

Material tracking system leverages core competencies

Dana Jensen, LMSI

A team of technical and functional experts from Department of Energy Environmental Management sites at Savannah River, Rocky Flats and Hanford got together the week of May 7 at Lockheed Martin Services in Richland for a design review meeting on the Local Area Network Material Accounting System, or LANMAS.

LANMAS, an accountability system, went into production at Hanford in September 1999 and is in use at 11 other DOE sites. The system was developed and is maintained by the Savannah River site.

During a 1998 alternatives analysis study performed by LMSI for B&W Protec, LANMAS — supplemented with two Hanford Site-specific applications — was examined as one upgrade solution for the nuclear materials management system.

“LANMAS provided compliance with DOE Order requirements across the complex, but did not meet all of the local requirements,” said Tom Ibsen, LMSI project lead. “Developing applications to meet site-specific needs to work with LANMAS was a much more cost-effective and lower-risk approach. Combined with the fast-approaching Year 2000 deadline, LANMAS was determined to be the best solution for Hanford.”

Agreement coming

An agreement between the U.S. government and the International Atomic Energy Agency, or IAEA, will be signed within the next several months. This agreement, known as a “Facility Attachment,” requires DOE to provide specific nuclear materials tracking reports.

The Hanford Site may be required to begin reporting this data as early as October. LMSI is responsible for developing the software required to generate key reports from the LANMAS system, working under the project direction of Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford.

After the three-day meeting, Philip Gibbs, LANMAS project director for Westinghouse Savannah River, sent e-mail to project team members hanking them for their hard work and ability to achieve a consensus path forward. “When we started this collaborative effort, we knew it wouldn’t be as easy as each doing this on their own,” Gibbs wrote. “The geographic distance that separates us, the different legacy business practices each of us bring to the project, the abstract or difficult requirements, plus other things all work to make this a challenging project. However, as I stated in the management out brief, I believe that being able to successfully complete these types of projects is important to our respective companies and our customer. After the last two days, I have no doubts that we will complete this one successfully.”

Actions completed

While the system design is currently in process for the IAEA reporting capability, several important activities have already been completed including a project management plan, system requirements specifications, technical baseline, developer training and definition of base test data. Software development environments were also synchronized with common use of Visual Basic, SQL Server, Crystal Reports and third-party tools.

Participants in the meeting included representatives of the DOE Richland Operations Office, Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford, Westinghouse Savannah River Co., the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Nuclear Assurance Corporation, Lockheed Martin Services and Fluor Hanford.

For more information on the Facility Agreement, contact Larry McRae of PTH at 376-8100 or via e-mail to larry_p_mcrae@rl.gov. ♦