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September/October 2008 - Issue 133

A publication for all members of the NNSA/NSO family

NNSA, NSTec Highlight Changing Mission for House Subcommittee

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), National Laboratories and National Security Technologies (NSTec) have a vision for modernizing the country's national nuclear weapons complex.



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NSTec President Steve Younger (right) joined NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino (left) in Washington for a media roundtable, which preceded testimony before a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

And now, politicians in Washington have an idea of that vision too.

NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino was joined by NSTec President Steve Younger, the directors of the weapons laboratories and plant managers as

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they recently testified before a subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

D'Agostino highlighted NNSA's efforts to reduce the nuclear weapons complex "footprint" by program consolidation. This will enable the agency to operate more safely and cost-efficiently while meeting national security needs, he said.

D'Agostino's emphasis on transforming science, technology and engineering to better respond to evolving global security threats was echoed by Younger and other managers. Younger asserted that the fundamental role of nuclear weapons deterrence is the same today as during the Cold War – but that changing technology requires a different approach.

"Nuclear weapons are extraordinarily complex objects that achieve conditions found nowhere else in nature outside of exploding stars," Younger told the subcommittee. "They are highly compact and were designed to employ the minimum amount of nuclear materials to achieve their mission. Some of the materials and processes that were used in their manufacture are no longer available."

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Environmental Management

NTS Environmental Restoration Passes Key Safety Mark

The Environmental Restoration group has put in more than one million work hours at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) without a lost time incident – an unprecedented feat.

There are about 90 employees working in support of the environmental restoration project, each of them working in potentially hazardous conditions where safety is always a factor.

The mission of the Environmental Restoration group is to clean up areas of the NTS contaminated by radioactive and hazardous releases from years of nuclear testing and other related programs, said Annette Primrose, Environmental Restoration manager for National Security Technologies (NSTec.) In doing so, employees are subject to high risk health and safety concerns.

“This is a significant accomplishment for anybody,” said Primrose. “But for us it’s especially terrific.”

The Environmental Restoration group faces different hazards every day, Primrose said. Because of this, there is a need for constant evaluation of safety measures.

Brian Konrad, an Environmental Restoration field operations manager said, “Employees actively participate in the planning of the work and provide feedback to help improve our processes. In particular, we rely on the work experience and involvement of the craft to help us safely plan and execute our work. ”

“We have really taken a safety first attitude around here,” added Primrose.

In addition to safety precautions taken by employees, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has implemented a Lessons Learned Program across the DOE complex. The program focuses on incidents at all DOE/ National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) sites and how to prevent them from recurring. As part of the program, a database is published containing case studies from problems encountered at various DOE sites and how they were corrected.

“The Lessons Learned Program provides us a way of identifying and solving a problem before we encounter it,” said Konrad.

The Environmental Restoration project began in the early 1990s. The last time an employee missed work due to a work related injury was in January 2002.

“NSTec has a great safety culture, that builds on Bechtel, the previous contractor’s, experience,” said Primrose. Bechtel served as lead contractor until 2006, when NSTec took over management of the contract.

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Milestones

National Security Technologies

35 years

Aaron Francis

30 years

Anna Lissor, Laurel Sholing, Stanley Durrett

25 years

Lauree Ogiela

20 years

Barbara Johnsen, Fred Wilms, Lance Yamaguchi, Richard Maurer

15 years

Charles Lohrstorfer, Heather Huckins-Gang, Lynn Jaussi, Michael Howard

10 years

Adolfo Guzman, Billy Parson, Cindy Dillman, Damone Williams, Donna Metcalf, Gregory Wandtke, Jeanne Martin, Keith Kaczay, Roderick Tiangco

5 years

Barry Green, James Patchell, Jeffrey Gill, John Gimble, Julius Rose, Kathryn Kimberlain, Lyle McKenzie, Namdoo Moon, Roberto Reece,

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Partners In Education

NSTec Exceeds \$1 Million in Educational Support

National Security Technologies (NSTec) has invested more than \$1 million in education grants and focused science and engineering support. "The outreach efforts take diverse forms, including developing the company's future," says President Steve Younger. "Each initiative supports our strategic intention to develop future technical experts."

"By focusing our leadership and financial resources, we are strategically implementing innovative solutions to create and maintain a pipeline of technical and business talent," Younger says.

Numerous educational awards include:

- \$500,000 for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) to support construction of the new Science and Engineering Building (scheduled for completion in summer 2008)
- \$100,000 for the FIRST Robotics Las Vegas regional competition
- \$54,100 for the Clark County School District (CCSD) Northwest Career and Technical Academy
- \$45,000 for the UNLV Minority Engineering Program and Scholarships
- \$20,000 for the regional NSO Science Bowl competition
- \$20,000 for the Nye County School District to enhance PITSCO science lab at Rosemary Clarke Middle School in Pahrump
- \$19,000 for Department of Homeland Security Scholars and Fellows, U.S. Naval Academy, and U.S. Air Force Academy to support summer internships at NSTec.

Additionally, NSTec supports internships and other programs, including the CCSD Partnership Program. The company teams with two at-risk schools, and manages the annual U.S. Department of Energy's Regional Science Bowl.

In the past two years, 41 scholarships have been awarded in Clark and

Nye Counties, Nevada; Livermore and Santa Barbara, California; Los Alamos, New Mexico; and Prince George's County, Maryland. Recipients receive \$5,000.

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Acronyms

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Acronyms

The following acronyms appear frequently in *SiteLines*:

BEEF	Big Explosives Experimental Facility
CTOS	Counter Terrorism Operations Support
DAF	Device Assembly Facility
DOE	Department of Energy
EM	Emergency Management
ES&H	Environment, Safety, and Health
FRMAC	Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center
JASPER	Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (gas gun)
LANL	Los Alamos National Laboratory
LLNL	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
NNSA	National Nuclear Security Administration
NSO	Nevada Site Office
NSTec	National Security Technologies, LLC
NTS	Nevada Test Site
PIP	Process Improvement Project
R-MAD	Reactor Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly Facility
RSL-A	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Andrews
RSL-N	Remote Sensing Laboratory - Nellis
SC	NNSA Service Center
SCE	Subcritical Experiment
SNJV	Stoller-Navarro Joint Venture
SNL	Sandia National Laboratories
STL	Special Technologies Laboratory

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needs, he said.

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“Nuclear weapons are extraordinarily complex objects that achieve conditions found nowhere else in nature outside of exploding stars,” Younger told the subcommittee. “They are highly compact and were designed to employ the minimum amount of nuclear materials to achieve their mission. Some of the materials and processes that were used in their manufacture are no longer available.”

“Using new materials and manufacturing processes is certainly possible, but doing so introduces small changes into the weapon, the effects of which we can only estimate,” he said.

With a moratorium on testing, and with more science and engineering necessary to test those effects, Sandia National Lab Director Tom Hunter hailed the role of the National Laboratories in helping maintain the nuclear weapons stockpile. He called the labs a “large player” in science and technology advancements, including those focusing on energy.

Younger recapped recent developments in the changing mission of the Nevada Test Site (NTS), among them the transition of site operations from the National Laboratories to NSTec. He briefly discussed how the Device Assembly Facility (DAF), the Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) Facility and the Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF) were supporting those efforts. He also touted how the NTS has trained more than 60,000 first responders to deal with radiological emergencies.

Younger pointed to the need to keep the NTS at the center of nuclear complex transformation to ensure success. “I see no specific technical

issue that would demand a return to nuclear testing, but I also appreciate that science – including the science behind nuclear weapons – proceeds through an interchange between theory and experiment,” Younger said. He addressed the need to “maintain an ability to perform experiments on weapons-scale quantities of plutonium and high explosives; experiments that can only be performed at the Nevada Test Site.”

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NSTec Recommended for ISO Certification in Quality, Environmental Management Systems

National Security Technologies (NSTec), the operating contractor for the Nevada Test Site (NTS), has achieved a recommendation for International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification from Lloyds Registrar Quality Assurance (LRQA). The organization is presented for recognition in both Quality Management and Environmental Management systems. The three-year plan to receive the prestigious ISO 9001 (QMS) and ISO 14001:2000 (EMS) certification was realized one year ahead of schedule, following the conclusion of a registration audit conducted June 16-20.

ISO standards are an international consensus of good quality management practices. They ensure desirable characteristics of products and services such as environmental friendliness, safety, reliability, efficiency, and interchangeability.

“This is a tremendous achievement for our company,” says NSTec President Steve Younger. “To be certified by an independent body for excellence in these key areas is recognition of incredible work and progress.”

The ISO standard provides a tried and tested framework for taking a systematic approach to managing the organization’s processes to consistently produce products that satisfy customers’ expectations. ISO 9001 sets a standard for what an organization does to fulfill the customer’s quality and applicable regulatory requirements while aiming to enhance customer satisfaction and improve performance. ISO 14001 includes the standard for what an organization does to minimize harmful effects on the environment caused by activities and achieve continual improvement of its environmental performance.

In January 2007, NSTec established an ISO QMS/EMS Integrated Working Group to implement the plan, establish a schedule and prepare NSTec for the certification process. Among the benchmarks the group achieved within the past 18 months were:

- Developing and reviewing the ISO Charter and Implementation Plan
- Receive extensive training on ISO assessment
- Schedule and monitor ISO awareness training
- Perform an internal baseline management assessment
- Perform a gap analysis of ISO to NSTec program requirements
- Actively participate in the Lloyds Registrar Quality Assurance (LRQA) Assessment
- Develop and deliver an ISO awareness briefing to all employees.

Steve Mellington, acting manager of the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office, applauded NSTec's efforts as an important step to ensure the completion of company commitments. "I want to congratulate (NSTec) for the extraordinary job they've done to reach this significant achievement within the ISO community," he says.

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Wackenhut Recertifies Star Status in DOE Protection Program

Wackenhut Services, Inc. Nevada (WSI-NV) has been awarded its second recertification in the U.S. Department of Energy Voluntary Protection Program (DOE VPP). "This is a prestigious honor for the Nevada Test Site (NTS) security contractor," says Xavier Aponte, Nevada Site Office (NSO) VPP manager, "and the NSO is pleased for their success."

A DOE headquarters team visited NTS for the evaluation. The program highlights worker health and safety. Activities included safety and health program reviews, employee interviews, and walk-throughs of several WSI-NV work locations to recertify the company at the highest level as a STAR participant.

WSI-NV received its first STAR certification in 2000. It now held the status for eight consecutive years – the longest of any security contractor in the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) complex.

"The WSI-Nevada Team commitment to excellence in worker health and safety is much more than a DOE VPP certificate and flag that recognizes this achievement; it is, without question, the demonstration of performance excellence in a program by employees, for employees," says WSI-NV General Manager Dave Bradley.

The DOE created the VPP in January 1994 to recognize and encourage excellence in occupational safety and health protection. The program closely parallels the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) VPP.

DOE-VPP also includes coverage of radiation protection/nuclear safety and

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emergency management because of the type and complexity of DOE facilities. Much like the OSHA program, DOE-VPP provides several proven benefits to participating sites, including improved labor/management relations, reduced workplace injuries and illnesses, increased employee involvement, improved morale, reduced absenteeism, and public recognition.

The DOE-VPP has three levels of recognition: STAR, MERIT and DEMONSTRATION. Contractors whose programs meet the requirements for outstanding safety and health programs receive STAR recognition. Contractors with highly effective programs who commit themselves to attain STAR status within a five-year period receive MERIT recognition. DOE uses the DEMONSTRATION program to recognize existing achievements in unusual situations about which more information is needed before approval requirements for the STAR program are determined.

According to Aponte, the VPP is designed around five basic elements, or tenets:

- Management/leadership
- Employee involvement
- Worksite analysis
- Hazard prevention and control
- Safety and health training.

“Contractors that choose to apply to the VPP must develop robust safety and health management systems and demonstrate effective implementation of safety and health procedures. These contractors are subject to frequent DOE reviews,” Aponte says. STAR sites are reevaluated every three years; MERIT and DEMONSTRATION sites are evaluated annually.

“Certification in the VPP represents that a company has maintained injury and incident rates below national industry averages, developed outstanding worker safety and health programs and has a strong commitment to safety in accordance with the five tenets,” Aponte says.

WSI-NV entered the program at the STAR level in November 2000 and had its first STAR recertification in December 2003. WSI-NV is currently one of only two NNSA VPP contractors and the only NNSA security contractor in the program. The other NNSA VPP contractor is Honeywell Federal Manufacturing and Technologies, LLC which manages and operates the Kansas City Plant. They entered the program at the STAR level in March 1996.

“The expectations in VPP are that STAR contractors are performing above and beyond established regulatory requirements,” Aponte says. “That puts WSI-NV in a very elite group.”

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Roadrunner '08 Exercise Deemed a Success

Post-exercise reports indicate Nevada Test Site (NTS) emergency response personnel, along with local area first responders and other National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) assets, successfully executed the RoadRunner '08 Emergency Preparedness Exercise conducted in April.

The exercise gave off-site responders a rare opportunity to work with NTS responders to validate their ability to support a test site emergency.

"This exercise demonstrated that we can work effectively with our off-site counterparts to mitigate complex emergencies occurring at the Nevada Test Site," says Rob Mignard of NNSA, lead controller in the Emergency Operations Center.

The complex full-participation exercise required 12 months of planning and preparation. It was conducted in eight hours and involved more than 30 participating units, says lead exercise planner David Stuhan, National Security Technologies (NSTec).

"Off-site responders did a great job supporting response efforts throughout the exercise and demonstrated the need for maintaining strong mutual-aid partnerships," Stuhan says.

RoadRunner was one of seven emergency preparedness exercises conducted by the Emergency Services and Operations Support (ESOS) Division since October 2007. The simulation involved a transportation accident on the NTS with the release of chemical and radiological materials. The scenario created additional complexities for responders.

Performance goals were set by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) guidelines and NTS site-specific criteria. The exercise evaluation and analysis report was then documented and entered into a corrective action database.

Stuhan says the success of the exercise required high performance on 12 of the 13 goals.

“The findings during the exercise truly offer the chance to make some great improvements to our on-site Emergency Response Organization (ERO) capabilities. This will allow the ERO to continue being at a high-level of preparedness and ready to respond to any emergency on the NTS,” Stuhan says.

Off-site participants included: DOE/NNSA/Nevada Site Office Headquarters, Nye County Emergency Medical Service and Emergency Operations Center, Pahrump Valley Fire and Rescue, Nellis Air Force Base, Creech Air Force Base, Mercy Air, Mountain View Hospital, Centennial Hills Hospital, State of Nevada Emergency Operations Center, Medic West Ambulance, American Medical Response and Argonne National Laboratory, acting as mock news media.

The DOE/ NNSA/NSO conducts a full participation emergency preparedness exercise every three years and invites off-site response organizations to participate.

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NTS Security Upgrades in Full Swing

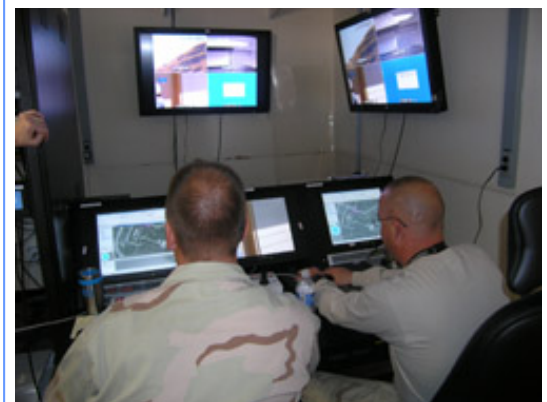
NTS takes 21st century technology lead

From 1992 to 2004 the Nevada Test Site (NTS) sat underutilized. A moratorium had eliminated the primary mission of the NTS – underground nuclear testing. The stringent security requirements needed to safeguard operations would go a decade without upgrades or improvements.



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The ACAVII unit, or Advanced Concept Armored Vehicle Model II, currently is in use at the NTS.



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Members of the WSI-NV Protective Force train on the Long Range Radar System at NTS.

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But in 2004, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) tasked the Nevada Site Office with a new nuclear materials mission. "Our security infrastructure had not been addressed in 10 years. We had 120 guards, a new mission with expansion on the horizon, and 18 months to prepare," recalls Stephen Scott, NNSA technical security engineer. "When the mission started earlier than planned, we knew we were beginning at a deficit."

NNSA worked with Wackenhut Services Inc. (WSI-NV) to train a significant number of new security force specialists. But Scott recognized this was a unique opportunity to examine the use of new technologies to enhance security at perhaps a lower cost, but more importantly, to ensure the survivability and success of protective forces.

"We saw it as a chance to look 'outside the box' and embrace security technology to achieve our goals through integration with security forces and programs," Scott says.

The result was a five-year plan to introduce a host of new technologies at the Device Assembly Facility (DAF). While Scott and WSI-NV engineers found quite a number of available technologies, only a select group of 22 was chosen to upgrade the security infrastructure. Work began in earnest in 2005 and continues today.

"There was an incredible array of technologies available through our National Laboratories, but it was selective shopping. We had to identify systems that could be integrated with our overall defensive strategy," Scott says.

State-of-the-art surveillance, detection and weapons equipment upgrades were selected. Scott says some of the new technologies are in use while others are part of future site security upgrades scheduled for completion by 2010. WSI-NV personnel are constantly training on the new devices as they are ready for deployment. Having WSI-NV engineers and technicians installing the new equipment facilitates the seamless transition, Scott says.

“This creates an excellent cooperative relationship,” he explains. “WSI-NV has intimate knowledge of defensive strategies, effective joint operations and responsibility for our security.”

Additionally, NNSA and WSI-NV created the Technology Deployment Integration Center (TDIC) at Building 114 in Mercury. The facility is accessible to both vendors and laboratories for field testing and new system debugging before deployment. It provides an ideal environment for technical and operator training while enabling display and functionality to users.

“With all of these improvements, we’re actually providing our protective force the tools they need to guarantee their success against any adversary. It’s the survivability factor,” Scott says. “Knowing they have what it takes to support their efforts, they’ll work that much harder to keep our site and sensitive facilities secure.”

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DAF Upgrades Facilitate JASPER Mission

The Device Assembly Facility (DAF) at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) recently has undergone an upgrade that will enhance the site's stockpile stewardship role.

The DAF has been fitted with the capability to assemble targets for the Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) facility. Previously targets were assembled at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and shipped to NTS for testing.

Richard Higgs, program leader of the Joint Nevada Program Office (JNPO), says the assembly of plutonium targets using a "glovebox" is the first time that such a technique has been employed for target assembly at NTS. Assembling the targets on-site has benefits for both the JASPER and DAF facilities.

"Previously plutonium (actinide) targets were assembled into a mechanical structure and shipped in Type B containers from LLNL to JASPER," Higgs says. "By shipping small plutonium components directly to the DAF for assembly, materials can be moved by commercial carriers – reducing shipping costs dramatically."

Higgs continues, "Subsequently moving the assembled targets from DAF to the JASPER facility also improves timeliness in the relationship between assembly and the actual experiment. It is significant because it is a more effective way to conduct experiments and it increases the data quality by reducing the chances of the target being damaged by lengthy transport and handling. Some target designs even have a shelf life after completion that can now be met earlier."

JASPER plays an integral role in the certification of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. It provides a method to generate and measure data pertaining to the properties of radioactive materials at high shock pressures, temperatures and strain rates. These extreme laboratory conditions approximate those experienced in nuclear weapons.

Since the 1992 moratorium on nuclear testing, the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) relies on the many capabilities, including the gas-gun technology of JASPER to obtain material properties data. Data from experiments is used to validate computer models. Results are used for code refinement, permitting better predictive capability and ensuring confidence in the U.S. nuclear stockpile.

"JASPER has been used to conduct 80 experiments, or shots, since 2001. Nine shots have been completed in 2008, four of them involving plutonium. The first assembly using the glovebox technique was completed in late June and was successfully tested in mid-July," Higgs says.

Incorporating use of the glovebox at DAF is a significant achievement. This addition required the design and construction of a secondary confinement room within one of the DAF buildings. Within the secondary confinement room gloveboxes were installed, Higgs says. Simply, a glovebox is a confinement system that allows workers to insert their hands through gloves into a box to handle hazardous materials.

Bob Golden, acting assistant manager for National Security programs at NSO, says that "as our capability to handle nuclear material in support of our stockpile missions continues to increase, so does the potential role of DAF in the Nuclear Weapons Complex." The DAF is under constant evaluation for missions work that will provide greater benefit to the Nuclear Weapons Complex. "The configuration of the DAF to support glovebox assembly is an example of how NNSA/NSO, the National Laboratories and National Security Technologies are working together to support important Stockpile Stewardship missions at the NTS," says Golden.

Higgs adds, "The DAF was built for the assembly of underground nuclear test devices. Anything else is considered an adaptation of that mission. The NTS community has demonstrated that we have the ability, intellect and resources to envision something different and enhance the role we have in securing the nation's nuclear future."

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North Las Vegas Facility Set for Energy Upgrades

With the recently dedicated B3 building already in full operation, the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) and National Security Technologies (NSTec) are once again gearing up to prove their commitment to energy conservation.

The energy-efficient technologies used in converting B3 to green status will be incorporated in a series of upgrades beginning later this year at several North Las Vegas facility buildings. Air unit and Energy Management Systems (EMS) upgrades will be performed at Building C1. Similar changes are proposed for other buildings to conserve energy across the facilities, says Raymond Nichols, Zone 3 manager.

Aging air conditioning units will be replaced and automation systems are being upgraded to a more modern EMS configuration of computer software. Eventually all facilities will be connected through one monitoring and management system.

“We began upgrading our EMS between 1990 and 1995, but this will bring us up to 21st century standards,” Nichols says. Like B3, buildings such as C1, A1 and A2 eventually will be upgraded with EMS that can be controlled remotely. Temperatures would be adjusted automatically throughout the day.

The extensive renovations to B3 were designed to Leadership and Energy in Environmental Design (LEED) standards, and the building is expected to qualify for the prestigious LEED Silver designation. Other green features that control heating, cooling and lighting are expected to optimize energy efficiency at B3 by more than 17 percent.

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The C1 project should begin during the first quarter of FY09. Workers will replace some 117 air conditioning/heat pump units – most that are more than 18 years old, says Roberto Reece, NSTec facility specialist.

“Due to the age of the units, the C1 project is a preventive approach,” says Reece. Energy savings there could top 15 percent. “In addition we gain energy management control of the units. We can shut them off when we want.”

Zone 3 maintenance personnel already have started installing electric meters on buildings. The installation of gas, water and electricity meters will help monitor and trend consumption data. Completion of the new system at other facilities will take some time, but maintenance and upkeep will be significantly easier with the new technology, says George Price, NSTec general lead mechanic.

“It will enable remote detection of system failures, pinpoint specific problems and allow for prompt repair,” Price says. Adds Tom Bixby, maintenance superintendent: “The new system also will provide savings and cost avoidance, especially in the area of trouble shooting.”

The technology will be so specific that temperatures can even be set to be raised and lowered, lights shut off and other systems shutdown during weekends or low-use, Nichols says. The North Las Vegas upgrades will serve as the model for other upgrades currently projected for facilities at the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

“The new renovations at other buildings will provide an opportunity to tie all of our energy needs together across the facility. Further, it allows the Department of Energy and NNSA/NSO to take the lead in energy conservation,” Nichols says. “All of these efforts will lead to significant across-the-board savings.”

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NSO Emergency Responders Take On ‘Diablo Bravo’

Members of the Nevada Site Office National Emergency Response Organization descended on Washington state recently for a four-day exercise on terrorism.

Diablo Bravo brought together radiological emergency response personnel from all over the country. The exercise was held in late July in Kitsap County, Washington – home of Naval Base Kitsap and Bangor submarine base.

Nearly 40 people from National Security Technologies (NSTec) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) NSO federal staff were part of the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC). The FRMAC responded to a mock terrorist attack on a truck carrying nuclear weapons.

The scenario started off with a van pulling alongside an NNSA Safe-Guards Transport tractor-trailer rig. Inside the van was a mock improvised explosive device, or dirty bomb, that was detonated by the “terrorists.”

With the attack occurring at about 1 p.m., FRMAC assets had arrived from across the United States by 10:30 p.m. The scenario was developed so that national assets responded from their home bases of operation.

Once on site, the scientist and technicians began collecting field data and generating maps for the Kitsap County Emergency Management Office. These maps, which show ground deposition of radiation, were the primary source of information Kitsap County managers. They used the information to simulate making health and safety decisions for county residents.

According to Bill Suiter, FRMAC director, "The data on the maps we give to the community leaders gives them the best picture of just how their community may have been affected by an event like this. With these maps, they find that many times they may have over reacted when ordering an evacuation."

"We give the people in charge, in these towns and counties, a tool they would not otherwise have," he says.

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EM Group Wins National Display Award

Emergency Management personnel from the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) and National Security Technologies (NSTec) have combined efforts on an award-winning display.

David Stuhan, from Emergency Services and Operations Support, and Nancy Nichols, from the Remote Sensing Laboratory (RSL), created a presentation depicting Nevada Test Site (NTS) emergency crews in action during the recent Roadrunner '08 exercise. The display currently sits in the lobby of the Nevada Support Facility in North Las Vegas.

The display was used during the annual Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group (EMI SIG) conference, held in May in Washington D. C. RSL took most of the pictures used in the display which, along with associated handouts, took first place at the event.

NSO and NSTec received a plaque engraved with the words, "Presented to Nevada Test Site for most useful training product(s) developed by a contractor and made available to other contractors at the EMI SIG Annual Meeting."

EMI SIG is a part of the Training Resources and Data Exchange (TRADE) organization, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters. There are 250 members in the EMI SIG, made up of emergency management professionals from across the complex. All DOE and NNSA sites and lab offices participate in the annual conference to gain information on emergency services planning.

"These types of presentations play a key role for all emergency

management professionals to incorporate new methods and procedures into their own programs, which benefit everyone," Stuhan says of the display.

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