

REACH



A publication of the U.S. Department of Energy for all Hanford Site employees

VPP Gold Star winners display their colors

Hanford was the scene of a flurry of safety recognitions when the Department of Energy awarded its top safety award three times in a 24-hour period July 25 and 26.

DOE Voluntary Protection Program Gold Star certificates and flags were bestowed upon the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory operated by the Battelle Memorial Institute for the DOE Richland Operations Office, the Fast Flux Test Facility Project operated by Fluor Hanford for DOE-RL, and Fluor Federal Services. The awards were made in separate ceremonies by Dr. Harry Pettengill, director of the DOE Office of Regulatory Liaison, which administrates DOE's VPP occupational safety program.

Hanford's three new Gold Stars join elite ranks of 18 DOE entities that include Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford and DynCorp Tri-Cities Services. With five of the 18 DOE VPP Gold Stars, Hanford currently has the most in the DOE complex, accounting for 28 percent of DOE's top-ranking safety and health programs.

Initiated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and adopted by DOE, the DOE VPP encourages companies to exceed minimum OSHA safety requirements, provides them with a mechanism for demonstrating excellence in worker safety and health, and recognizes achievement in both the technical and managerial protection of employees.

The Voluntary Protection Program expands traditional safety and health programs by encouraging employee involvement and a partnership with labor to reduce injuries and obtain superior safety performance.

Fluor Hanford Occupational Safety and Health Director Dave Jackson explained, "Companies that commit to achieving Gold Star status in the Voluntary Protection Program must work hand-in-hand with their employees and labor representatives to ensure that employees own the safety and health program, are involved in hazard prevention and recognition, and assist in the continuous improvement process.



Photo by Gary Eder of FFTF Nuclear Training

The Fast Flux Test Facility proudly flies its VPP Gold Star flag. DOE announced last Wednesday that it will take another 60 days to decide the fate of the FFTF, while it reviews a proposal to use the reactor for commercial production of isotopes.

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VPP Gold Star winners display their colors, cont.

“Once the partnership is achieved,” Jackson continued, “and the safety systems are successfully reducing injuries, the company is ready to make application to the Department of Energy. After the paperwork is assessed and found acceptable by the DOE VPP criteria, an on-site evaluation is conducted that covers five key areas: management leadership, employee involvement, hazard prevention and control, work-site analysis, and safety and health training.

“These three awards recognize the performance of all employees in these companies, including those represented by the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council and the Central Washington Building Trades Council,” Jackson concluded.

The drive to obtain DOE VPP Gold Star status continues at Hanford. Recently, application review began for a second Fluor Hanford project, the River Corridor Project. ♦

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		Distribution questions: call the Mailroom, 375-5170
See the <i>Hanford Reach</i> on the Web at: www.Hanford.gov/reach/index.html		
Keith Klein, Manager DOE Richland Operations Office	Harry Boston, Manager DOE Office of River Protection	
DOE Richland Operations Office Guy Schein, A7-75, 376-0413, fax 376-1563		
DOE Office of River Protection Diane Stock, H6-60, 376-4751, fax 372-1215		
Fluor Hanford Editorial office: B3-30, 376-4639, fax 376-5704 Craig Kuhlman, manager of Communications Dennis Cresswell, editor Cornelia Brim, associate editor Sally Green, designer		
Bechtel Hanford, Inc. Sue Kuntz, H0-09, 375-4673, fax 372-9115		
Bechtel National, Inc. John Britton, 371-3677		
CH2M HILL Hanford Group Ace Etheridge, H7-07, 372-8058, fax 372-8036		
Hanford Environmental Health Foundation Erin Weber, H1-52, 376-7879, fax 372-3139		
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Katie Larson, K1-55, 375-3698, fax 375-2221		
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VPP Gold Star winners display their colors, cont.

FFTF's active safety council key component

The Fast Flux Test Facility Project was recognized as the first DOE Class A nuclear reactor facility to achieve DOE VPP Gold Star status and the first of the five projects operated by Fluor Hanford for DOE-RL. With regard to commercial reactors, only Entergy's Russellville, Ark., reactor is a Star in the OSHA VPP program.

"This award shows the world-class nature of the FFTF staff as we remain in standby, supporting a possible restart," said Bruce Klos, Fluor Hanford's senior director of the FFTF Project.

Rick Zimmerman, FFTF Safety Team lead, said, "A key component to the success was the active safety council. The bargaining unit-led council has been in operation for over 20 years and initiates an annual Safety Improvement Plan that guides management and employee activities."

Zimmerman said the review team noted an important theme in employee comments like one by millwright and Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council steward Dan Pitts, "VPP is nothing new to us. Someone just figured out what to call it." Zimmerman also said the team found no difference among answers provided by employees, management and DOE — indicating a cohesive safety culture.

FFS gets Gold Star for strong safety culture

In two separate events for its employees on July 25 and July 27, Fluor Federal Services celebrated the VPP Gold Star status the company was awarded earlier in July. In the award letter, Pettengill noted that "...Fluor Federal Services has established a strong safety culture where both managers and employees share the belief that all employees are responsible and accountable for safety and health in the workplace."

Kent Campbell, Fluor Federal Services vice president and general manager, noted, "The daily focus on safety by all our employees and subcontractors is paying off....But the best reward is knowing people, many of whom often work in potentially hazardous conditions, are going home each day, injury-free."

Fluor Federal Services' 840 employees (including 180 Central Washington Building Trades Council craft workers) provide project management, engineering, procurement and construction services worldwide. In addition to work for DOE at Hanford, Fluor Federal Services employees work on construction projects for the Department of Defense and disaster recovery efforts for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Team effort earns Gold Star for PNNL

On July 26, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory became the first Office of Science laboratory nationwide to receive the prestigious Voluntary Protection Program's Gold Star for outstanding performance in employee safety and health. DOE Office of Regulatory Liaison Director Harry Pettengill awarded PNNL Director Lura Powell the VPP Gold Star flag in a ceremony at the laboratory.

"I am pleased to accept this award on behalf of PNNL and Battelle," Powell said. "This has been a team effort on all levels, from the VPP Steering Committee to all 3,500 employees at the laboratory. Having broad employee involvement is the hallmark of VPP."

During the ceremony, Pettengill explained that the program is a partnership among labor, employees, management and government to promote safety and health excellence in the workplace. ♦

Picture Pages

Native American students visit Hanford



Nez Perce students participating in the PACE program observe fish in a tank at the fisheries laboratory in the 331 Building in the 300 Area.

The Nez Perce Tribe's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Program completed its fourth annual Preparing for Academic Excellence (PACE) education program for young Native American students. This year, organizers of the PACE program teamed with the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to give students an up-close look at science and math in the workplace.

Twenty-six students visited PNNL on July 19 and learned about fisheries, wildlife, material sciences, metallography and radiation. The following day, the students took a bus ride to the Hanford Site's Gable Mountain to learn about the significant role the mountain plays in their culture.

PACE is a two-week summer camp for junior high students. It's designed to introduce students to science, math and NASA-related fields. The Nez Perce Tribe and NASA provide funding for the program. This is the first year that students have visited the Hanford Site for this program.



HELPING WITH THE HYDROS:

The Tri-Cities' biggest event of the year does not take place without Hanford volunteers such as Mike Schliebe of Fluor Hanford and son Kurt, center. At the July 21-22 Tri-Cities Water Follies Columbia Cup hydroplane races, Hanford volunteers in "SECURITY" shirts helped out in the Lampson pits. Others helped with parking, viewing areas and media relations and acted as hosts, monitoring areas around the boats for safety. Hanford volunteers also helped with the air show featuring the Canadian Snow Birds and at the Allied Arts Sidewalk Show in Richland.

SY-101 project a finalist in international competition

The Project Management Institute has selected a Tank SY-101 project as one of three finalists in an international Project of the Year competition.

The Columbia River Basin chapter of the institute honored CH2M HILL Hanford Group in March with its Project of the Year award for the Surface Level Rise Remediation Project performed for the Office of River Protection. CHG solved the problem of a rising crust in the Hanford waste tank by diluting and transferring the waste.

The winner of the international award will be announced at PMI's annual seminar and symposium in Nashville, Tenn., in November. The main qualification for consideration is superior performance in the application of project management principles and techniques. Past international award winners have included NASA's Mars Pathfinder Project and Kodak's ADVANTIX Advanced Photo System.

CHG and the ORP are working to return the double-shell tank to service. Tank SY-101 will be an important staging point for single-shell tank waste on its way to the 200 East Area, future site of the planned Waste Treatment Plant. ♦



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The Tank SY-101 Surface Level Rise Remediation Project is among the top three finalists in the international Project of the Year competition sponsored by the Project Management Institute.

Fluor Hanford CEO's on-site lunches spark discussion

Deborah Dunn, FH

Fluor Hanford President Keith Thomson has begun lunching regularly with employees at far-flung Hanford work sites in an effort to become acquainted, demonstrate Fluor culture and foster interactive communication.

"It's literally a lunch and a chat," Thomson told 18 Fluor employees recently at the Fast Flux Test Facility. He said he welcomes and benefits from interaction.

During his first 12 weeks in the Fluor Hanford pilot's seat, Thomson met with employees at 11 brown-bag luncheons. Locations dot the Hanford map and include the Spent Nuclear Fuel Project in the 100 Area, the Federal Building, where he toured the Emergency Operations Center, the 200 Area, the Hanford Patrol Training Academy, and FFTF.



Fluor Hanford President Keith Thomson answers a question from an employee at the Fast Flux Test Facility during a recent brown-bag lunch. His visit was part of a regular series of informal sessions with employees throughout the company.

The visits typically include facility tours. "I've been to every project now," Thomson reported.

Human Resources oversees the logistics, aiming for a mix of worker expertise. At the FFTF lunch table, for instance, there were engineers, operations specialists, a quality assurance technician, a truck driver, a health physics technician, a secretary, a stock and tool attendant, a reactor operator, a project controls specialist and a millwright.

Thomson emphasized the company's open line of communication, noting that individual problems will be channeled through existing processes such as the Employee Concerns Program.

The FFTF luncheon followed a format that's been established for these "brown-bags": Thomson greeted participants, initiated around-the-table introductions and shared his background and vision for Fluor Hanford. Following a discussion of Fluor values, the rest of the lunch break was devoted to a candid question-and-answer session and discussion period.

"I feel we are all in the right place at the right time," Thomson said, citing his own decades of experience in large, complex projects. His experience with environmental and government contracting spans 37 years, including 10 years with Fluor and 22 with Bechtel. His assignments included overseeing Fluor interests in Europe, the Mid-East and Africa from Fluor's London office; working on Fluor's largest project, next to Hanford, in Caracas, Venezuela; and building a 400-member engineering office in India. Earlier in his career, he was a management consultant for environmental companies, having previously served as an officer with the Royal Air Force.

Based on his diverse experience, Thomson characterized Hanford as the most complex project he's seen.

He cited the Fluor values as the foundations of continued cleanup progress. Safety is paramount, he said. "The corporation does care about each person individually and strives to create a safe workplace."

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Fluor Hanford CEO's on-site lunches spark discussion, cont.

He defined integrity as doing the right thing in the right way for the right reasons. "I want Fluor to stay on this site doing an outstanding job," he said.

Teamwork is necessary for the company to function, so it's in the company's best interests for teams to function well, according to Thomson. And excellence means meeting the highest standard.

He observed that the first letters of safety, integrity, teamwork and excellence, coincidentally, spell SITE. "These are the values we want you to feel as part of the Fluor team," he said.

The question and comment period covered subjects broad and narrow, from ideas on weathering future economic shifts to whether Thomson is buying or renting a house. (He's buying.)

"These lunches have been very well received," said Dom Sansotta, director of Human Resources for Fluor Hanford. "We get a lot of feedback expressing appreciation for the time he took to meet with employees and to listen." ♦

Kaiser expansion on track

Long-term DOE effort bears fruit

The future of the Hanford Site — the one envisioned in the *Hanford 2012 Plan*, in which private business operates side-by-side with federal operations — has become reality in what was called the 1167 Building, a Department of Energy facility until 1999. The facility is now occupied by Richland Specialty Extrusions, or RSE, a subsidiary of Kaiser Aluminum.

The story, however, begins back in 1984, when — in a pioneering effort to provide DOE assets for private business — the DOE Richland Operations Office offered Hanford metalworking equipment to the City of Richland. The equipment was no longer needed for the Hanford Site mission, and the city could use it to attract a new business such as Kaiser to the area.

The equipment included the 4,000-ton Sutton extrusion press in the 313 Building, and DOE-RL allowed Kaiser to lease the building for seven years to build its business while seeking a permanent facility in Richland.

The permanent home Kaiser sought turned out to be the former 1167 Building, which DOE transferred to the Port of Benton and the port offered to Kaiser. Kaiser agreed with the building's suitability and took advantage of the opportunity, thereby establishing RSE as a provider of premium aluminum products.

RSE still occupies the 313 Building today, but it's the company's new site at the 1167 Building that has Kaiser plant manager Ron Walls excited. "Our success in the 313 Building produced an ever-growing need to expand," he said, "but expanding meant that we would've most likely had to move out of the Tri-Cities. Only after the DOE and the Port of Benton offered the use of the 1167 Building were we able to permanently locate our manufacturing plant in the Tri-Cities. Now that we've moved into 1167, RSE can expand its operations and assure a long-term presence in the Tri-Cities."

Community partnership

Walls credits the innovative partnership DOE has with the community and private business as being one of the reasons for RSE's success. "We've definitely benefited from the ongoing support from the DOE, the city, the Port and Fluor," he said. "Looking back on our seven years of operating, I'd have to say that our partnering with the DOE, the city, Fluor and the Port of Benton (which now owns the former DOE 1167 facility) has been mutually beneficial and a good partnership."



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Installation is nearing completion on the 3,150-ton Sutton extrusion press in Kaiser's new plant in the 1100 Area. The new press was shipped from California and should be on-line in October.



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Kaiser Aluminum plans to move this 4,000-ton press, currently in the 313 Building on site, by next June.

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Kaiser expansion on track, cont.

The latest phase of RSE's expansion is nearly complete. In addition to the 38,000 square feet of space in 1167, RSE hired local construction contractors George A. Grant and Whitney Construction to add a 12,000-square-foot high bay to the building.

The physical move into the building and the extension are complete, and RSE is now completing the installations of the 3,150-ton Sutton extrusion press that was moved here from Kaiser's Torrance, Calif., plant. By June, the company plans to relocate the 4,000-ton Sutton extrusion press from the 313 Building to the new 1167 plant. ♦



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Current employees of Kaiser Aluminum who have been operating the press in the 313 Building have been busy preparing for the move to the permanent plant in the old DOE 1167 Building. The new plant will employ more than 70 people.

Magnetic semiconductor spins hope for quantum computing

While the future of quantum computing offers the potential for substantially greater data storage and faster processing speeds, its advancement has been limited by the absence of certain critically important materials — in particular, a semiconductor that is magnetic at room temperature. Recent experiments only hinted at the possibilities. Now, scientists at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory have created a semiconductor material that has superior magnetic properties at room temperature and that may propel research one step closer to realizing the potential of quantum computing.

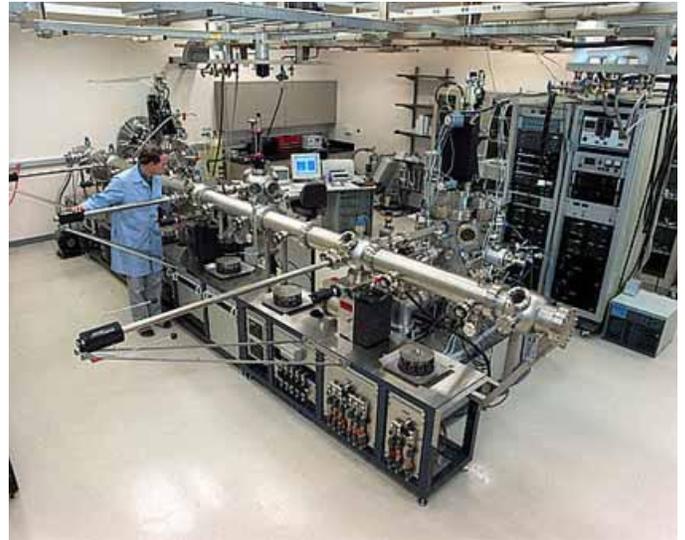
Using a special synthesis technique, PNNL scientists created a thin-film semiconductor material made of titanium, oxygen and cobalt. In collaboration with scientists at the IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, Calif., PNNL scientists showed that the materials required for quantum computing and the emerging area of spintronics likely can be obtained.

"Although other scientists have created similar materials, their films had considerably poorer magnetic properties," said Scott Chambers, a chemist and PNNL senior chief scientist. "Our material has superior magnetic strength — an improvement of nearly a factor of five.

"Our synthesis technique, while difficult to perform, is more controllable at the atomic level, and therefore yields better results. The next step is to refine the growth process."

The PNNL work builds upon experiments conducted by scientists in Japan who created the same material using laser ablation, an effective but less controlled thin-film synthesis method. The strength of laser ablation is that it allows researchers to cover a wide range of growth conditions and film compositions rather quickly when used in what is known as the combinatorial mode. In this way, several materials can be screened relatively rapidly to determine promising candidates. This kind of search by the Japanese group revealed that the material the PNNL team has synthesized in a more controlled fashion has significant potential for the applications at hand. A description of the Japanese research was published earlier this year in the Feb. 2 issue of *Science*.

The current generation of computers uses an electron's charge to store and process information, but this approach limits the ultimate speed and storage density that can be achieved. Magnetic storage, such as that found in a computer hard drive, relies on the magnetic properties created by an electron's spin. However, if an electron's spin can be harnessed within a semiconductor, the potential exists to create entirely new ways of computing and signal processing that will greatly increase speed and data storage densities. The exploitation of an electron's spin to carry information, rather than its charge, often is referred to as spintronics. Spintronics would provide the basic properties required for advanced technologies, such as on-chip integration of mag-



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Scott Chambers, a PNNL senior chief scientist, created a thin-film semiconductor material that is magnetic at room temperature. The semiconductor was developed in the molecular beam epitaxy lab shown here.

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Magnetic semiconductor spins hope for quantum computing, cont.

netic storage and electronic processing functions and quantum computing. Quantum computing depends on coherent spin states to transmit and store information. A material is permanently magnetic if the majority of its electrons spin in the same direction.

In order to be practical, spintronics will need to use semiconductors that maintain their magnetic properties at room temperature. This is a challenge because most magnetic semiconductors lose their magnetic properties at temperatures well below room temperature, and would require expensive and impractical refrigeration in order to work in an actual computer. Chambers and his team of scientists achieved these properties in a crystalline oxide film known as anatase titanium dioxide that is infused with a small amount of cobalt, a magnetic impurity. These results will be presented in a poster presentation Aug. 9 to 11 at the 2001 Spintronics Workshop in Washington, D.C.

Chambers and his team created this magnetic semiconductor material using a synthesis method called molecular beam epitaxy. In this growth method, individual beams of atoms — in this case, titanium, oxygen and cobalt — are generated in a highly controlled vacuum environment and directed onto a crystalline surface of strontium titanate where the atoms condense and form a crystalline film with dimensions on the nanoscale.

Chambers designed and built this equipment in the early and mid-90s, and his particular system was the first of its kind in the world when installed at the William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, a DOE user facility at PNNL.

After the material was created, a team of scientists at IBM, led by research staff scientist Robin Farrow, validated the results by characterizing the material's magnetic properties. In the material synthesized at PNNL and characterized at IBM, each cobalt atom's magnetic moment, which is a measure of the material's magnetic strength, is about five times larger than in the Japanese scientists' material.

Visit <http://www.physics.umd.edu/spevents/spintronics2001> to learn more about the Spintronics Workshop and <http://www.emsl.pnl.gov:2080/> for information on EMSL. ♦

PNNL director participates in Ukraine events

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Director Lura Powell and Mike Kluse, PNNL's National Security Division director, were part of an American delegation that traveled to Ukraine to participate in events celebrating nuclear safety accomplishment.

At the South Ukraine Nuclear Power Plant on June 26, Powell participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new full-scope simulator at one of the plant's reactors. The training device is an exact replica of a nuclear plant control room. Through the use of sophisticated simulations, the simulator offers plant personnel the opportunity to practice their operating skills for a wide range of possible accident scenarios.

"This is truly an important milestone in the overall safety improvement efforts at South Ukraine, and I am proud to be part of the celebration during my first visit to Ukraine," Powell told the audience, adding that plant personnel, other Ukrainians, contractors, the National Nuclear Security Administration and PNNL all played important roles in completing the project.

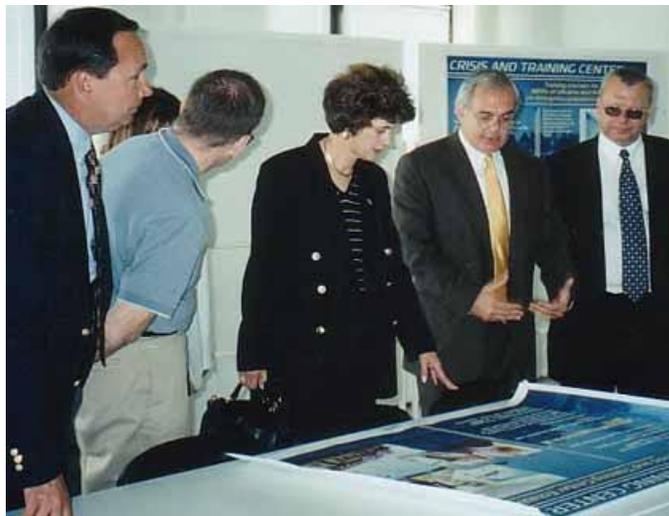
The South Ukraine plant now has simulators at two of its power reactors. Both were provided through the National Nuclear Security Administration program to improve the safety of Soviet-designed nuclear power plants. PNNL has lead technical and administrative responsibilities for the NNSA program.

Visited Chornobyl

On June 29, the PNNL delegation, which also included Dan Couch, manager of the International Nuclear Safety Program, and Susan Senner, integration manager for the program, participated in a dedication ceremony for the Chornobyl Replacement Heat Plant at the Chornobyl site.

"Completion of the heat plant reflects the professionalism and dedication of everyone who worked on this joint Ukraine and United States project," Powell said. "It is a partnership that has helped bring closure to a long-standing agreement between our two countries to support Chornobyl decommissioning." Completion of the heat plant is a key step in the effort to decommission three Chornobyl nuclear reactor units that have been shut down in recent years.

In the absence of excess heat from reactor operations, the \$40 million heat plant facility will provide space heat to reactor and auxiliary buildings so that workers can proceed with decommissioning activities. Heat and steam generated by the natural-gas-powered heat plant also will be used to prevent freezing in plant cooling systems and to support liquid radioactive waste processing work.



Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Director Lura Powell, center, and Associate Laboratory Director Mike Kluse, far left, receive a briefing at the Off-Site Crisis and Training Center near Slavutych, Ukraine. The center was one of many facilities visited by a PNNL delegation during a recent trip to Ukraine.

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PNNL director participates in Ukraine events, cont.

Construction of the facility began in 1998. PNNL, via the DOE program, jointly managed the project with Ukraine. Ukrainian and U.S. firms carried out the design and construction phases. Jim Hartley of PNNL's National Security Division has lived in Ukraine for the past two years to oversee construction, and he says it's been a challenging project. "But everyone has been dedicated to keeping the project on track and within budget," he added.

Successful trip

In addition to PNNL representatives, the Chernobyl ceremony was attended by the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, Carlos Pascual, and NNSA officials, including James Turner of the Office of International Nuclear Safety. Additional representatives of NNSA, the Department of State, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the U.S. Embassy in Kiev joined Ukrainian government and industry officials in marking completion of this major milestone for Chernobyl.

Mike Kluse of PNNL termed the Ukraine trip a success. "PNNL staff members are doing important work at an international level and their efforts are making a tremendous impact on nuclear safety in Ukraine and other nations. It is exciting to see the progress and the international cooperation, and I was very pleased that our director was able to participate and get a first-hand look at the projects PNNL is involved in," he said. ♦

Security receives badge tips, gives trivia answer

A week ago, Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford and its Security Education office issued a challenge to employees to share advice on ways they remember to bring their badges to work. And PTH offered a prize drawing for those who submitted their badge “tips.”

Rick Budzeck of DynCorp Tri-Cities Services, one of about 20 who have written in so far, said he keeps his badge next to his lunch box, which he never forgets. “This way my badge is close to what I consider a priority — eating,” he wrote.

The answer to the trivia question regarding the line, “Badges? We don’t need no stinking badges!” is the movie “Blazing Saddles.” Interestingly, some employees pointed out that this version was a bit abbreviated from the original use of the line in the Bogart movie, “Treasure of the Sierra Madre.” According to Thomas Haythornthwaite of Bechtel Hanford, the line from “Treasure of the Sierra Madre” was “Badges? We ain’t got no badges. We don’t need no badges. I don’t have to show you any stinking badges!”

At Hanford, we *do* have to display our badges as part of the site security program. E-mail your badge tip to ^SECURITY EDUCATION PHMC or mail it to Security Education at mailstop L4-09. A drawing will be held Aug. 15 for those who participate. ♦



Hanford Site interns earn while they gain experience

Zontziry Pritchett, FH

Kraig Williams, a mechanical engineering student working this summer at the Fast Flux Test Facility, is applying classroom concepts to his work. "In class, you learn about one small piece of a system," he said. "Out here, I'm working with an entire system, and I'm seeing how that one small piece affects the rest of the system."

Mentored by Hanford professionals, 45 students are assisting with Fluor Hanford projects. They're helping with marketing research for the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center, compiling information in databases for the Spent Nuclear Fuel project, assisting in environmental compliance activities for the 300 Area, monitoring heavy metal content in various stages of wastewater treatment processes, and writing programs to transfer training to the Web for Hanford employees.

Twelve interns from seven different Northwest universities are a part of the Bechtel Hanford 2001 internship program. Their daily work is closely linked to the Bechtel-led Environmental Restoration Contractor team's day-to-day functions — from planning and controls to design engineering — giving them valuable hands-on experience.

The Waste Treatment Plant Project headed by Bechtel National has a Student Training Enrichment Program with 24 participants this summer. They include four local high-school graduates who received scholarships from either the Hispanic Academic Achievers Program or the African American Academic Society. The other 20 are college and university seniors from institutions as far away as the University of Southern California and Simon Bolivar University in Venezuela.

CH2M HILL Hanford Group has 21 summer interns through Associated Western Universities, including a student from France who is working for Numatec Hanford. Most are studying to become engineers or computer

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TOP: Jason Moy, communications intern for the DOE Office of River Protection, and CHG communications intern Erin Donahoe work together on a display for the River Protection Project. Moy will be a sophomore at University of Puget Sound in the fall. Donahoe will be a freshman at Syracuse University.

MIDDLE: At the William R. Wiley Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, Ann Baker, right, of WSU Tri-Cities assists Nancy Foster-Mills in taking measurements related to waste-treatment research. Baker plans to teach middle school math and is one of 10 participants hosted by PNNL for its Pre-Service Teacher Project.

BOTTOM: Fluor Hanford chemical engineering intern Brian Chase performs lab work at the 310 Waste Water Treatment facility. Chase will be a senior at WSU in Pullman this fall.

Hanford Site interns earn while they gain experience, cont.

scientists, but CHG interns are also represented in the fields of business, finance, communications and English.

Several students work for the Department of Energy in either the Richland Operations Office or the Office of River Protection. Jason Moy, a 2000 graduate of Hanford High School, is an intern in the ORP Office of Communications. "It's definitely a different environment than college," Moy said. "It's extremely valuable to get the real-world job experience."

Career guidance

Students in the Fluor Hanford program participate in bi-weekly career development meetings. According to Fluor Education Outreach coordinator Theresa Quezada, the meetings give students the opportunity to discuss career skills with special speakers and learn more about the work at Hanford through student presentations. Topics and speakers have included "Diversity in the Workplace" by Human Resources specialist Kathy Norris, "Public Speaking" by Site Services account manager Ed Schwier and "Life Planning" by Quezada.

Internships help students achieve educational goals and gain confidence and knowledge before entering the workplace. "The impact of this internship experience transcends the classroom," said Quezada.

PNNL is hosting 126 students and 49 teachers this summer in programs funded by the Department of Energy Office of Science, the National Science Foundation and Battelle as well as PNNL itself and local school districts. "The programs link the students and teachers to the world beyond the classroom," said Jeff Estes, manager of the PNNL Science Education Programs. "They provide real-world experiences that enhance participant knowledge and skills while supporting the research and development efforts of the laboratory."

Mutual benefits

There are no make-work assignments, so interns make real contributions. Hillary Johnson of Kennewick, a junior majoring in biology at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, works with Bechtel environmental specialists to gather data that help in reintroducing and promoting native plant populations at Hanford. "Bechtel is giving me a chance to put my education into action," Johnson said. "The program allows me to explore all my talents while helping to contribute to a worthwhile and important project at Hanford."

The programs aid Hanford recruiters too, according to Audra Goldie-Riedner, Bechtel Hanford's internship program coordinator. "The program allows Bechtel to gain a solid sense of the interns' capabilities for possible future consideration for the Bechtel staff," she said.

Any college student can submit his or her résumé to Associated Western Universities at www.awu.org to be considered for internship programs with many major companies. Students are selected based on their field of study. ♦

FH student program promotes diversity

Fluor Hanford initiated a unique program this summer, offered to female students and those from minority and other underrepresented groups. The program provides advice on the "intangibles" of being a member of today's workforce.

The program was the brainchild of Fluor's Kathy Norris, who works in Human Resources and has seen that some interns of high school and college age are well prepared in their given fields, but can be a bit "green" when it comes to other skills a successful professional needs.

"While our interns are no doubt skilled and capable in a given field," said Norris, "I started noticing that some had not been versed in the proper way to construct a résumé, for instance. Coupled with this, most had obviously never been in an actual work atmosphere and therefore weren't prepared in areas like personality conflicts, approaching superiors, prioritizing tasks, understanding pay, taxes and benefits, and even little things like appearance at work and where and when to use humor."

The mentors for the program were strictly volunteers, and their efforts supplement the guidance given by the students' mentors in their assigned projects.

Julie Donald, one of the students who took advantage of the supplemental mentoring, says it has already paid dividends in her job search, which will be centered in the Seattle area. "I received some excellent tips on résumé content and interviewing skills from my mentor," Donald said. "If I'm competing in the Seattle job market, I need a little something extra to make me stand out among all of the laid-off 'dot-comers.' With my mentor's help, I think I've got it — plus the added confidence of knowing that my résumé stacks up against the rest."

Fluor Hanford plans on continuing the program next summer. ♦

Regular Features



LETTERS

Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to *Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

Wants better dental

Having spoken with some of my fellow employees, we continue to wonder why we (Hanford employees) do not have a better dental plan. Those I spoke with would be willing to pay a higher premium for better coverage.

Our Dental Assistance Plan is almost laughable when one looks at the current dental rates. What, if anything, can we do to at least research better dental coverage?

Dave A. Lee

*Day & Zimmermann Protection
Technology Hanford*



CALENDAR

NMA talent night scheduled for Aug. 16

Join the Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association as it hosts a family talent night Aug. 16 in the Battelle Auditorium. The evening begins with a 15-minute business meeting announcing July and August Super Heroes at 6:30 p.m. All past and present Hanford NMA members are invited to attend. If you would like to share your talents or help with the program, contact Terry Winward at 373-4002 by Aug. 7.

Learning Landscape Child Care Center

The Department of Energy-sponsored Learning Landscape Child Care Center has openings in the pre-school room for children 3-5 years old. Contact Sharon or Suzanne at 946-4609 to enroll or obtain more information about the center. The center offers an educational curriculum for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. ♦



NEWSBRIEFS

PTB transfer approved for Shatell

Bobbi Shatell, a clerk with DynCorp Tri-Cities Services, has been approved to receive personal time bank transferred hours. Shatell's husband is recovering from bypass surgery. Any Fluor Project Hanford team employee who would like to transfer some PTB time to Shatell can do so by completing a PTB/Vacation Transfer Request form (A-6002-807) and sending it to Cherie H. Smith at H8-69. Time must be transferred in one-hour increments.

New Web page on Fluor Project Hanford contract

A Web page has been developed to provide information and visibility on the new Fluor Project Hanford Management Contract.

Located at <http://www.rl.gov/pmm/internal/iwanttobuy/primecontractmanagement.html>, the new page contains a variety of tools including the most recent version of the PHMC, instructions for correspondence to the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (to be in compliance with the PHMC), performance incentives, prime contract management points of contact and the memoranda of understanding.

The Web page includes the prime contract procedures and contract-related information, and will continue to provide updated information on contract changes. The contract commitments actions list and a list of reports to DOE-RL are also included so commitments to DOE-RL can be tracked.

A planned feature to be called contract performance indicators will illustrate Fluor Hanford performance in the contract commitments actions, reports to DOE-RL and the performance incentives lists.

Any questions, comments or suggestions should be sent to Amber_N_Washburn@rl.gov. ♦

CLASSES



Washington State University Tri-Cities will offer:

- **Statistical Methods for Management** (Decision Science 412) – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:15-5:30 p.m., 3 credits. The course covers analysis of variance, regression models and non-parametric statistics as applied to business.

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C L A S S E S, cont.

- **Principles of Management and Organization** (Management 301) – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:45 p.m. or 5:45-7 p.m., 3 credits. The course covers principles of management and administration aimed at improving the effectiveness of all types of organizations.
- **Personnel and Human Resources Management** (Management 450) – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:15-8:30 p.m., 3 credits. The course covers policy and practice in human resource utilization; selecting, training, motivating, evaluating and compensating employees; labor relations and equal employment opportunity legislation.
- **Database Management Systems** (Management Information Systems 372) – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45-7 p.m., 3 credits. The course covers database management systems and non-procedural languages, principles of file design and optimization.
- **Electronic Commerce and the Internet** (Management Information Systems 375) – Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:45-7 p.m., 3 credits. The course covers capabilities of the Internet to support and enable electronic commerce, effective design and implementation, and managerial issues.

Fall semester classes start Aug. 27 and run through Dec. 15. To sign up for any of these classes call the registrar's office at 372-7350 or check the WSU Tri-Cities home page at www.tricity.wsu.edu and follow the "Apply now" link. Once you have been admitted, you may register for classes by calling 372-7250 or online using the University's METRO service at www.metro.wsu.edu. If you have questions about the courses, call the Business Department at 372-7360.

Safety classes offered at HAMMER

D2000 Safety Solutions will offer the classes listed below at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. All classes qualify for Continuing Education Units.

- **Confined Space Rescue** – Aug. 23-25. Cost is \$695. The course is designed to meet the requirements of the OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.146. Participants are taught to recognize confined space hazards, assess potential hazards during a mock rescue and learn the requirements of the new laws.
- **Trench Rescue** – Sept. 5-7. Cost is \$695. The course is designed for individuals or organizations that provide trench rescue services. Subjects include scene assessment and safety; team organization; emergency shoring using speed shores, screw jacks and lumber; patient packaging, ropes and related equipment; and mechanical advantage systems.
Scenario-based exercises will measure student competency.
- **Confined Space Train the Trainer** – Oct. 2-5. Cost is \$695. The course covers the OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.146. The course focuses on tunnels, sewers, boilers and other spaces adequate in size and configuration for employee entry, with limited means of egress and not designed for continuous employee occupancy. Hands-on scenarios are also included. Students will conduct actual confined-space entries.
- **Trenching and Excavation for Competent Persons** – Oct. 22-24. Cost is \$595. The course focuses on the OSHA standard CFR 1926.650. Students will apply practical soil mechanics and identify the relationship to the stability of shored and unshored slopes and walls of excavations. Various types of shoring are also covered. The class is over 60 percent hands-on, and students will recognize the safety precautions of trenching and excavation.

To register for any of these courses, contact D2000 Safety Solutions at (800) 551-8763 or visit the Web site, www.d2000ss.com. ♦

Regular Features



H.anford **E**.mployee **R**.ecreation **O**.rganization

PLEASE MAIL YOUR TICKET REQUESTS TO THE APPROPRIATE LISTED TICKET SELLER — It saves the ticket sellers' time and your tickets will be sent to you the same day.

SUGGESTIONS WELCOME — If you have an event or travel/trip destination that you would like HERO to consider, or a mini-trip (under four days) that you would like to host, send an e-mail message to your area representative with specifics. Although HERO cannot guarantee your suggestion will be offered, all reasonable suggestions will be considered.

HRA — Questions about the Hanford Recreation Association should be directed to Denise Prior at 376-2258.

HERO POLICY FOR NSF CHECKS — Associated non-sufficient fund bank fees will be passed on to check issuers. HERO will not absorb the cost.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED — Area representatives are needed for the 600/400, 200E Area and Yakima. If you are interested, if your company is part of the Fluor Project Hanford team and if you have your manager's approval, e-mail Jackie Roderick and Phyllis Roha.

A NIGHT OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE AND MUSIC — Friday, Aug. 10, 7 p.m. at the Battelle Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door. Send a check made payable to "HERO" to Nancie Simon (S7-64) or Linda Meigs (H3-12).

NIGHT AT THE OASIS (WATERWORKS) — Friday, Aug. 10, from 7 to 10 p.m., \$6 per person, children age 3 and under are free (must have plastic pants over diapers). Hot dogs, chips, pop and a cookie are included. Ticket sales end Aug. 7. No tickets will be sold at the park for this event. Send checks made payable to "HERO" to Nancie Simon (S7-64), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Marvene McChesney (T4-61), Linda Meigs (H3-12), Jackie Roderick (S3-97) or Denise Prior (L6-81).

BENTON-FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR — Aug. 21-25 at the fairgrounds in Kennewick. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$2 ages 12 and under. Tickets will be on sale until Aug. 15. Send checks made payable to "HERO" to Tricia Poland (T5-04) or Linda Meigs (H3-12).

SILVERWOOD THEME PARK — Check out HERO's Intranet Web site for a complete schedule of days and times. Adult tickets are \$18.50 (normally \$25.30), youth (ages 3-7) and senior (65 and over) tickets are \$10 (normally \$16.87). Send checks made payable to "HERO" to Linda Meigs (H3-12), Tricia Poland (T5-04), Nancie Simon (S7-64) or Chris Kagele (S7-60). Personal checks in excess of \$250 will not be accepted. Send a cashier's check or money order for payments in excess of \$250. No cash, please!

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS — Limit now 10 per purchase. Carmike tickets are \$4.50 each with restrictions applying only to Sony DDS movies. Regal tickets are \$5 each and applicable restrictions are identified in the *Tri-City Herald* with a star. Yakima Mercy tickets are \$5 each with no restrictions. For Regal or Carmike tickets, send checks made payable to "HERO" to Linda Meigs (H3-12), Linda Sheehan (T4-40), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Michelle Brown-Palmore (A7-51) or Patti Boothe (T6-04). For Yakima Mercy tickets, send checks to Flu Garza (T4-01) or Nancy Zeuge (X3-74).

PENDLETON ROUND UP — Saturday, Sept. 15, at 1:15 p.m. 80 tickets available at \$13 each. Tricia Poland (T5-04) has tickets.

UPCOMING TRIPS

• **Portland Shopping Spree** — Sept. 28-30. Hurry, hurry, time is running out. We will leave Friday morning and return Sunday afternoon. The trip cost is \$170 ppdo for two nights lodging at the DoubleTree Inn at Lloyd's Center and round-trip bus. \$25 non-refundable deposit is required at signup. Final payment is due Aug. 24. Sunday brunch will be available at the hotel for \$11.99. At press time, the hotel is adding a \$3-per-room, per-night charge (plus taxes) in response to the energy crisis. This charge is temporary and may not be in effect at the time of our trip. E-mail Marvene McChesney (T4-61) for information and deposits. Check the HERO Web site for more details on shopping.

• **Puerto Vallarta, Mexico** — Nov. 6-13, \$825 ppdo, \$765 triple, \$712 quad and \$1,126 single. \$150 pp deposit required to reserve your spot. Major credit cards are

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accepted but 3 percent is added to the charge. Trip includes eight days and seven nights accommodations at the five-star Villa del Palmar Hotel on the beach in a studio unit; round-trip transfers from the airport to the hotel; all air, hotel and departure taxes. The Villa Del Palmar offers a swimming pool, restaurants and bars, tennis court, fitness center, grocery store and 100 yards of white sandy beach. *Space is limited now*, so don't wait until the last minute to reserve your spot. E-mail Sheila Kirk (T4-05).

- **Cruise to Victoria and Vancouver** — Leave Seattle Friday, Oct. 12, on the new ship Radiance of the Sea for a two-night getaway. On Saturday, Oct. 13, the ship arrives in Victoria. See the city, or stay aboard and relax. In the evening, take in the captain's cocktail party, a special dinner and a show. On Sunday, Oct. 14, arrive in Vancouver and depart the ship. Enjoy the day in Vancouver. Return to Seattle via Amtrak. The train departs at 6 p.m. and arrives in Seattle at 10 p.m. with a stop in Edmonds. Cost is \$268.60 for outside cabins and \$368.60 for balcony cabins. Taxes and port charges are included. Every cabin will receive a \$25 shipboard credit. Triple and quad rooms are available — call for prices. The non-refundable cost for the Amtrak ticket is \$22 per person and is not included in the above price. \$100 per person is due at booking. Final payment is due Aug. 13. Check the Web site for more details. Call Candy Jensen at (206) 363-9905 (leave a message) or Magnolia Travel at (206) 283-1565.

- **Spirit of Washington Dinner Train** — Oct. 13, \$84 pp dome seating, \$69 pp regular seating. Price includes round-trip transportation by bus. Board the bus at 7 a.m. at the Federal Bldg. parking lot. The train leaves the depot in Renton at 12 p.m. Experience the nostalgia of passenger rail as you ride and dine in luxurious, vintage rail cars. The Spirit of Washington Dinner Train takes you on a three-hour, 15-minute excursion that showcases scenic views of the Puget Sound region including Lake Washington, the Olympic Mountains, the Seattle skyline and Mount Rainier. You'll dine in comfort and elegance as your journey takes you to Woodinville's beautiful Columbia Winery. During your 45-minute stopover, you'll visit the cellar and sample fine Pacific Northwest wines before returning to the depot. Return to Richland by bus. Deposits of \$20 pp (non-refundable for the bus) are due by Sept. 7. E-mail Tricia Poland for more information. ♦



BSA offers Seahawks tickets

The Battelle Staff Association is providing Department of Energy and Hanford contractor employees the opportunity to purchase premium tickets to Seattle Seahawks football games during the 2001 season. A very limited number of tickets is available for the following games: Aug. 18, against the Arizona Cardinals; Sept. 1, against the New Orleans Saints; Sept. 16, against the Kansas City Chiefs; Sept. 23, against the Philadelphia Eagles; Oct. 7, against the Jacksonville Jaguars; Oct. 14, against the Denver Broncos; Oct. 28, against the Miami Dolphins; Nov. 11, against the Oakland Raiders; Dec. 2, against the San Diego Chargers and Dec. 16, against the Dallas Cowboys.

Contact Gregor Hanson at 375-2737 for further information, price and ticket reservations. ♦

Regular Features



VANPOOLS

Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submissions is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring riders are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her badge, Patrol must be informed at the barricades. For more information, look on the Hanford Web in the Projects and Activities section, Safeguards and Security at <http://www.rl.gov:1050/sas/pg1v3htm>.

KENNEWICK

Excellent opportunity! Ride in comfort and peace. Stop fretting about wear and tear on your car. Opening in vanpool from Richland Wye Park 'n Ride to 200W. Call **Fred Sargent** at 373-2106. (Discount for drivers.) 8/6

Riders needed for vanpool leaving Kennewick Albertson's at 6 a.m. with one stop at Chief Joseph Middle School in Richland. Drops off at 222S, PFP and fab shop area. Ridership low for comfort. Contact **Leann Spurlock** at 376-8703. 8/6

8x9 vanpool to 200E picks up at Chuck E Cheese's and Federal Building. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF, 2704-HV and nearby facilities. Call or e-mail **Jim Brockus**, 372-2939. 7/30

PASCO

8x9 vanpool to 200E and 2704-HV needs riders. Leaves Road 68 and Burden Road in Pasco. Willing to stop anywhere along George Washington Way. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF and 2704-HV (will drop off between those spots). Contact **Doug Bailey** at 373-2392 or at douglas_m_bailey@rl.gov. 7/30

Carpool to 200W in need of two riders/drivers. No fees are charged. Everyone takes turns driving. Picks up at Road 68 Sun Mart. Currently stops at PFP. Call **Jackie Campbell** at 373-1220. 7/30

RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 126, 8x9, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m., has several openings. Leaves the Bechtel Building at 6 a.m. and will drop off at 2750-E and surrounding office buildings. Call **Cindy Jones** at 373-2068 or **Deena Bowe** at 373-1320. 7/30

WEST RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 120 to 200E needs one 8x9 rider. Leaves Flat Top Park at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF, 2727 and 2025-EA. Contact **Marion** at 372-0383. 8/6 ♦