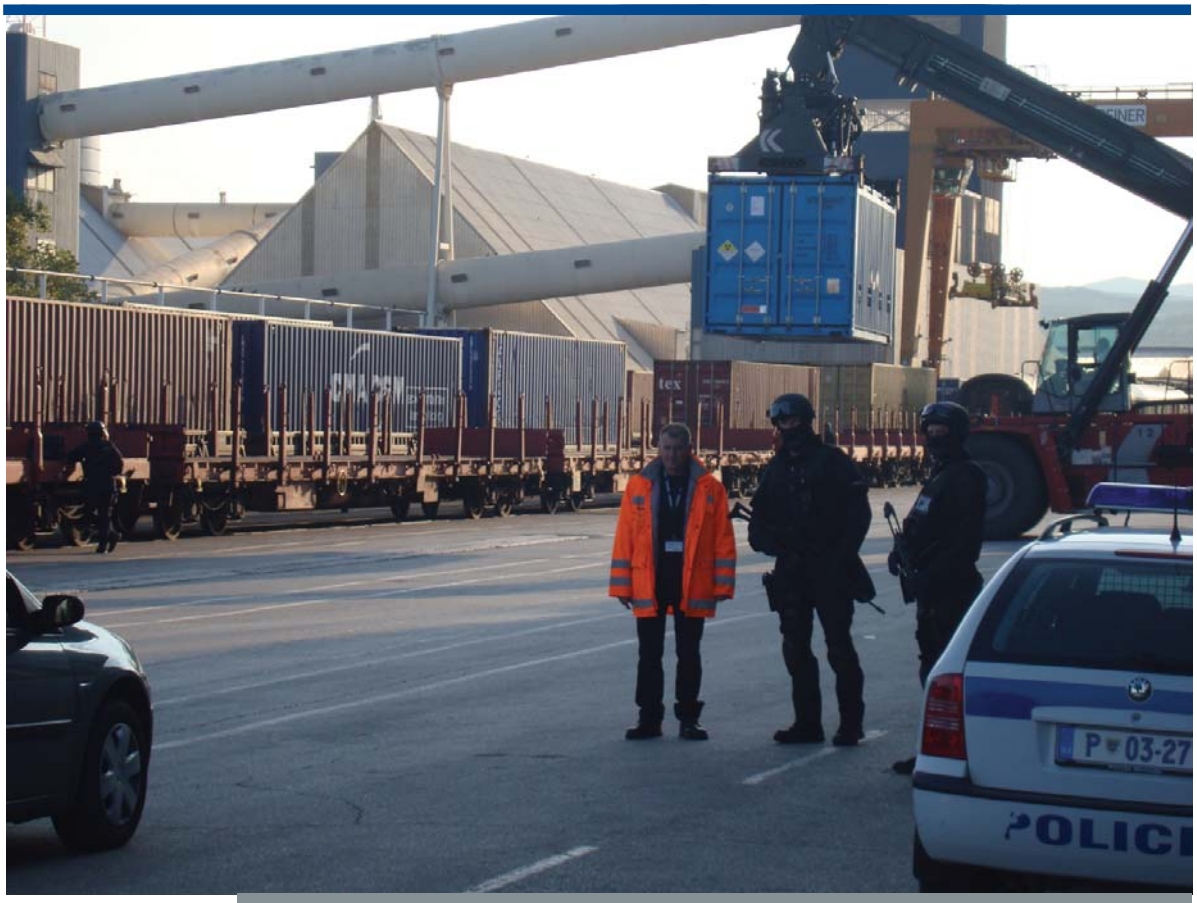
Highly Enriched Uranium Successfully Removed From Hungary

Nearly 341 pounds (154.5 kilograms) of Soviet-era highly enriched uranium (HEU) "spent" nuclear fuel was successfully removed from Hungary by NNSA, and secured at a Russian nuclear facility. The HEU spent fuel was transported by truck, rail and cargo vessel in secret and under secure conditions with the cooperation of several international organizations.

"The outstanding cooperation between the United States, Slovenia and Hungary in removing and securing the largest shipment of spent HEU under the Global Threat Reduction Initiative exemplifies our strong international commitment to threat reduction and nonproliferation," said NNSA Administrator Thomas D'Agostino.

Through NNSA, the United States worked in close cooperation with Hungary, Slovenia, Russia, and the International Atomic Energy Agency, and Euratom to return the material in the most complex shipment completed to date. The HEU was packaged in specialized transportation casks that were loaded into secure shipping containers and transported under guard by rail to the port of Koper in Slovenia. At Koper, the containers were loaded onto a protected cargo vessel and shipped to a secure seaport in Russia, where they were loaded onto railroad cars and shipped to a secure storage site in Russia.

The shipment from Hungary is also in accordance with a prioritized, accelerated schedule developed from the February 2005 Bush-Putin Bratislava Joint Statement on Nuclear Security Cooperation. This specifically called for the United States and Russian Federation to work jointly to return HEU fuel from U.S. and Soviet-designed research reactors in other countries and to take other steps to reduce the threat of nuclear terrorism.



HUNGARY SHIPMENT: NNSA experts and Slovenian security oversee the unloading of highly enriched uranium from a secure train onto a ship for further transport to Russia.

With the successful completion of this shipment, the United States has helped return a total of approximately 1,685 pounds (765 kilograms) of Russian-origin HEU fuel from Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Libya, Uzbekistan, Poland, Germany, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Vietnam and Hungary.

NNSA Makes a Difference

As the holiday season approaches, NNSA sites continue their long-standing efforts to reach out to local communities and to the less fortunate.

Each site has found a variety of innovative ways to engage and support the community during the holidays and throughout the year.

Some of the different ways that the NNSA site offices participate in these activities are captured here.

THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING: Employees of NNSA's Y-12 National Security Complex serve breakfast at the Volunteer Ministry Center as part of Y-12's annual Volunteer Day.

Y-12 National Security Complex Managers 'Earn' The Right To Serve

During the recent United Way kickoff, a coin collection competition was held between B&W Y-12 vice presidents at the Y-12 National Security Complex.

The two managers garnering the most coins earned the privilege of serving a meal at the Volunteer Ministry Center, a day shelter for the homeless in Knoxville. A total of $1,156.29 was collected in jugs, and Senior Vice President for Transformation and Projects John Howanitz and Vice President for Programs and Quality Bill Reis took top donations.

The remaining vice presidents earned positions in the cafeteria as tray carriers working for tips to benefit the Y-12 United Way campaign.

Los Alamos National Laboratory - Working To Help New Mexico Families

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and its management, Los Alamos National Security, LLC annually contribute several million dollars in community outreach and giving, including participating in school supply drives to collect and distribute school supplies and purchase new shoes for at-risk elementary school children in the LANL Laces program.

Employees also donate turkeys and other non-perishable food during the Take A Turkey to Work and Food Donation Drive, providing Thanksgiving meals to more than 500 families in need. Holiday Gift Tags and Adopt-a-Family Program, a partnership between the laboratory and the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department helps more than 1,000 children, seniors, and families during the holiday season.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Makes The Holidays Brighter

In addition to education outreach, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) coordinates several charitable programs that serve the surrounding areas. Each year, "Brighter Holidays" collects donations of clothes, toys and food for local families in need to make their holidays better. More than 5,000 low income individuals benefit from this program.

In Local Communities

B&W Pantex Gives Back To Community

B&W Pantex and its employees give back to Amarillo and the surrounding area by serving as leaders and volunteers in the community, schools and nonprofit organizations.

B&W Pantex held a very successful United Way campaign in FY 2008, with more than $570,000 in pledges and increased leadership givers by 27 percent.

Pantexans have supported the Pantex Christmas Project for the past 53 years by adopting angels and providing food and clothing for local families.

B&W Pantex provided funding for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for a local senior citizens center, a Christmas party for the local veterans home, meals for the residents of the local Ronald McDonald House, a social event for clients of Texas Panhandle Mental Health/Mental Retardation, and numerous other nonprofit organizations.

DAY OF CARING: Employees from NNSA's Service Center participate in an annual *Day of Caring,* volunteering their time at several projects. A project this year included staining a ceremonial site structure at the Albuquerque Indian Center. Helping with this effort are (left to right) Elaine Duran, Denise Trujillo and Emily Sanchez.

Strengthening Our Communities Year Round

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is one way NNSA employees at headquarters and in the field can support thousands of worthy charities. The collaborative effort that is shown around the complex to make a difference in the community, whether individual, collectively, or by donating through CFC, are all great strides that go a long way.

NNSA sites work year round to help their local residents. These efforts have earned recognition from various charitable organizations for many NNSA sites and site offices. For example, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has been recognized as the leading fundraiser in the Greater Bay Area for the American Cancer Society, as well as the largest Northern California donor to the annual American Red Cross blood drive.

The United States is a nation of diverse, unique communities, and in many ways NNSA sites are as strong as the communities that host them. In this month of giving thanks, thousands of NNSA employees and contractors follow President Bush's encouragement to Americans to make a difference in other people's lives. It is that service to others that strengthens NNSA's communities.

GIVING BACK: Pantex Plant volunteers help families carry gilfts to their cars following a family Christmas party that was given at the local veterans' home.

World Institute For Nuclear Safety

At the annual International Atomic Energy Agency general conference in Vienna, Austria, Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman participated in the announcement of a new organization that will help strengthen the practices surrounding physical protection and security of nuclear and radioactive materials and facilities worldwide. The World Institute for Nuclear Security (WINS) will bring together nuclear security experts, the nuclear industry, governments and international organizations to promote enhanced and sustainable security at nuclear facilities around the world.

The Departement of Energy partnered with the Nuclear Threat Initiative and the Institute for Nuclear Materials Management to develop and launch WINS, which will work closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency. In fact, WINS will be headquartered in Vienna to ensure its efforts are well coordinated.

> ***"The World Institute for Nuclear Security will make an important contribution to the cause of nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear security."***
> Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman

"The World Institute for Nuclear Security will make an important contribution to the cause of nuclear nonproliferation and nuclear security," said Secretary Bodman. "WINS will provide a forum for operators and practitioners to share and compare security strategies, exchange information, and test concepts."

WINS will allow the professionals who are responsible for on-the-ground security to collect the world's best security practices for dealing with nuclear facilities and materials and share that information with their peers worldwide. Over time, WINS intends to address the security of radioactive materials in addition to weapons-usable materials; however, its initial activities will concentrate on the most dangerous materials - highly enriched uranium and plutonium.

Bodman also noted that the Department of Energy matched the Nuclear Threat Initiative contribution of $3 million to WINS and encouraged other countries and the private sector to contribute to the effort.

RADIATION DETECTORS INSPECTION: Assistant Deputy Administrator David Huizenga inspects damage to radiation detectors installed at the Georgian port of Poti as part of NNSA's Second Line of Defense program to prevent nuclear smuggling. The monitors were damaged by a cluster bomb during the Russia-Georgia conflict. NNSA's Second Line of Defense program work has resumed in Georgia, and efforts are underway to repair the damages.

Kansas City Plant Receives Safety Accolades

NNSA's Kansas City Plant (KCP) and its partners received an unprecedented list of safety accolades at this year's National Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association conference by winning the Legacy of Stars Award and four Star of Excellence Awards.

The most recent award recognizes KCP's tradition of workplace safety. For the past 12 years, the plant has been recognized as a Star site by the Department of Energy Voluntary Protection Program – a national program recognizing superior performance in workplace safety and health.

In fact, KCP is the only site in the enterprise at which all entities – the federal site office (Kansas City Site Office), the prime contractor and the sub-contractor, hold voluntary protection program certification.

Patterned after the Occupational Safety and Health Administration program, the Department of Energy's Star of Excellence Award evaluates three distinct criteria including; a site's safety goals, outreach and mentoring efforts, and safety performance. Sites that receive the Star of Excellence Award for three consecutive years also receive the Legacy of Stars Award.

Not content with its achievements, however, KCP is taking safety one step further. The plant is mentoring other Department of Energy sites by sharing its practices and knowledge to foster safer workplaces nationwide.

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Sandia National Laboratories Receives Shingo Prize

Sandia National Laboratories' Responsive Neutron Generator Product Deployment Center won the prestigious Shingo Prize for 2008, making it the first and only public sector organization to be honored. Shingo promotes awareness of business "lean" concepts, which improves efficiency and minimizes waste, and recognizes companies in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico that achieve world-class status in lean transformation.

This year's award wasn't the center's first experience with the Shingo organization. In 2006, the center won a Shingo bronze medallion for its implementation of lean principles in its production activities. The 2008 award was broader in scope and recognized the center for its further implementation of lean principles across the entire neutron generator life cycle activities. Going lean was initially about being able to deliver products, but later turned into being able to better meet NNSA's global requirements by becoming more cost-effective and responsive to changing demands in the enterprise.

Sandia National Laboratories' Responsive Neutron Generator Product Deployment Center won the prestigious Shingo Prize for 2008, making it the first and only public sector organization to be honored.

The center's director, Kathleen McCaughey, said they didn't expect to win the Shingo Prize in 2008, but it was gratifying to see lean principles begin to make a difference in the center's operations from the very beginning. The Shingo Prize was established in 1988 by the John M. Huntsman School of Business at Utah State University.

The Prize is named for Japanese industrial engineer Shigeo Shingo, who distinguished himself as one of the world's leading experts in improving manufacturing processes. Shingo helped create and write about many aspects of the revolutionary manufacturing practices which comprise the renowned Toyota Production System. Sandia's representatives attended the 2008 Shingo conference and awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., in October, where they were recognized for their achievement.

NNSA Receives An Honorable Mention In *Government Computing News*

The National Nuclear Security Administration received an honorable mention at the 2008 *Government Computing News* annual awards gala held on October 22, 2008. The award was presented for the Enterprise Secure Network (ESN), selected from over 100 applications, for NNSA's innovative use of technology in securing the information backbone of the nation's nuclear weapons enterprise and to enable collaboration among all NNSA sites.

The team award was accepted by Dr. Linda Wilbanks, NNSA chief information officer, and Wayne Jones, NNSA deputy chief information officer for cyber security, and Goodman Bellamy, ESN federal project lead. "The ESN is not only critical to the security of our nuclear weapons program, but to our efforts to transform the Cold War nuclear weapons complex to a 21st century national security enterprise," said NNSA Administrator Thomas D'Agostino.

TEAM AWARD ACCEPTED: (left to right) Wayne Jones, NNSA deputy chief information officer for cyber security; Linda Wilbanks, NNSA chief information officer; and Goodman Bellamy, Enterprise Secure Network federal project lead, accept the *Government Computing News* award for NNSA's Enterprise Secure Network.

NNSA Receives Diversity Award

Efforts by NNSA to attract a diverse workforce have been recognized by the Hispanic College Fund, which recently gave the agency its "Legacy Award." NNSA Principal Deputy Administrator William Ostendorff, who accepted the award on behalf of the agency, said it was an honor to receive it.

"NNSA's national security mission is driven by the science and engineering talent of our workforce. Attracting a talented workforce means engaging the community and encouraging young people to serve their country," he said. "This is what we hope to accomplish through our work with the Hispanic College Fund."

The award citation said NNSA has provided federal leadership and investment in a diverse workforce by providing time and resources to the Hispanic Youth Symposium and its expansion to New Mexico. The symposium is a four day and three night college access program for Hispanic youth.

NNSA provided a $200,000 grant to help establish the new branch in Albuquerque, N.M. NNSA initiatives, such as support for the youth symposium are part of an effort to become an employer of choice to attract individuals with the unique skill sets needed to support maintenance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile and the prevention of nuclear terrorism.