

DOE safety summit examines best practices

Last month's DOE Headquarters-sponsored 2002 Executive Safety Summit, "Safety is Good Business," drew participation from throughout the DOE complex, including Hanford. The summit was designed to define a path forward for implementing safety-management initiatives and applying an integrated management approach to DOE missions and activities.

The event was kicked off with a reception and poster session, followed by a senior-management overview and discussion. Out of approximately 50 posters displayed, four represented Hanford. One highlighted best practices resulting in accelerated cleanup by Fluor Hanford and Bechtel Hanford for the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office. Another featured the work of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory for DOE-RL, and the third and fourth represented the Office of River Protection, the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant Project and accelerated tank cleanup.

The poster on project progress and safety by Bechtel Hanford and Fluor Hanford was one of 15 that DOE Under Secretary Bob Card encouraged participants to scrutinize for best practices that could be applied at their sites for accelerated cleanup and getting work done safely. Safety-summit activities on the second day covered best practices and information-sharing sessions among field office managers, site contractor presidents and laboratory directors. During the morning plenary session, Congressman Doc Hastings of the Tri-Cities discussed the importance of safety at DOE sites. In the afternoon, four panels convened to review progress made in 2002.

One of the panels had six members, including Keith Klein, DOE-RL manager; Shirley Olinger, DOE-RL assistant manager for Safety and Engineering; and Paul Kruger, DOE-RL associate manager for Science and Technology. The panel's topic was "improving the contribution of contracts to the implementation of integrated management and barriers to implementation."

The third day was dedicated to charting a path forward to institutionalize safety strategies, initiatives and best practices and to identify barriers to implementation. The summit concluded with a panel of DOE chief operating officers to roll out 2003 integrated management action plans for each program office.

Summit participants from Hanford represented the DOE Office of River Protection and DOE Richland Operations Office, Bechtel Hanford, Bechtel National, CH2M Hill Hanford Group, Fluor Hanford, the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

The poster below is on display in the 2420 Stevens Center lobby and displays are planned for the lobbies of the Federal Building and 3350 George Washington Way. ■

U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office

Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS)

Using Best Practices...

- Hanford Performance Management Plan**
Leading local strategic planning
- Contract Management**
Proven accountability, responsibility and cooperation
- Performance Incentives**
Rewarding OSHA performance with bonus encouragement
- Voluntary Protection Program**
A proactive employer owned process to improve safety and health
- Worker Involvement**
An employee program to accomplish more work safely
- ALARA**
Leading the way for DOE with the ALARA Center and ALARA Working
- Automated Job Hazard Analysis**
Streamlining the process to ensure consistent quality and worker safety

Results

Improved Project Performance - and - Safety

Fluor Hanford Bechtel Hanford, Inc.

Accelerating Cleanup...

Restore the River Corridor

- Retrieved 600 of 2100 tons of spent nuclear fuel
- Removed 16 million cubic feet from hot cells
- Cocooned 2 reactors; 3 near completion
- Removed 4 million tons of contaminated soil

Transition the Central Plateau

- 56 fold increase in nuclear material stabilization rate
- Removed 15 vessels and 1 mile of piping from Plutonium Concentration Facility
- Treated, stored and disposed of 19 million cubic feet of liquid and solid waste
- Treated 1.6 billion gallons of concentrated groundwater

Reducing Risks • Protecting the Worker, the Public, and the Environment