

REACH

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



DOE extends CHG contract through fiscal 2006

Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson announced last Wednesday the decision to exercise a five-year option for extension of the CH2M HILL Hanford Group contract at Hanford. The \$2.2 billion contract modification was signed with new, innovative provisions after extensive negotiations with CHG.

“Retrieving and treating high-level waste from the tanks at Hanford represents one of the most pressing environmental challenges facing the department in the coming decades,” said Secretary Richardson. “This extension of the contract with CH2M HILL helps maintain critical momentum on this project and takes us another step closer to meeting our commitment to the people of the Northwest.”

Under the extended contract, CHG will be responsible for:

- Maintaining safe storage of Hanford’s 53 million gallons of high-level radioactive waste
- Designing and constructing the equipment that will be needed in the future for retrieving and delivering the waste to a new waste treatment plant
- Providing future storage or disposal of tank waste after it has been treated, and preparing for deactivation and decommissioning of facilities.

A unique feature of the contract is an incentive provision challenging CHG to accomplish significant work activities under stable, rather than increased, funding assumptions, and to significantly accelerate work schedules. Funding for these “super stretch” incentives will be obtained primarily from cost savings and workscope efficiencies achieved by CHG during the contract period.

“We’re significantly raising the bar and setting high expectations for CHG’s performance with the terms in this contract,” said Harry Boston, manager of the Office of River Protection. “CHG has done an excellent job to date in making tangible and safe cleanup progress. The challenge ahead is now much greater for CHG. The contract focuses on completing all mission-critical work and meeting key cleanup commitments, and provides incentives for CHG to do more work more efficiently and at lower cost over the next six years.”



Office of River Protection Manager Harry Boston looks on as CH2M HILL Hanford Group President and General Manager Fran DeLozier signs a \$2.2 billion contract for CHG to continue its work as the tank-farm contractor through fiscal year 2006.

Continued on page 2.

DOE extends CHG contract through fiscal 2006, cont.

"To be successful in executing this contract for the Department of Energy and all Hanford stakeholders, CH2M HILL Hanford Group must find efficiencies and do more work for less," explained CHG President Fran DeLozier. "I am confident that with our CHG workforce, and in particular our partnership with the bargaining unit, we will continue and even improve upon the solid outstanding performance of the past several years."

Those years have seen much progress in managing the millions of gallons of radioactive waste stored in Hanford's 177 huge underground tanks. These successes include:

- Implementation of a master nuclear safety control set
- Development of a detailed plan laying out the entire path for waste retrieval
- Closure of safety issues and removal of 20 tanks from a congressionally mandated "watch list"
- Numerous waste transfers across the site through a new regulatory compliant pipeline
- Development of an integrated plan to pump the remaining single-shell tanks and pumping of more than a million gallons of waste since June 1998
- Solving problems with tanks C-106 and SY-101 that had concerned regulators and stakeholders for years
- Three times passing the million-hour mark without recording a lost-workday injury.

In addition to committing CHG to accomplish scheduled milestones, the contract also continues and increases the strong emphasis on safety and protection of the environment, stating that these goals will be integrated "into all activities, including those of subcontractors at all levels consistent with Integrated Safety Management principles."

Other features of the contract include a commitment to implement a process of identifying and managing technologies for Hanford-specific solutions, and the development of a community commitment plan, to be presented to the community by next Oct. 1.

"We continue to be mindful of our obligations to the community and have committed in

this contract to work with community leaders to identify community needs and present a plan to help meet those needs," DeLozier said. ♦



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See the *Hanford Reach* on the Web at:
www.Hanford.gov/reach/index.html

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The Hanford Reach is published weekly
for all employees of the U.S. Department
of Energy's Hanford Site.

**Deadline is 10 a.m. Thursday, 10 days prior
to Monday publication. All articles are sub-
ject to editing. Consult with the *Reach* staff
regarding specifications before ordering
photos. Contact the editors by phone, fax,
site mail or e-mail.**



Printed on
recycled
and
recyclable
paper.

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DOE to expand choices under worker compensation program

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson has announced proposed amendments to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-398). The amendments would offer current and former workers from Hanford and 316 other sites more choices in benefits relating to claims of occupational illnesses from exposure to the unique hazards associated with building the nation's nuclear defense.

Under the Clinton Administration's amendments, a covered worker will be provided a choice of compensation remedies. The worker may elect to receive a lump sum payment of \$150,000, as provided in the current law, or compensation for lost wages provided by the new legislation. Compensation for lost wages is the traditional remedy for workers' compensation under federal and state compensation programs. Both the new legislation and current law provide for payment of medical expenses.

"For many years, the government promoted a legacy of neglect toward those workers who helped build the strongest national security in the world," said Richardson. "We failed to take care of our workers who became sick. The legislative changes we are proposing today are an opportunity to build upon our commitment to do what is right for our employees and for this nation by showing we have listened to what our workers want — more choices in benefits and more fairness in adjudicating claims."

Secretary Richardson and Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman jointly transmitted the proposed amendments to Congress on Jan. 12. The Department of Labor has primary responsibility for administering the compensation and medical benefits program, including determining eligibility requirements and adjudicating claims.

The legislation also makes changes necessary to administer the compensation program effectively. These changes include clarifying agency responsibilities for various activities and providing appropriate review of eligibility and other determinations made in implementing this program. The reviews include an appeals process for workers who may disagree with findings on their claims.

The Department of Health and Human Services will develop guidelines for the Department of Labor to determine whether a cancer is likely to be related to a worker's occupational exposure to radiation, to establish methods to estimate worker exposure to radiation and develop estimates for those who have applied for compensation.

Secretary Richardson made public an initial list of facilities to be covered under the legislation, including beryllium vendors, Energy Department sites that used radioactive materials and facilities where atomic weapons workers may have been employed. Some of these facilities are no longer operating. The list names 317 sites in 37 states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and the Marshall Islands.

The proposed legislation, the preliminary list of facilities and information on the compensation program are available on the World Wide Web at www.eh.doe.gov/benefits. More information about the facilities will be available by the end of the month at the same Web site.

Workers who have questions about the compensation program may call the department's toll-free number at 1-877-447-9756. ♦

Hanford High students revise FTF training manual

Three Hanford High School students have completed a cooperative project with the Fast Flux Test Facility Operations group to rewrite one of the operations training manuals. The manuals are used by new operators to learn about the systems they will operate at FTF, and the manuals are an important part of the qualification process. The manual must contain much of the information needed for the operator to pass an oral examination on the technical and operational aspects of each plant system.

In cooperation with language arts teachers, science teachers and the Richland School District, Hanford High seniors Neri Dagan, Ed Fu and Norman Meznarich researched the “annunciator system” by reading source materials, performing a system walk-down and learning how each component in the system operates. Because this manual had not been revised for more than 10 years, they were able to improve its usefulness by incorporating new technology such as digital drawings and pictures

The students began the project last February, working with one of the FTF Operations shift managers, Bryan Coles of Fluor Hanford. Coles is a parent volunteer on the Hanford High School Learning Improvement Team.

At first the students received a comprehensive plant tour and then a more specific walk-down of the system. They were given access to the source information they would need — blueprints, manufacturers’ manuals and the procedures for the system. They also learned what the manual would be used for, who would use it and what information would be needed.

One of the more challenging aspects of this technical writing project was learning the unique language used by the Operations staff and incorporating it into the document. It took months and a great deal of effort to finally finish writing the manual and generate the diagrams and pictures.

Even though the project wasn’t completed during the initial school year as planned, Dagan, Fu and Meznarich continued working on it through the summer and into the current school year. Once the draft was complete, the next hurdle was the approval process.

To be approved for use by the Operations staff, four reviewers must approve a training manual — an annunciator system expert, the cognizant engineer for the system, the deputy operations manager and the training manager. The manual had to be revised a number of times as each reviewer provided feedback. The students received final approval on the manual in late November and were able to insert the new copies into the binders at the plant.

This unique project allowed the students to use the knowledge they had gained in school in both writing and science in a real-world application. They are all planning careers in science and technology and are using this project as a reference in their college entrance applications. ♦



Hanford High students Neri Dagan (inset), Norman Meznarich (left, above) and Ed Fu complete their year-long technical writing project for the Fast Flux Test Facility by placing the new pages into an operations training manual.

Picture Pages



LIFTING COVER PANELS: The Environmental Restoration Contract team completed a large portion of the remediation of the 116-N-3 trench and crib site earlier this month. Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation, the Bechtel Hanford subcontractor at the site, removed 420 concrete cover panels, each weighing about four tons. The trench and crib served as the primary liquid disposal unit during the last years of N Reactor operation. The next major task at the site is to cut a massive concrete distribution trough into sections. The trough was used to spread liquid for disposal throughout the crib, and it's one of the most highly contaminated radioactive units to be remediated by the ERC team to date.



FROM TANKER TO TANK: A truck driver from Thatcher Chemical Company (left) helps CH2M HILL Hanford Group nuclear plant operator Ted Berger prepare a hose on a tanker to begin feeding a concentrated sodium hydroxide solution to Tank AY-101. The solution, known as caustic, is being used to prevent corrosion in four of Hanford's double-shell tanks. (See story, page 10.)

PNNL developments aid cleanup, monitor power use

Recent developments at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory are helping keep the lights on across the Western states' power system; halting the seepage of chlorinated solvents into groundwater; purifying soil, air and water samples; and stabilizing plutonium.

Monitoring the grid

In the age of electricity deregulation, information equals power. Providers who know of potential outage conditions often can take action to ensure the lights stay on, if they have the right information. This is especially important to California power providers, which are challenged by increased loads and decreased supply.

The Wide Area Measurement System was developed using technology from the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the Bonneville Power Administration. WAMS continuously monitors grid performance across the Western power system. WAMS also provides operators with high-quality data and analysis tools to detect impending grid emergencies or to mitigate grid outages. DOE and the Electric Power Research Institute supported WAMS' initial development.

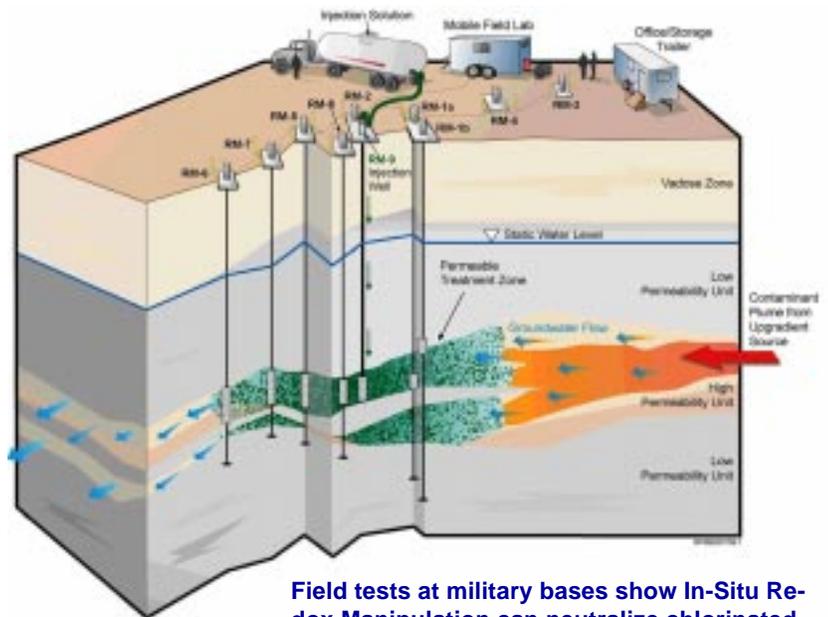
WAMS data access and toolsets are being provided to California's Independent System Operator, which manages wholesale power delivery in that state. Funding is being provided by the California Energy Commission and DOE through the Consortium for Electric Reliability Technologies. PNNL is a consortium member.

DOE named WAMS one of the top 100 innovations since that agency was created in 1977.

Halting contaminants

A PNNL cleanup technology that is treating chromate seeping into groundwater at Hanford now stands ready to serve the military and commercial companies to treat the seepage of chlorinated solvents.

In-Situ Redox Manipulation uses standard groundwater monitoring wells to inject chemical reagents and buffers into the subsurface, creating a barrier that organic contaminants (such as trichloroethylene) move through, and are then destroyed in the process. Laboratory and field tests conducted at a U.S. Army base in the state of Washington have shown positive results in destroying chlorinated solvents. Field tests indicate ISRM saves time and money over traditional pump-and-treat methods.



Field tests at military bases show In-Situ Redox Manipulation can neutralize chlorinated solvents in the groundwater.

Continued on page 7.

PNNL developments aid cleanup, monitor power us, cont.

Purifying samples

The Biodetection Enabling Analyte Delivery System was created for use in a biological warfare detector. The system also purifies soil, air and water samples so microorganisms can be identified in places like food processing lines and water treatment plants. Now BEADS is being enhanced to monitor health hazards on submarines in a U.S. Navy-sponsored program led by the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The system's sample preparation process can be used with existing detectors, which require a person to manually purify samples for identification. BEADS takes the person out of the process by using proprietary microfluidic systems and automated sample cleanup methods. The system can be used in chemical, protein, nucleic acid or whole-cell detectors.

Stabilizing plutonium

Collaboration between PNNL and Fluor Hanford, which operates Hanford's Plutonium Finishing Plant where 1,600 polycubes of degrading plutonium are stored, showed that the 40-year-old deteriorating cubes could be stabilized using existing muffle furnaces at the plant. PNNL and PFP staff members determined that the installation of special pyrolysis equipment could be avoided, thereby potentially saving as much as \$5 million and cutting one year off the work schedule.

In the 1960s, the polycubes were fabricated by combining plutonium oxide and polystyrene, and then used for testing criticality geometries in handling and processing spent fuel. Over the years, the polycubes began deteriorating, which caused storage challenges and potential environmental risks. ♦

New idea improves rigging requalification at HAMMER

Karin Nickola, FH

The innovation of two Hanford workers improved an advanced rigging requalification session held recently at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. While temporarily on loan to Fluor Hanford Training, Dana Morgan of Spent Nuclear Fuels and Bill Langford of the Plutonium Finishing Plant designed an adjustable crane load simulator that helped reduce the amount of time and money required for requalification.

Individuals who perform advanced rigging activities on the Hanford Site must requalify every three years. Advanced rigging activities usually involve mobile cranes that lift loads without designated pick-up points.

In the past, multiple cranes were rented for thousands of dollars a day during a six-week period to requalify all of the site's advanced riggers. Requalification candidates showed up on the same days, were evaluated in groups and spent a lot of time waiting for their turns. To make matters worse, each worker lifted the same load (transported from excess), using the same configuration for lifting. Far from realistic, the evaluation process was neither efficient nor cost-effective.



During advanced rigging requalification, Del Carr of DynCorp Site Crane and Rigging Services directs a mobile crane operator to lift, move and set down a load.

A new idea

Last October, Morgan and Langford approached Requirements and Standards manager Chris Wollam with an idea. They had designed an adjustable crane load simulator that could be fabricated by a local small business and used for a variety of purposes.

Morgan and Langford believed their simulator could be used to improve the performance evaluation process during the upcoming advanced rigging requalification. The simulator they had designed would be capable of providing an infinite number of rigging possibilities and could be changed easily from one evaluation to the next. The simulator's use of A-frames would eliminate the need for two costly cranes. Best of all, Morgan and Langford estimated the simulator's construction cost at only \$5,000.

Wollam was impressed with their idea, sought approval for the simulator's construction, and got it. Last November, the adjustable crane load simulator made its debut at HAMMER.

"We really have Bill and Dana to thank for this wonderful cost-saving improvement," said Wollam. "They conceived, designed and implemented the whole idea on their own with management support, but not management guidance. They are truly workers solving a worker's problem. Bill and Dana developed a tool that can be used in a variety of ways by any class on the Hanford Site."

Continued on page 9.

New idea improves rigging requalification at HAMMER, cont.

Redesigning the course

Inspired by their new evaluation tool, Langford and Morgan made other changes to improve the advanced rigging requalification process. To eliminate long waits, individuals seeking requalification were scheduled to be at HAMMER for only one four-hour block of time. By providing two evaluation stations instead of one, four workers could be evaluated during a single four-hour time period. That allowed all other workers to remain productive — at work and on the job.

Dyncorp Tri-Cities Services helped make the requalification process more efficient for its employees and others by donating a mobile crane and providing a crane operator. Cooperative efforts of this nature among HAMMER, subcontractors and local bargaining units save contractors and the Department of Energy time and money.

The stations

Located inside the high bay of HAMMER's Training Support Building, November requalification candidates at the first station calculated the weight of a load, determined its center of gravity, determined correct rigging points and demonstrated the ability to identify acceptable rigging. They finished the evaluation by correctly rigging the simulator to properly pick up a balanced load. By modifying the simulator's weight and center of gravity, instructors ensured that each candidate evaluated a different load.

Conveniently located on the large paved area directly behind HAMMER's Training Support Building, candidates at the second station demonstrated proper hand signals and mobile crane set-up, then directed a mobile crane operator to lift, move and set down a load. Individuals at this station were required to exhibit their skills during multiple scenarios.

According to Morgan, using realistic hands-on evaluations supported by challenging mock-ups is the best way to ensure and validate the knowledge and skills of Hanford personnel. And this type of evaluation supports the direction the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is taking through its regulations for companies validating their employees' qualifications to perform work assignments.

"It's also supported by the workers who like a challenge and are able to demonstrate their abilities in real applications instead of on paper in a classroom," Morgan said. "Our Hanford workforce is the best in the world and the workers were allowed to prove it." ♦



Inside the high bay of the Training Support Building at HAMMER, Bill Dyes, left, and Chris Wollam rig the new simulator to properly pick up a load. The weight and center of gravity can be changed by instructors for each team of requalification candidates.

CHG maintains tank integrity with mixing technology

Vanessa Hamilton, CHG

On Jan. 12, two months ahead of schedule and without incident, CH2M HILL Hanford Group workers finished adding 43,000 gallons of a concentrated sodium hydroxide solution to Tank AY-101 to adjust the chemical composition of the tank's waste. AY-101 and three other Hanford double-shell tanks are being treated with the mixture, known as caustic, to slow corrosion of the tanks' carbon steel liners.

The caustic level in Hanford's tanks gradually diminishes over time, the result of a chemical reaction of the caustic, carbon dioxide, aluminum compounds and organic materials in the waste. In a series of operations, between 40,000 and 60,000 gallons of caustic will also be added to Tanks AY-102, AN-102 and AN-107. Adding caustic increases the lifespan of the tanks. The higher the hydroxide concentration, the less corrosion occurs in the tank walls.

"Over the 50-year lifetime of a double-shell tank, there might be a maximum of five hundredths of an inch of corrosion," said Jack Lentsch, manager of Double-Shell Tank Integrity. "And we're seeing less than that."

Eight double-shell tanks already have undergone ultrasonic testing to determine the extent of corrosion in each one. The maximum amount of wall corrosion allowed in the tanks per year is one one-thousandth of an inch, approximately one percent of the wall's thickness. Results show the tanks' walls are well within the corrosion allowance. Baseline testing of Hanford's other double-shell tanks is scheduled over the next five years, with future testing scheduled about every 10 years.

CHG is developing a new monitoring program to periodically sample and analyze the double-shell tanks to assure hydroxide levels in the tanks are within specifications. The program will be in place by March.

"The new monitoring program will enhance our ability to preserve the tanks," said Lentsch. "That, in turn, will help us better prepare them for their future use, supporting Hanford's waste treatment facility."

Of the four tanks currently set for caustic additions, one will receive them with the help of a new mixing technology. In September, a mixer pump system will be used in AN-107, similar to the one previously used to control Tank SY-101's flammable gas releases.

The pumping system was installed in AN-107 to mix the sodium hydroxide into nearly 8 feet of sludge at the bottom of the tank. It is designed to add the caustic to the waste and mix it at the same time. This prevents the additives from solidifying the waste.

At 75 horsepower, the new mixer pump is expected to be very efficient in mixing the caustic with the waste. That's one reason mixer pumps will eventually be put into all other double-shell tanks as the site's waste treatment plant nears construction. However, adding caustic to them now, Lentsch explained, will provide interim chemistry controls until the other mixer pumps are installed starting in 2008. ♦



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Workers nuclear process operator Steve Stamper, industrial hygiene technician Evan Cleveland and health physics technician Bill Puryear of CH2M HILL Hanford Group monitor tank conditions during caustic additions at Tank AY-101. Caustic is being added to four of Hanford's double-shell tanks to increase the tanks' hydroxide levels — which, in turn, will increase their lifespan.

Training begins for joint program

Selected members of the Hanford Patrol are attending training that will allow their participation in a cooperative project between the Patrol and the Benton County Sheriff's Office.

The Tri-City Reserve Police Officer Training Academy is held yearly at the Columbia Basin College campus in Pasco. The academy provides 220 hours of law enforcement training to local individuals who have chosen to serve as reserve police officers for various departments in the Mid-Columbia region. Once the officers have graduated from the four-month training program, they are certified through the Washington State Criminal Training Commission as reserve police officers.

Through the cooperative efforts of the Hanford Patrol, the DOE Richland Operations Office's Security and Emergency Services and the Benton County Sheriff's Office, the attending Patrol officers will be granted limited Sheriff's Office commission authority. This will allow them, under certain conditions, to enforce state and county laws while on the Hanford Site.

The intent of the program is to increase the use of available resources on the Hanford Site. The issued commissions will allow the Hanford officers to make traffic stops and issue citations to drivers in the case of flagrant and dangerous traffic violations. The commission is not limited to just traffic offenses, however; any criminal act will also be covered by the authority.

"Our working relationship with Hanford Patrol has always been excellent," said Benton County Sheriff Larry Taylor. "I believe the commission program will provide for enhanced safety and security for the site employees as well as the officers of the Hanford Patrol and the Benton County Sheriff's Office."

The program was devised after meetings involving the Sheriff's Office, DOE's Jim Spracklen, director of Security and Emergency Services, and Hanford Patrol Chief Greg McDowell. The consensus of the three officials was that a quality resource was available to the Sheriff's Office and that it should be taken advantage of.

Just as the Sheriff's deputies on the site have, in the past, served as extra eyes and ears for security violations, now the Hanford officers can return the favor in matters of local law enforcement. The Sheriff's Office will retain all responsibility for criminal and traffic enforcement on the site.

The Hanford officers must undergo the additional training in Washington law, procedures and techniques. The training will supplement their current expertise in federal law and security operations.

Further programs are in the planning stages that will include Sheriff's deputies and Hanford Patrol officers riding together during patrols. It is anticipated that this will provide a closer working relationship between the two agencies. ♦



PMI seeks 'Project of the Year' nominations

The Columbia Basin Chapter of the Project Management Institute is seeking nomination proposals by Feb. 1 for its Project of the Year competition. The award recognizes project teams for superior performance and exemplary project management. Projects of any size, industry type or location are eligible, and PMI affiliation is not necessary.

A nominated project must be essentially complete at the time of nomination and accepted as complete by the owner or client. The winner of the regional competition will advance to the semifinals, from which three projects will compete for PMI's International Project of the Year Award.

Generally, the project should have met or exceeded the client's needs, met or improved on the original budget and schedule, applied innovative, original or unique project management techniques, and involved management of complex or unusual conditions.

The top regional projects will be honored at the annual Project of the Year Awards Banquet in the Tri-Cities on March 13. Last year's regional winner was Hanford's 300 Area Waste Acid Treatment System.

For more information, contact Bill Jasen at 372-2489 or via e-mail to william_g_bill_jasen@rl.gov. ♦

JA needs classroom volunteers, bowlers for fundraiser

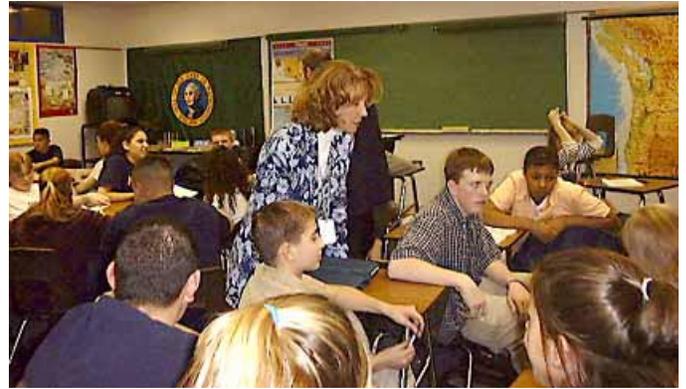
Information meetings planned

Junior Achievement wants you. JA volunteers are needed now in area classrooms to lead a series of highly regarded hands-on activities designed to “show kids the future.”

Junior Achievement helps educate students about the business world and the free enterprise system and inspires young people to value education. JA provides everything needed to make the volunteer’s teaching experience successful, including training, ongoing support, recognition and outstanding teaching materials such as lesson plans, workbooks, posters, overhead slides and game sets.

Volunteering can enhance your leadership and presentation skills and make an important contribution to the development of the young people in our community. In as few as five one-hour lessons at the elementary-school level or eight lessons at the middle- or high-school level, you can make a difference in a young person that will last a lifetime. College credits may also be obtained by participating in JA.

With the permission of your manager, you may attend one of two Junior Achievement information meetings scheduled for this **Tuesday, Jan. 23**. The first is at **noon**



Junior Achievement volunteer Karen Davis of Fluor Hanford leads a classroom discussion as a Junior Achievement volunteer.

in the Stampede Room of the Battelle EESB Building. The second is at 3:30 p.m. at 2420 Stevens Center, conference room 153.

If you have questions or would like further information, contact Karen Davis of Fluor Hanford, Rosemarie Bartlett of PNNL, Joan Kessner of Bechtel Hanford, Geoff Tyree of CH2M HILL Hanford Group or the Junior Achievement office at 783-7222. You may also send e-mail to beajahero@aol.com. ♦

Rock 'n Bowl 2001 supports JA

Mark your calendar for March 16 or 17, when Junior Achievement will hold a 1950s-style bowling classic and silent auction. Bowling experience isn’t necessary, say the organizers, but enthusiasm is.

Besides bowling, entertainment and dancing, the event will include trivia and hula-hoop contests, drawings, prizes and a casino where you can play with a coupon you’ll receive when you sign in. Dress as your favorite character from the 50s, 60s or 70s, don a crazy hat or just come as you are.

“The proceeds from last year’s event allowed an additional 3,000 local students to participate in Junior Achievement programs,” said event co-chair John Umbarger of Fluor Hanford. “Hanford area teams have been leading fundraisers for this event over the past few years. We have every intention of maintaining this fine tradition of service to our schools and community.”

Team captains are needed. Captains recruit and lead five-person bowling teams made up of employees, friends and family members (who must be at least 18 years of age). Each bowler’s goal is to raise a minimum of \$100, making him or her

eligible for prizes. You can earn a TV set, a DVD player, a microwave oven or a vacation in Hawaii.

Sign up early, as this event seems headed for a sell-out. For information, contact Junior Achievement at 783-7222 or one of the company coordinators listed below. ♦

Rock 'n Bowl 2001 coordinators

Battelle	Ryan Peterson	376-5833
Bechtel Hanford	Joan Kessner	375-4688
Duratek	Bryan Kidder	373-0677
CH2M HILL Hanford Group	Geoff Tyree	372-1145
Lockheed Martin Services	Nelson Takata	376-2911
DOE Richland Operations	Toni Martin	373-7706
Office of River Protection	Greg Jones	373-4183
DynCorp Tri-Cities Services	Pam Daly	373-6027
Fluor Hanford	Donna Leech	372-1783
	Brice Finch	372-2532
Fluor Federal Services	Joy Davis	372-2000

Recording location changes ensures delivery of allowable Hanford Site mail

The Hanford Site mail service is limited to delivering mail that specifically supports work funded and authorized by the Department of Energy for the Hanford Site. To ensure prompt delivery, you should keep your location on site current in PeopleCORE.

In dealing with a large amount of undeliverable mail, mail services personnel have noticed a rising occurrence of personal mail placed in the large plant mail envelopes being introduced in the Hanford Site mail system. Please do not place your personal mail in the Hanford Site mail service drop box. This wastes your tax dollars, and government funds cannot be spent on postage or handling for personal mail.

According to HNF-PRO-698, *Mail Services*, personal mail “includes but is not limited to non-job-related catalogs, brochures, merchandise, greeting cards, bills, financial statements, magazines or periodicals, letters to or from organizations unrelated to our business, handwritten letters with home or non-company return addresses, any form of chain letter and other unofficial mail.”

If you have moved or know of any employees within your group who have left the company, record those changes with PeopleCORE. Recording the changes resulting from employee transfers and departures will help get mail to recipients. Also remember, all outgoing postal mail must have a complete company return address before postage can be applied.

The contract for Hanford Mail Service does not require the Jantec employees to “hunt down” the correct address in order to deliver the mail. The contractor has been doing this as a courtesy. This courtesy service has become overwhelming. If the contractor cannot track the location of a person, and mail cannot be delivered, it will be held for three months in a dead letter file before it is destroyed. If you believe you are missing any mail, contact Jantec at 375-5170. ♦

Teaching substitutes needed in Kennewick

Fluor Hanford's Education Outreach is providing emergency help to the Kennewick School District to alleviate a shortage of substitute teachers at all grade levels. The district is in the middle of a planning year, but many teachers have been unable to attend various planning meetings and seminars because substitutes are not available.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has funded an Emergency Substitutes Program to help alleviate the shortage. People who are skilled but do not hold a teaching certificate may qualify. The program provides professional development in preparing and presenting lesson plans and improving communication skills.

The qualification process includes a background check and fingerprinting, and there's a one-time application fee of \$65. The program pays as much as \$90 for each day a substitute spends in the classroom.

Fluor Hanford Education Outreach hopes to recruit more than 100 volunteers. Substituting days would be planned ahead, and employees could either take a Personal Time Bank day or substitute only on the "off" Fridays. Volunteers would be able to pick up lesson materials from the teacher in advance.

Randy Bostrum, the Fluor Hanford point of contact for the program, recommends substituting to employees. "It's a good statement to the community that we care about the schools and about the students," Bostrum said. "It's a great learning experience for someone who has a degree but doesn't necessarily know how it might apply in the classroom. It's also a great opportunity for the kids to have someone new teaching them for a day, and it provides them with a new perspective on Hanford."

For more information or an application packet, contact Bostrum at 376-1696. ♦

Regular Features

CLASSES



PROTRAIN offers computer training courses

Call 946-1123 to register for the classes listed below.

- **Visio 2000**, Flow Charts/Organization – Jan. 31, Feb. 20, cost: \$149
- **MS Project 2000 Introduction** – Feb. 5-6, cost: \$499
- **Outlook 2000 Beginning** – Feb. 15, cost: \$99
- **Outlook 2000 Intermediate** – Feb. 16, cost: \$109
Special! Attend both February Outlook 2000 classes and save \$10.
- **Crystal Reports Introduction** – Feb. 22, cost: \$225
- **Crystal Reports Advanced** – Feb. 23, cost: \$225
Attend both Crystal Reports classes in February for \$425 and save \$25.

CBC Small Business Development Center offers:

- **Small Business Marketing Basics** – Jan. 30 or Feb. 13 or March 6, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Instructor: Melanie Jones. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.
- **Making Money on the Side** – Feb. 1 or Feb. 22 or March 15, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. Instructor: Blake Escudier. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.
- **Small Business Financial Planning and Sources of Capital** – Feb. 5 and 7 or March 5 and 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cost: \$35. Instructor: Cruz Gonzalez. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.
- **Financial Strategies for Successful Retirement** – Tuesdays, Feb. 13, 20 and 27 and March 6, or Thursdays, Feb. 15 and 22, March 1 and 8, 6:30-9 p.m. Cost: \$69 for single or couple (\$79 at the door). Instructors: Leonard Rickey and Ben Rickey. Location: WSU Tri-Cities CIC Theater.
- **Small Business and the IRS** – Feb. 20, 6-9 p.m. Free, sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service

Examination Division. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.

- **Small Business Tax Basics and Preparation** – Feb. 28 and March 1, 6-9 p.m. Cost: \$35. Instructor: TBA. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.
- **Small Business Accounting Basics** – March 13, 6-10 p.m. Cost: \$35. Instructor: Don Smith, CPA. Location: TRIDEC Conference Room.

The TRIDEC Conference Room is located at 901 N. Colorado, Kennewick. The WSU Tri-Cities CIC Theater is located at 2710 University Dr., Richland. To register or to obtain more information, call Ritzy Rafer at 735-6222.

Feb. 7 is WSU Tri-Cities graduate program information night

Washington State University Tri-Cities will host a graduate information night Feb. 7 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Clearwater Conference Room of the West Coast hotel (formerly Cavanaugh's) in Kennewick. WSU Tri-Cities awards graduate degrees in business and technology management, chemical engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, environmental engineering, materials science and engineering, mechanical engineering, engineering management, biology, chemistry, environmental science and education. For more information contact Mark Moreno at 372-7297 or mmoreno@tricity.wsu.edu, or the admissions office at WSU Tri-Cities at 372-7250. ♦

RETIREMENTS

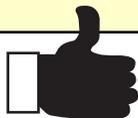


Briggs retirement celebration planned for Jan. 25

Wendell Briggs is retiring after 40 years on the Hanford Site. Please come to celebrate and wish him well on Thursday, Jan. 25, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 5828 W. Van Giesen. If you would like contribute to a gift, send the contribution to Judy St. George, S2-48, MO-294/111/200E, Janell Hales, A1-14, 825 Jadwin/135C/700 or Eileen Dunn, B3-70, 2420/473C. 1/15 ♦

Regular Features

B R A V O



Hanford employees commended for standardizing qualifications for analytical labs

Last month, Mark Marcus, manager of Hanford Analytical Services Programs and Karl Pool, principal scientist with the Analytical Services Project were commended by the Department of Energy for their leadership roles in establishing a DOE-wide qualification procedure for analytical laboratories.

As the Hanford representative on the National Analytical Management Program Steering Committee, Marcus worked on the standard qualification program under which an analytical laboratory would be audited once and approved for use by all DOE sites. "Standardizing the qualification procedure keeps the costs to the government down and allows the laboratories to provide excellent service," Marcus said. The feat of getting all DOE sites to agree on standard procedures, audit qualifications and audit teams took 18 months.

Pool was instrumental in working with Bechtel Hanford and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to put in place standard contracts for all Hanford contractors to use when working with analytical laboratories.

Russ Bisping, quality assurance lead for Analytical Services Project, and Tilak Verma, senior quality assurance for Fluor Hanford, conducted audits for the program.



01010053-4

KUDOS FROM SECURITY: Donald Goulet, left, of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is recognized by Jim Spracklen, director of the Office of Security and Emergency Services in the DOE Richland Operations Office, for Goulet's alert actions and attention to detail during a recent security incident. According to Spracklen, Goulet "demonstrated exemplary actions by challenging unbadged individuals and making notifications when the individuals could not show proper access authorizations." Goulet's actions "are a perfect example of the things we can do, as individuals, to ensure that Hanford is a safe and secure place to work," Spracklen said.

Features continue on next page

Regular Features



CALENDAR

American Ceramic Society hosts presentation at PNNL

The Eastern Washington Chapter of The American Ceramic Society will host a presentation by Subash Singhal of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory entitled "Solid Oxide Fuel Cells for Stationary, Mobile and Military Applications" on Jan. 25, 12-1 p.m. in the Training Room of the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory at PNNL.

Public invited to Hanford Advisory Board meetings

The Public Involvement Committee of the Hanford Advisory Board will meet Jan. 31 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. at the Federal Building. The Hanford Advisory Board (the full board) will meet Feb. 1 and 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the West Coast Hotel (formerly Cavanaugh's) on Columbia Center Blvd. in Kennewick. The public is invited to both meetings.

Valentine's Day dance benefits AAAS

The Valentine Sweetheart Dinner and Dance will be held Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Shilo Inn of Richland. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Afro-Americans for an Academic Society, an advocate for children's academic achievement since 1976. The event will raise funds for activities associated with the 25th anniversary of AAAS, which will be commemorated this year. The dinner dance begins at 6:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7. Curtis Nettles and Delores Netter are the featured entertainers. Tickets are \$80 per couple, and may be purchased at the Bon Marche Gift Wrapping Department. Call Vanessa Moore at 376-8141 for more information.

INCOSE meets Feb.13 at Richland Library

The Tri-Cities Chapter of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 5:30 p.m. in the Gallery Room of the Richland Library. Gene Higgins, the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office director of Special Initiatives, will give a presentation on how DOE-RL will be implementing the new DOE Order 413.3 on project management. Higgins leads the DOE-RL 431.3 Implementation Team.

Give blood at HAMMER Feb. 14

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Feb. 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center Training Support Building and vehicle bay. Make your appointment by calling Libby Sickler at 376-7117. Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are welcome.

Meeting features management of ORP, CH2M HILL

Harry Boston, manager of the Department of Energy Office of River Protection, and Fran DeLozier, president and general manager of CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Inc., will be the main speakers at the Feb. 14 meeting of the Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association at the Red Lion Hotel in Richland. Mike Dallas of DynCorp Tri-Cities Services will be the spotlight speaker. Violinist Donna Endries and Star Spangled Banner Quartet will provide the musical entertainment. Check-in and social hour begin at 5 p.m., and the business meeting begins at 5:45. The cost is \$15 for chapter retirees, \$20 for guests and free for chapter members. Call Eric Comben at 586-7861 by Feb. 9 for reservations. ♦



A limited number of tickets to Seattle Mariners baseball games at Safeco Field are being made available for purchase by DOE and Hanford contractor employees through the Battelle Staff Association.

These tickets are to various premium games including opening night, April 2, against the Oakland A's; May 19-20 against the New York Yankees; July 14 against the San Francisco Giants; July 15 against the Arizona Diamondbacks; Aug. 11 against the Chicago White Sox; Aug. 25 against the Cleveland Indians; and Sept. 15 against the Texas Rangers.

Seats cost \$30 each at field level and \$15 each for upper-level reserved seating. Sales are limited to four tickets per person per game.

For information and ticket reservations, call Gregor Hanson at 375-2737.

Continued on page 19.

Regular Features

Performance features acoustic music

The Battelle Staff Association and the Arts Council of the Mid-Columbia Region will present Tingstand and Rumble performing contemporary acoustic music from their new CD, "Paradise," on Saturday, Jan. 27, at 8 p.m. in the Battelle Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at door, and are now on sale at the ETB reception desk and at the Book Place, the Octopus' Garden, ABCDs, and the Pasco Marketplace. For more information, contact Andy Plymale at 376-8506 or go to the Battelle Staff Association Web site, www.pnl.gov/BSA/ting.htm. ♦

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.

Protection Technology 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>.

BENTON CITY

Vanpool to 200E, space available. Leaves Ki-Be Market parking lot at 6 a.m., 8x9 schedule. Reliable drivers. Call **Ron Wight** at 376-2647 or **Susan Leckband** at 372-3413. 1/15

Forming a new vanpool express, south Kennewick to PFP. Travel in comfort. 10-person limit. Driver will pay full share if others drive back. Begins at 27th and Union. Will stop at Albertson's if desired. Contact **Arnie** at 373-2441. 1/22

KENNEWICK

Riders needed in 8x9 vanpool. Leaves Albertson's at Edison and Clearwater, with a stop at Columbia Basin Racquet Club. Stops at PFP and West Tank farms. Call **Abe Garza** at 373-2898. 1/15

Vanpool No. 112 needs 8x9 riders to 200E from Canyon Lakes area. Picks up on the way to Albertson's on Clearwater and at the Hanford Bus Lot in Richland. Drops off at 2750-E, trailers behind 2750, Security Building on 4th, the Teamster Building on 4th, WESF and ETF. Call **Scott Davis** at 372-0473 or **Peggy Nelson** at 372-0290. 1/15

Rider needed for Van No. 90 to 200E Area, 8x9 schedule. Picks up in the morning at Fred Meyer (2811 W. 10th Ave.) and Shari's (1200 N. Columbia Center Blvd) in Kennewick. Stops at 2750-E, MO-251, MO-414, MO-294, 2727-E, MO-725 and 2025-EA. If you are interested in sharing driving responsibilities to get a cheaper rate, ask for specifics when calling. Call **Rex Bendixsen** at 372-1052 or **Deanna Baird-Scott** at 373-6046. 1/15

RICHLAND

Opening for one on 8x9 vanpool to 200W. Stops at Bethel Church in Richland and PFP. Call **Gary Anderson** at 373-1304 or **Joe Russell** at 373-2441. 1/15

8x9 vanpool to 200E needs a rider. Leaves Hanford bus lot at 6:30 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E and MO-277 (behind 2750-E). Arrives at bus lot at 5 p.m. M-Th and 4 p.m. Fridays worked. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 1/15

WEST RICHLAND

Vanpool to 200E needs one 8x9 rider. Leaves Flat Top Park at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF and 2727. Contact **Marion** at 372-0383. 1/22

Vanpool opening for 8x9 riders to 200E and 2704-HV. Contact **Duane Shults** at 373-4244 or **John Wells** at 373-3733. 1/22 ♦

Busy Life, Healthy Life

Work, eat and sleep. For many of us, this describes the extent of our physical and emotional activities for any given workday.

What happened to recess? Eating lunch with your best friend? Sharing the highlights of the day with someone? When we leave childhood behind, we often leave behind those very things that brought us health and happiness on a daily basis — being physically active and connected.

Check out the free packet of articles, “Busy Life, Healthy Life,” including

- Staying Fit When You Sit — All Day!
- Healthy Office Eating
- What Matters Most: Making Time for Family and Yourself
- Get Fit Responsibly

Click www.todayslife.com and enter your **Group Plan PIN 5161** to take the online quiz, “Is Your Busy Life a Healthy Life?” and read the articles.

You can also access these articles by

- Calling the automated Materials Request Line at (877) 318-9400, OR
- Sending the information requested below to articles@wsi-or.com, OR
- Faxing the completed form below to (206) 362-8081.



YES!
Please send me the “Busy Life, Healthy Life” packet.

Name _____

E-mail _____

Home Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Employer _____

Worksite _____

Working Solutions, Inc. provides free and confidential counseling, resources, referrals and educational materials through Hanford Family Care Services to help employees and their family members.