

'Pocket AJHA' first site-wide application of a PDA

Fluor Hanford has made it possible for work planners to take an Automated Job Hazard Analysis tool into the field and capture the results of their work as they perform their walkdowns.

A job hazard analysis is an essential component of work planning. In performing the analysis, the work is defined, the conditions at the work site are evaluated, all potential hazards are identified, and the measures needed to control the hazards are determined. The most effective way to evaluate the job site is to walk through the area where the work will be performed and note any conditions that could pose a hazard.

Until now, planners had to remember the list of possible hazards and take notes as they performed their work-site walkdowns. Their decisions about each possible hazard could not be entered into the Automated Job Hazard Analysis system until they returned to a workstation. But, with programming support from Lockheed Martin Information Technology, the AJHA software has been adapted to the pocket PC, sometimes referred to as a personal data assistant or PDA.



The program that enables a user to process an AJHA record on a PDA is called "Pocket AJHA." It's available for installation through Software Distribution under "Hanford Site Applications." Any AJHA user can install this feature on his or her PDA — provided it uses Microsoft Pocket PC 2002 as the operating system. The PDA must be "synchronized" with the user's workstation to complete this installation.

There are several different brands and models of PDAs commercially available that will work. However, the Palm line of PDAs does not use Microsoft's operating system and therefore won't fully integrate with the Hanford Local Area Network.

Once the PDA is set up, the user simply logs onto "Pocket AJHA" while the PDA is in its cradle and synchronized, and selects the desired AJHA to take into the field. In the field the user can display the hazard questions and indicate which ones may apply to the job being planned. When the job-site walkdown is done, the user simply returns the PDA to the cradle and uploads the AJHA record to the central AJHA database.

These PDA devices offer a host of other capabilities that will help speed up the planning and administrative processes. For example, copies of procedures can be stored and retrieved in the field for review. A user can review his or her e-mail, record voice messages, electronically jot down notes or make sketches. Some PDA models are equipped with cell phones and digital cameras.

If you have questions about the Pocket AJHA application, contact Miles Jaeger, AJHA System administrator, at 372-3576, or Mark Hermanson, AJHA System analyst, at 376-2257. ■