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SITELINES

May/June 2010 - Issue 143

A publication for all members of the NNSA/NSO family



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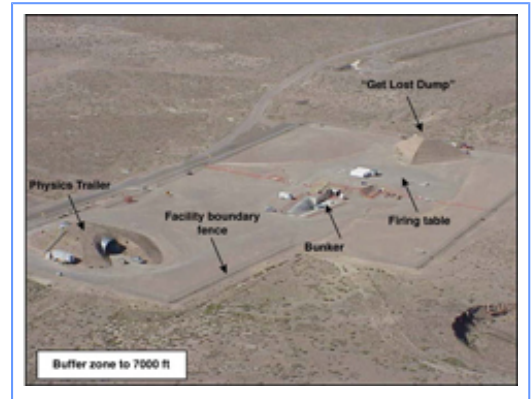
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BEEF's Changing Role to Meet Current, Future Customer Needs

As the Nevada Test Site's (NTS) mission evolves, the Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF) has been revitalized with a series of new experiments designed to demonstrate the site's ability to support more diverse missions.

The creation of BEEF initially was driven by scientists at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) who sought a location away from their Site 300 facility in Livermore, Calif. to conduct large-scale, open-air, high-explosive experiments. The nine-acre site in Area 4 at NTS became a key component of the NTS Defense Experimentation and Stockpile Stewardship (DE&SS) program. It has two bunkers, diagnostic equipment, a firing table, blast enclosures (to place equipment), a full machine shop and office space.



BEEF is the primary high explosives site on the NTS that offers a safe and secure location where high explosive activities with hazardous materials are allowed under the current safety basis. This has made the site attractive to an array of agencies including the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Defense, and Livermore, Sandia and Los Alamos National labs.

Established in 1994, BEEF is at the heart of numerous DE&SS activities, among them the Phoenix project – which for the past five years has helped LLNL produce a high explosive-generated pulse power system. Between 2006 and 2009, six Phoenix experiments have been conducted at BEEF.

But most recently, in February and April, a separate project was conducted by the Remote Sensing Laboratory for DHS to test methods for defeating vehicle bombs. The experiment marked the first time National Security Technologies (NSTec) has carried out an experiment on its own.

According to Peter Munding, the Nevada Site Office BEEF project manager, NSTec now has the capability to handle high explosives independent of the national laboratories, giving the site an added value of conducting experiments for a wider range of clients.

"This demonstrates how BEEF is diversifying, and its reputation is growing throughout the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) complex," Munding said. "Meanwhile, BEEF is very active with the Phoenix series, and we're moving into the Mini Generator experiments, along with the NNSA-sponsored PELE test series. All of these provide a unique opportunity for BEEF to demonstrate its ability to adapt with the needs and requirements of our customers."

NSTec's DE&SS Director Jim Holt said keeping the NTS engaged in important experiments supports the three national weapons laboratories to certify the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile remains one of the most important missions. But, "with NSTec now able to conduct tests, we're better able to

control our own destiny in the Test Site's mission: national security," Holt said.

Among its assets, BEEF offers scientists the use of bunkers initially constructed during the 1950s for monitoring atmospheric testing and modernized in the 90's with high-speed cameras, radiography and sensors that allow them to gather data from weapons physics experiments. In addition to the bunkers, BEEF can now execute shots from a remote trailer park control trailer. BEEF also has space for materials storage and its remoteness gives it the ability to do classified sensitive work. NTS provides a work force of scientists and engineers with a distinguished reputation for fielding state-of-the-art diagnostics on high-impact projects like those at BEEF.



A BEEF experiment.

BEEF is designed and certified to conduct experiments with a high-explosives limit of 70,000 pounds, making the facility ideal for conducting highly instrumented explosive activities. By continuing to increase capabilities at BEEF, the NTS maintains a highly relevant role in the nation's ever-changing national security posture, according to Eugene Hunt, an NSTec Stockpile Stewardship project manager.

"Many locations have firing sites, but they can't do what we can at NTS," Hunt said. "We can handle these types of materials in a secure, safe environment. That gives BEEF added value and a major benefit other sites don't have."

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SPO Robert Ready was honored for 45 continuous years of protective force service, and Lt. Kerry Wisniewski was awarded the prestigious Colonel (USA, Ret.) Elliott P. Sydnor, Jr. Leadership Award, sponsored by the DOE Office of Health, Safety, and Security (HSS), Composite Adversary Team (CAT) program.

SPO Ready started his WSI career in 1964 at the Nevada Test Site (NTS), initially as a Security Inspector, then becoming a Security Police Officer. Highlights of Roberts' career include supporting the NTS atmospheric/underground nuclear testing program, earning him the proud distinction of being recognized as a "Cold War" patriot during an extraordinary period in our nation's history; DOE implementation of the Stockpile Stewardship program that features subcritical experiments in lieu of nuclear testing; Nuclear Emergency Search Team (NEST) activities in support of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, Ga.; and, in March 2000, becoming an original member of a new semi-autonomous DOE organization, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), where he continues today to serve with pride as a member of the WSI-Nevada protective force.

SRT Lt. Kerry P. Wisniewski joined the WSI-Nevada Team in 2005, following a career in the U.S. Marine Corps, Special Operations Command. Kerry serves as an NTS SRT leader, in addition to his assignment as a member of the elite DOE Composite Adversary Team (CAT), a select group of the best DOE protective force personnel that conduct simulated adversary attacks on DOE/NNSA sites in order to test and evaluate site security programs.



D.C. Bradley, GM, WSI-Nevada and SPO

Robert Read



Lt. Kerry Wisniewski (WSI-Nevada) and

Col. Sydnor USA (Ret.)

It is in his DOE CAT assignment that Lt. Wisniewski demonstrated the best leadership, skill, and aggressiveness among the team members during the annual DOE CAT training event. This led to his selection as the 'Best of the Best' on the team.

On hand to present the leadership award was its namesake, Col. Sydnor, USA (Ret.), who serves as a technical advisor to the DOE CAT program. Col. Sydnor, a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest U.S. military award for valor, said Lt. Wisniewski is very deserving of the leadership award; especially, when you consider the winner is chosen by his fellow DOE CAT members and leadership.

"WSI-Nevada is very proud and privileged to have these outstanding patriots on our team," said Dave Bradley, WSI-Nevada general manager.

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North Carolina Tops Las Vegas, All Others For National Science Bowl Title

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A high school team from Durham, North Carolina won the 2010 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Science Bowl recently, besting dozens of the nation's best high schools – among them Palo Verde High School from Las Vegas – in the competition held at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC.

North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics beat Mira Loma High School from Sacramento, CA in the high school national championship match by correctly answering a chemistry question. Palo Verde, which won the Nevada Regional Science Bowl competition held in February in Las Vegas, got off to a slow start before winning several matches down the final stretch.

First Lady Michelle Obama spoke to the more than 500 students and 100 teacher/coaches about the importance of science education to the Nation's economic and technological future.

Members of the winning high school team are Akhil Jariwala, Christian Johnson, Bryce Taylor, Patrick Yang, Alex Yoo and coach Leslie Brinson. The high school national champion will receive an all-expense-paid science research trip to study the ecosystems of Belize in Central America.

"Congratulations to the winning teams and to every single student here who has participated in this year's National Science Bowl, both here in Washington and in your hometowns in the months leading up today," said First Lady Michelle Obama. "We want young people energized in the way that you all are, because we know that American brainpower in science and math has always driven this country's prosperity, helping us make the discoveries and to build the industries that



Palo Verde High School won the Regional Science Bowl to advance to the national competition in Washington D.C.



Palo Verde High School Team members tour The National Building Museum in Washington D.C.

have transformed the way we live and work.”

One hundred five teams from 42 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands competed in the national finals of the 20th annual DOE National Science Bowl. Earlier this spring, more than 20,000 students from across the country participated in regional Science Bowls. Sixty-eight high school and 37 middle school regional Science Bowl champions received all-expense paid trips to compete in the National Finals in Washington, DC.

“I congratulate all of the students who reached this stage of the competition and especially today’s winners,” said Energy Secretary Steven Chu. “America’s leadership tomorrow depends on how we educate our students today and the extraordinary talented students give us great hope for our future. They represent the next generation of scientific leaders, and can be rightly proud of what they have accomplished.”

DOE created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage students to excel in mathematics and science and to pursue careers in these fields. DOE supports mathematics and science education to help provide a technically trained and diverse workforce for the nation. More than 200,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl throughout its 20 year history.

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NvE Daughters and Sons Learn “Ins and Outs” on Special Day

Daughters and sons of Nevada Enterprise (NvE) employees got a chance to spend a day seeing what their parents do for a living during Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day. While many businesses around the country celebrated the day at their offices, NvE daughters and sons were busy seeing the “ins and outs” at the numerous facilities around the United States that make up the National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) operations. Those included North Las Vegas, the Nevada Test Site, and the Remote Sensing Laboratory at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland.

All totaled, 201 children participated in Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day – themed this year as “One Youth + One Dream = Tomorrow’s Leaders.” The children’s parents work for NNSA/NSO, National Security Technologies (NSTec), Navarro-Intera, WSI - Nevada Team, Chugach World Services, the Joint Nevada Program Office (JNPO), Professional Analysis, Inc. (PAI), Air Resources Laboratory, Special Operations and Research Division (ARL/SORD), and others.



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U.S. DOE/NNSA - Nevada Site Office

NvE Workshop Provides “Lessons Learned” Opportunity for Governance Partners, Labs

The Nevada Enterprise (NvE) hosted a workshop for other NNSA site and contractor representatives April 14 at the Nevada Site Office in Las Vegas to share lessons learned in their pilot project to improve Governance between the Federal and contractor organizations across the complex. Representatives from Lawrence Livermore, Los Alamos and Pantex were on hand to listen and ask questions, along with Sandia, with whom Nevada is partnering in the effort.

The NvE is comprised of National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO); National Security Technologies (NSTec), the management and operating contractor for the Nevada Test Site; along with other contractors Navarro-Intera, WSI and the Joint Nevada Program Office (JNPO).



NNSA/NSO Deputy Manager Steve Lawrence (second from left) discusses a directive with members of the JORRB.

Nevada Site Office Manager Steve Mellington and Deputy Manager Steve Lawrence hailed the partnership of Sandia and NvE over the past nine months that has established a process for implementing a new Governance Model using elements of a Kansas City Plant model designed a few years ago to eliminate unnecessary requirements in federal contracts.

The day-long workshop offered participants a look at key aspects of the

NvE and Sandia Governance efforts and discussion of some lessons learned so far.

The group was briefed on the methods used by the Requirements Analysis Teams to identify Federal and Site Office requirements that could be eliminated, replaced by industry standards or consolidated to streamline operations, with the potential to save time and money. Presentations were made on the requirements analysis process, oversight reform, risk management, contract changes and the importance of managing the work culture and communications process. Participants also witnessed a meeting of the project's Joint Operating Requirements Review Board (JORRB), the body that officially approves or rejects recommendations for changes in requirements.

"The NvE Governance Project is undertaking a high-priority effort to identify requirements that are redundant or do not add value to the NvE mission," said Lawrence, who chairs the project for the Nevada Site Office. "We have a Project Execution Plan and a schedule in place, and we're learning lessons every day, working jointly with our friends at Sandia. The purpose of the workshop was to share those lessons learned with our colleagues from other sites so they can avoid pitfalls as they pursue their own Governance efforts."

The initiative to create a new Governance Model began in July 2009 with a memorandum from NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino announcing that Nevada and Sandia would lead the pilot effort. For the NvE, the ultimate goal is to put more focus on mission and make operations more efficient and effective in order to attract new business to the Nevada Enterprise.

To set the project in motion, the NvE created eight project teams that are focused on 12 topical areas of requirements analysis and process improvement. They include: Business Operations, Mission Support Services, ESH&Q, Project Management, Site Operations, Safeguards and Security, Homeland Security and Defense Applications, and Stockpile Stewardship, Culture and Communications among others. Each team is headed by a pair of co-champions – one each from the Nevada Site Office and the M&O contractor.

A Requirements Analysis process is used to determine which requirements must be retained, which ones can be replaced with industry standards, and which one can be eliminated entirely. Subject matter experts help analyze each requirement and shape recommendations. The recommendations are then presented to the JORRB which votes on their disposition. Headquarters representatives are also included in the JORRB decision. "Over the years, layer upon layer of requirements have been put in place either by Headquarters, the site offices or the contractors – all well-intended at the time," Mellington said. "The result, however, is that many of the requirements we're working under are not based in law or regulation and provide no added value."

NSTec Operations and Infrastructure Director A.C. Hollins, who also serves as co-champion of NvE's Requirements Implementation Team, briefed the group on the team's efforts to implement the changes once they're identified and approved.

Hollins cited two examples of how the new Governance Model might work – the construction of two new fire stations at the Nevada Test Site along with repaving of the Mercury Highway, the main thoroughfare for vehicles traveling in and out of the NTS. He noted that the contracts governing both projects allowed for more flexibility in the manner they are carried out. In the case of the highway project, NSTec was able to complete twice as much repaving at less than the projected cost. "We were able to build some flexibility into the contract, and our company's management was willing to assume an acceptable level of risk in order to achieve the desired efficiencies," Hollins said. "It's a good example of how Governance can work."

LLNL, LANL and Pantex participants also gained an understanding of the importance of reaching out to employees to gain their support for the project and their involvement in identifying the areas of their jobs that could be streamlined. Navarro-Intera General Manager Dave Taylor highlighted the efforts of the NvE Governance Culture and Communication Teams, noting key initiatives such as all-hands meetings, orientation for front-line supervisors, Governance news bulletins and other communications materials, recognition programs for the "Heroes of Governance" and promotional materials for the project.

“Our focus is getting people to talk to each other,” Taylor said. “The foundation of Governance is the culture, and our job is to provide the framework and the leadership to improve the way we do business.”

Lawrence concluded by counseling the workshop participants to be patient as they embark on their own Governance projects. “Change is seldom easy, and we know that changing our work culture will take some time,” he said. “Based on our experience so far, though, we see great potential for benefits down the road.”

He offered participants “open access” to what NvE and Sandia have done so far, and expressed a willingness to answer any questions they, or representatives from other sites, might have. Additional workshops are being planned to help facilitate broader understanding of the Governance initiative.

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NNSA/NSO Prepares for an Active Shooter Threat

We hear the cliché, “we live in a different world today” and the news headlines frequently verify this. The threat from an active shooter is real and must be addressed as part of the emergency preparedness process.

Towards this end, the “Active Shooter-10” Functional Exercise was recently at the North Las Vegas (NLV) facilities. The exercise was conducted by National Security Technologies (NSTec) Emergency Services and Operations Support Division (ESOS) in coordination with the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) and the NLV Facilities’ Manager. Exercise planning support was provided by WSI-Nevada, North Las Vegas Police Department (NLVPD), and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD).

“The Active Shooter Exercise enhanced the Nevada Site Office’s ability to provide a safe work environment for all workers. It also improved our ability to interface with the North Las Vegas Law Enforcement community,” said Rob Mignard, NNSA/NSO Emergency Management program manager, who served as the Exercise Director.

The exercise involved two shooters, disgruntled NSTec employees who shoot a manager in the C-1 parking lot. Blanks were used to safely simulate gun fire. Two NLVPD officers role-played the shooters. “Allowing the use of simulated gunfire added a true sense of realism of what an active shooter incident would be like,” said Bill Knipper, ESOS lead exercise planner, who served as the exercise’s Chief Controller. The simulated gunfire triggered a barrage of 911 calls to WSI-Nevada security personnel. In addition, a witness, who also served as an exercise controller, ran into a nearby building and told others about the shooting to gauge the response actions of building occupants.

WSI-Nevada personnel initiated immediate local actions and forwarded the 911 calls to the local dispatch center. The Security Incident Commander deployed security patrols to the event scene. As these security personnel arrived at the event scene, there were exercise participants running from the area along with role players that had simulated gunshot wounds. NSTec employees from ESOS and Counterterrorism and Operations Support volunteered to be role players and pretended to be shot. These role players provided a realistic environment for emergency responders, allowing for a fluid reaction based on actual visual and audible cues associated with an active shooter scenario. “It is important for our professional



Police officers descend on Building B9 at the NLV Facility during the Active Shooter exercise.

community to be knowledgeable in the actions of law enforcement through training like this," Knipper said.

The gunmen moved from the parking lot into an occupied building and continued to shoot victims along the way. The Facility Manager, who is also the Local Emergency Director for the building barricaded herself in an office and made immediate notifications; and, requested an emergency announcement for protective actions be made over the public address system for the entire NLV Facility complex. This initiated protective actions for all building occupants in the exercise play area. The exercise involved implementing protective actions for 11 occupied buildings within the NLV Facility complex, impacting more than 800 employees.

Police officers from NLVPD and LVMPD arrived at the NLV Facility complex and were briefed by WSI-Nevada. Arriving officers integrated into Strike Teams to respond to the shooters. These Strike Teams moved through the building, closing in and neutralizing the active shooter threat, with the sound of gunfire as their tracking mechanism.

"This exercise provided all stakeholders with a better understanding of tactics that will be deployed by law enforcement to mitigate an active shooter threat," said David Stuhan, ESOS exercise program manager, who served as the exercise's Deputy Exercise Director. It also allowed an analysis on the current protective guidance for employees; rapid notification capabilities; and gaps in preparedness levels for employees.

An active shooter is one or more persons who are actively engaged in shooting people. If the shooting ceases or a hostage is taken, the situation is no longer considered an active shooter incident and other tactics are deployed. If the shooter begins to shoot again, then it goes back to an active shooter incident. There have been many active shooter incidents over the last decade, with some of the most memorable being Columbine High School, Virginia Tech, and recently Fort Hood Military Base in Texas. An active shooter threat is certainly on the radar and can happen anywhere in the world to include schools, hospitals, government buildings, hotels, shopping centers -- just about anywhere there are people that can become victims of a shooter. The shooter gets instant media coverage and world-wide attention, making it an attractive motivation for terrorists.

There are many police agencies from around the country that are training and implementing new tactics to deal with the active shooter threat. Multi Assault Counter Terrorism Action Capabilities (MACTAC) is designed to provide standard uniformed officers the training to integrate multi-agency law enforcement officers into strike teams to rapidly respond and mitigate one or more active shooters, terrorist threats, or other violent assaults. The key goal is to "stop the killing" as quickly as possible.

"The exercise was very valuable at strengthening our partnership with local law enforcement agencies, but the post exercise corrective actions will be crucial to enhancements to our preparedness level for an Active Shooter incident," Stuhan said.

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U.S. DOE/NNSA - Nevada Site Office

Economic Stimulus Creates Work at the Nevada Test Site for Small-Businesses

Ongoing work at the Nevada Test Site (NTS) has gotten a boost recently thanks to American Recovery and Reinvestment funds. The money has allowed the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) to expedite and, in some cases, expand environmental work at the site, benefiting contractors and sub-contractors, many of which are small businesses.

Family-owned Controlled Demolition, Inc. (CDI), for instance, has been awarded several explosives subcontracts for work at the NTS over the past year. The demolition of the Reactor Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly (R-MAD) facility was one of these sub-contracts.

"It was a team effort," said CDI Vice President Manager Doug Loizeaux, whose company worked with another small business, DEMCO, on the demolition. "We used a lot of gravity and a little bit of explosives to bring the building down to a level that could be reached safely with conventional removal equipment."

The Maryland-based company, which has been operating for more than 60 years, has been able to sustain its 15 employees with work like this. "ARRA funding has opened up a lot of projects that had been dormant at DOE sites," explained Loizeaux. "This infusion of government funds has helped us and many other small businesses get to work. These projects at the Nevada Test Site, in particular, have helped us immeasurably."

A significant amount of the more than \$50 million in ARRA funds granted to the NNSA/NSO since 2009 has gone and will continue to go to small businesses like CDI. More than 80 percent of the subcontractors used by National Security Technologies (NSTec), the prime contractor for the Nevada Test Site, classify as small businesses. Nearly \$10 million of soil characterization, industrial sites remediation and munitions/explosives cleanup is being conducted by Navarro Nevada Environmental Services (NNEs), which is the environmental engineering contractor for the Nevada Site Office and itself a small business.

"We are fortunate here at the Nevada Site Office to be able to support small businesses when many are suffering as a result of a slow economy," said



Crews perform demolition of the R-MAD facility. R-MAD is one of several Nevada Test Site facilities which supported the Nuclear Rocket Development Station program that ended in 1973.

Assistant Manager for Environmental Management, Scott Wade. "The Recovery Act has allowed us to put people to work and reach our cleanup goals faster and more efficiently."

The ARRA, which was intended to create jobs and promote investment and consumer spending, has served to accelerate cleanup at the NTS. In addition to the demolition of R-MAD, ARRA funds have been used for such activities as waste management, the construction of a new groundwater characterization well, and the demolition of the historic Pluto facility. The NNSA/NSO plans to use the full ARRA allotment by 2011.

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Milestones

National Security Technologies

35 years

Edwin Takahashi, JoAnn Conner, Willie Virgil, Odisey Brabham, Ruth Barge.

30 years

Bette Weigand, James Sharpless, Juan Lucero, Gabriel Kline, George Baca, Vefa Yucel.

25 years

Donald Cooper, Gregory Perryman, Lucille Collins, Timothy Campbell, Jeffrey Wojcik, Mark Fiscus, Mary Karrick.

20 years

Lynn Sitten, Robert Haney, David Davison, Kenneth Shaver, Marlene Peck, Steven Becker.

15 years

Dennis Hansen.

10 years

Alvin Rubalcaba, Donald Bickford, Gary Koyama, Jerald Cradick, William Possidente, Chan Jung, Charles Torian, Craig Marianno, Darlene Hasha, Donald Max, Howard Bender, Juliette Martinez, Kent Marlett, Kevin McNeil, Kirk Francom, Quentin Auekman, Richard Ely, Roger Bernal,

Steven Gardner.

5 years

Alfredo Tayam, Derek Fekkether, Guy Sumption, Jim Stuart, Leslie Maison, Michael Curtis, Randy Blair, Sandra Ladd, Steven Munns, Thomas O'Neal, Alexis Geiger, Cathy Neal, Delmer Sneed, Douglas Looney, Fern Smith, Jerry Bogert, Kathleen Harvey, LeeRAY Robbins, Lynda Mentgen, Michael Milward, Nicki Freeman, Robert Lind, Sydney Gordon.

WSI-Nevada Team

20 years

Richard Shook.

10 years

Earlie Rose.

5 years

Zachery Beach, Tony Carrillo, Christopher Comitini, James Crawford, John Cuellar, James B. Dunn, Michael Fraley, Brandon Gatdula, Tony Godwin, Brian Gonzalez, Michael Holm, Jermaine Lawyer, Curtis Lee, Terrence Lowe, Mario Lozzi, Richard Neil, Zachary Rarey, Neil Sonerholm, Christopher Valenti, Tommy Zavala, Todd Breitigan, Robert Crane, Michael Walt.

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BEEF Big Explosives Experimental Facility

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CTOS Counter Terrorism Operations Support

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DAF Device Assembly Facility

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EM Emergency Management

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EM Environmental Management

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ES&H Environment, Safety, and Health

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FRMAC Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center

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JASPER Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (gas gun)

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LANL Los Alamos National Laboratory

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LLNL Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

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NNES Navarro Nevada Environmental Services

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NNSA National Nuclear Security Administration

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NSO Nevada Site Office

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NSTec National Security Technologies, LLC

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NTS Nevada Test Site

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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

SNL Sandia National Laboratories

STL Special Technologies Laboratory

WSI Wackenhut Services Inc.

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