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EM NEWS FLASH

RadWaste Experts Talk Future of Waste Disposal at Recent Summit

The changing face of radioactive waste disposal was the focus of this year's [RadWaste Summit](#), held at Summerlin's J.W. Marriott on September 7-10, 2010. Waste management personnel from around the world came together to discuss the opening of new waste facilities and expanding disposal options for waste generators.

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) waste generators interested in disposing mixed low-level waste were particularly interested in information on a new facility opening at the [Nevada National Security Site](#) (NNSS), formerly known as the Nevada Test Site. Federal Project Director, Frank Di Sanza discussed how safety and cooperation with the State regulator played an instrumental role in



the permitting and design of the unit (excavated to 150 feet wide by 300 feet long and 20 feet deep) that will replace an existing mixed low-level waste disposal unit closing in December 2010. NNSS contractors followed with details on the facility's construction, which is expected to wrap up in five to six months.

New options for low-level waste disposal were also discussed at the Summit. Waste Control Specialists, LLC (WCS), shared news about a new commercial waste facility in Texas that will provide an additional disposal option for sites generating high activity low-level waste (i.e., Class B and Class C waste). Waste experts also talked about the possibility of blending waste to meet the requirements of specific disposal sites, which will open opportunities for the industry as a whole.

Now in its fourth year, the RadWaste Summit welcomed such organizations as U.S. DOE, International DOE, Atomic Energy Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nuclear Energy Institute, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and various waste generator sites.

In addition to expanding disposal options, topics of discussion included landfill technology, federal regulations for low-level waste, and the investment outlook for the radioactive waste market place.

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