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# FYI Link

Fluor Your Information

## Safety achievements recognized, injuries reviewed

Two Fluor Hanford projects and a subcontractor were recognized for achieving million-hour safety milestones at the Aug. 17 Presidents' Zero Accident Council (PZAC) meeting. The recent increase in recordable injuries was also discussed to help prevent recurrences. PZAC is a regular monthly meeting attended by safety professionals, Fluor Hanford's management team, workers, representatives from other Site contractors, and the Department of Energy.

### KBC – three million hours

"The K Basins Closure Project achieved three million hours without anyone's missing a day of work due to on-the-job accident or injury," said Dave Jackson, deputy vice president of Fluor Hanford's Safety and Health and moderator of August's PZAC. "The Waste Stabilization and Disposition Project reached one-million hours, and Lockheed Martin Information Technology was recognized for achieving nine million hours. Congratulations

cent – nearly one million pounds – of the spent nuclear fuel from the basins. The last of the fuel was also the worst: very degraded, falling apart, and/or stuck to old canisters. Workers broke two "jaws of life" trying to remove and process stuck fuel.

In addition, KBC began pumping sludge in 2004, and since then has pumped about 95 percent of the bulk sludge from the K East Basin – more than 50 cubic yards of the total 56 cubic yards in that basin. During the sludge-pumping campaign, work paused for several months to remove more than 200 tons of debris from the basins – the volume would fill more than six fully loaded, full-sized moving vans. The project also installed 10 underwater sludge container tanks in both basins, and installed and tested a complex hose-in-hose transfer system with components between and in both basins.

Pete Knollmeyer, vice president of KBC commented, "To say that this period of work was challenging is truly an understatement. During the period when KBC workers accrued three-million safe work hours, they also accomplished some of the most difficult work ever performed at Hanford. I am exceedingly proud of them, and I deeply respect the work they have performed."

### WSD – one million hours

The Waste Stabilization and Disposition (WSD) organization was honored for safely working one million hours from Oct. 22, 2005 through July 4, 2006. Barry Burrow, director of Technical Support, and seven of the Project's co-chairs of Employee Zero Accident Councils accepted the award for the project. Burrow, in thanking George Jackson for the recognition, described WSD activities in 200 East (200 E) and 200 West (200 W) over the

past year, emphasizing the extreme working conditions faced by WSD personnel, and in fact, by all Hanford workers.

WSD's 710 employees operate the Liquid Processing and Container Storage Facilities of 200 E, consisting the 200 Effluent Treatment Facility, the Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF), the Canister Storage Building, and 310 Liquid Effluent Facility. In 200 W, the Solid Waste Operations Complex operated by WSD consists of Solid Waste Storage and Disposal



PZAC recognized the KBC Project (above) and WSD (below) for million-hour achievements.

to all of the workers whose focus on safety made these achievements possible."

Mark Peres, deputy vice president K Basins Closure (KBC) Project, accepted the plaque commemorating the three million hours the projects achieved from Jan. 28, 2004 through July 14, 2006. The Project currently has approximately 400 personnel. In addition to thanking the KBC Project employees for their dedication of working safely for the last 18 months, Peres also dedicated the award to Ron Robbins, an operator at the Project, who was recently killed in a motorcycle accident. "Accidents such as this are a reminder to all of us to be safe 24/7," said Peres.

KBC achieved its three-million safe hours during a period of enormous accomplishments and challenges. During the first nine months of the period, the Project was removing the last 20 per-



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(Transuranic Waste [TRU] Retrieval, Central Waste Complex and Low-Level Burial Ground), the Waste Receiving and Processing (WRAP) facility, and T Plant. Fluor Hanford's Waste Services and the TRU Program are also operated by WSD.

Among the many accomplishments demonstrated safely by the Project, WSD workers retrieved over 5,000 drum equivalents of suspect TRU waste from trenches in the 218-W-4C burial ground. Temperatures encountered during the process ranged from 15 degrees F below zero to 110 degrees F. More than 1,100 of the retrieved drums were vented in the Project's Mobile Drum Venting System. Head Space Gas Sampling was completed for more than 1,800 drum equivalents, and more than 1,100 drums of TRU waste were shipped off the Hanford Site to the national repository, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant located in New Mexico. In the T Plant canyon, the Project also finished treating sludge from the North Loadout Pit of the K East Basin, generating 325 drums of treated sludge from the K Basins Project. WSD workers safely moved more than 50,000 drums over the past year.

### LMIT – nine million hours

Lockheed Martin Information Technology's (LMIT's) long record of working without a day lost to injury or accident

began Feb. 25, 1998 and is continuing (see *FYI Link*, July 24). LMIT's approximately 500 personnel reached the nine-million hour mark June 20. In accepting the award, Frank Armijo, LMIT director and general manager, said, "This is an outstanding achievement, one that highlights the strength of our safety culture in Richland."

LMIT provides information-technology services and support to approximately 8,000 end-users across the Hanford Site. LMIT services encompass system design and integration, telecommunications, wireless, technology integration, network design and operation, web development, computer technical support, document and records management, and media services.

### Injuries reviewed

In addition to recognizing the safety milestones, PZAC also reviewed recent increase in incidents that resulted in recordable injuries. Recordable injuries are those that must be reported according to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration – OSHA. "We want to have an authentic safety culture," Jackson said, "one

that recognizes valid safety achievements; and a safety culture where people do the right thing by reporting their injuries and mishaps, and seeking proper medical attention. We recently experienced seven recordable injuries. We discussed each one at PZAC to allow us to review the contributing factors and make improvements and adjustments to avoid similar incidents in the future. The lesson learned from the injuries in July is to focus on preventing injuries in the field. Regarding the seven injuries – no one needs to be retrained, procedures don't need to be rewritten. What needs to occur is 'checking' in the field." Jackson went on to say that there are three checks that are critical for routine work: self-check, peer-check, and supervisor-check. "Each of these checks helps bring awareness of current conditions and ensures that each job is performed in the safest possible manner," he concluded. ■



PZAC presented a plaque recognizing LMIT's achieving of nine-million safe hours.