

# VPPPA executive director visits HAMMER

Paul Villane, executive director of the Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association, toured the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center May 8. Villane was in the Tri-Cities for the VPPPA Region 10 Conference and the annual Hanford Health and Safety Expo. In conjunction with the VPPPA conference, HAMMER offered OSHA fall-protection and homeland-defense training at its main campus

During his tour of HAMMER, Villane said he was especially impressed with the way HAMMER's hands-on props, instructor worker program and union-management partnership enhanced the quality training provided at the facility. He congratulated HAMMER and Hanford Training employees and members of the instructor worker program on being awarded VPP Star status. HAMMER has the distinction of being the only training facility in the United States to have been awarded the VPP Star flag.

VPPPA is a leader in safety, health and environmental excellence through cooperative efforts among labor, management and government. The association works closely with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency to develop and implement cooperative programs within the agencies. VPPPA provides expertise to these groups in the form of comments and stakeholder feedback on agency rulemaking and policies. The association also offers comments and testimony to members of Congress regarding legislation on safety and health issues.

VPPPA member organizations include more than 900 companies and work sites — both applicants and mentors — involved with the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program or the DOE Voluntary Protection Program application process.

In his closing remarks, Villane said he intends to invite John Henshaw to visit HAMMER. Henshaw is assistant secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. ■



**Greeting VPPPA executive director Paul Villane with a handshake is Fluor Hanford's Karen McGinnis, director of HAMMER and Hanford Training. At left is Dave Jackson, Fluor Hanford director of Occupational Safety and Health, and looking on at right is Stephen Brown of VPPPA member company Potlatch Corporation of Idaho.**