

**Hanford Engineers Week Committee
Richland, WA**

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELEBRATING SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING IN THE TRI-CITIES

Richland, Wash., February 22 - 28, 2004 – Science and engineering professionals from leading Hanford companies have organized under the Hanford Engineers Week Committee, which is making classroom presentations at middle schools, elementary schools, and high schools in the Tri-Cities, in celebration of National Engineers Week.

By the end of the month over 8,000 students will have come in contact with engineering and science professionals who are making classroom presentations that peak the curiosity of all students.

Today, opportunities in engineering abound and the profession requires a continuing replenishment of the most creative thinkers and most adept problem solvers. National Engineers Week provides activities in which practicing scientists and engineers can reach out and energize the next generation of engineering talent.

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In addition to classroom presentations, students will have the opportunity of entering a poster competition with the theme of “What Engineering Means to Me”, and win \$100, \$50, or \$25 for First, Second, and Third Place respectively.

On Saturday, February 28, engineering and science professionals will put on a hands-on demonstration at the Columbia Center Mall from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Demonstrations will include a variety of equipment such as robots, lasers, manipulators, a Van de Graff generator to illustrate electrostatic energy, and a device that “boils” water and inflates and deflates marshmallows to demonstrate vacuum technology such as that used in drying Hanford’s spent nuclear fuel for storage.

“The activities endorsed by the Hanford Engineers Week Committee are varied, and they open avenues of participation for children of diverse interests,” said Fluor Hanford’s Andrea Hopkins, committed chair. “Children find that engineering can be expressed through art and other areas as well as math and science. Telling students to stay in school and study math and science is very important message in terms of helping them stay on track for a professional career.”