Remote Mechanical C Line Undergoing Dismantlement at the Plutonium Finishing Plant

Five full-time crews have been working steadily to clean out and remove many glove boxes and hoods inside two former plutonium production glove box lines — Remote Mechanical C (RMC) and A (RMA) — at the historic Plutonium Finishing Plant, where more than half of our nation’s supply of plutonium was processed. Cleaning out the multi-room process lines is a vital step in preparing the facility for demolition in 2013.

Recently, Decommissioning and Demolition Team Four has been working in Room 230C to dismantle three large, interconnected glove boxes in the RMC line as well as a long conveyor box that connected the glove boxes in the RMA and RMC lines.

The glove boxes, installed in the 1990s after the DOE weapons complex was shut down and

Remote Mechanical C Line Undergoing Dismantlement, continued on page 2
plutonium production ended, were used to precipitate plutonium from nearly 5,000 liters of residual plutonium nitrate solution still in the inventory and then dry it to a powder. The powder underwent a thermal stabilization process in other glove boxes then was packaged for long-term storage.

Decommissioning and Demolition crews began dismantling and removing the process equipment inside the glove boxes after the special nuclear materials de-inventory was completed in late 2009. The team spent weeks emptying, decontaminating and applying fixatives to the inside of each box.

Removing the glove boxes in Room 230C has been a challenge. Not only are they larger than usual and constructed close together, they have a greater-than-average amount of steel shielding on their exteriors as well as steel seismic stabilization beams welded around their frames. Earlier this year, workers removed the first glove boxes — HC-230C-2 and HC-60.

In November, Team Four finished removing seismic stabilization beams that surrounded HC-230C-3, an oversize glove box. Removing the beams allowed workers to move the glove box and gain better access to HC-230C-4 and -5, two smaller glove boxes nestled behind. Then workers removed HC-230C-4 and -5 and transferred them to the waste operations group for disposal. HC-230C-5 was a transition glove box between HC-230C-3 and the conveyor glove box, which workers plan to remove next.
Migration to VoIP-Based Phone System Well Under Way

New digital voice-over internet protocol (VoIP)-based phones will soon be installed throughout the Hanford Site, putting to rest a system that has been in service since 1993. After 18 years, the current system has reached the end of its life with respect to obtaining manufacturer support and replacement parts, making repairs and conducting service upgrades.

Approximately 10,000 desk phones will be replaced with VoIP-based phones, which will offer some new features but will look and work similarly to the current phones. Even existing phone numbers will be maintained. Familiar fax machines and other analog-enabled control devices currently in service will not be replaced and instead use a digital-to-analog converter.

“Many end-users will not notice much difference because the learning curve with the new phones is minimal,” said Chief Information Officer Ron Nelson. “The phones have already been in service for months in the ARRA mobile offices, new pump-and-treat system facilities and our Information Technology and Services offices.”

The core VoIP system, in service for most of 2010, has proven to be very stable. The Stevens Center complex is the next to be upgraded. The remainder will take place in 2011 and take approximately one year.


Green Benefits
• The new VoIP phones use 50% less power than existing phones.
• No trenching or installation of separate copper phone wire for services is required.

Yes, It’s True; Slow is Fast
Mentors Share Message of Deliberate Speed

Many of us have seen Deliberate Speed, Vic Pizzuto's video presentation. It tells the story of when he was a young man, serving with the Fire Service and fighting wildfires in wilderness areas accessible only by helicopter. In tackling this hazardous work, he and his team found they got more done if they moved slower, spent time rehearsing and clearly defined each team members’ role so they knew exactly what to expect from each other. At the end of the fire season, they were recognized for a top-notch performance and safety record. As Pizzuto, who is now CHPRC’s Chief Operating Officer, says in his presentation, one cannot come without the other.

Our Conduct of Work mentors are carrying the message into the field, showing Deliberate Speed at morning meetings and other training opportunities. Human Performance Improvement tools also encourage us to use deliberate speed, so mentors are working alongside supervisors and managers to help implement these tried-and-true principles. The bonus is that we’re seeing results with event rates down around the Central Plateau. We’re facing fewer surprises at the job site and reacting more effectively when events are encountered.

You’ve heard and seen before all these concepts about the way we do business here on the plateau. Safe operations and operational productivity are essentially two sides of the same coin. You have one chance to do it right the first time, but on the flip side, by using proper planning and deliberate speed, you can get it right the first time.

To include Deliberate Speed in an upcoming training event, talk with a Conduct of Work mentor. As you’ll see, there are many parallels between Pizzuto’s old fire service helicopter team and the work our teams are doing at CHPRC.
**This Winter, Know What To Do When the Snow Flies**

This winter, when you wake up to find a winter wonderland, there are a variety of resources where employees can learn more about getting to work. The winter weather badge card is a handy reference.

Two organizations — Emergency Preparedness and the Occurrence Notification Center (ONC) — oversee the process of providing timely information on site road conditions, work delays, cancellations and early releases to employees.

ONC continuously monitors and collects information about road conditions, parking lots, facilities and weather. When there are potential issues, the Emergency Duty Officer makes recommendations, but DOE senior management makes the final decision on delays, cancellations and early releases. Decisions to alter regular work schedules are delivered via onsite and area radio and television notifications, the Hanford Site hotline and the Hanford.gov home page, and clearly state whether essential or non-essential personnel are affected.

So the next time the snow flies, remember to turn on the radio or television, or use your computer or phone to get the latest information. If you haven’t received your winter badge card, contact Teri Sellers at 376.1314 or Theresa_J_Sellers@rl.gov.

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**What To Do When the Snow Flies**

**Hanford Emergency Notification**

www.hanford.gov

376.9999 • 1.800.664-0771 (enter 376.9999 when prompted)

**Local Radio Weather Information / Site Closures**

**Richland/Hanford**

KONA 610 AM • KONA 105.3 FM • Hanford 530 AM

**Yakima**

KMWX 1460 AM • KFFM 107.3 FM • KIT 1280 AM

**Pass Information (Washington State DOT)**

1.800.695.7623 • 511 • www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/passes

1.888.432.7623 (Idaho) • 1.503.588.2941 (Oregon)
Bio-products of the Month

The Green Team is focused on environmentally friendly lubricants, oils, hydraulic fluids and greases. To find biodegradable, non-toxic, nonflammable and/or noncombustible products that are part of the USDA BioPreferred Program, look in the Green Catalogue under the Lube, Oil, Hydraulic and Grease heading.

EMS: Green Catalogue

http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=30

FY 2011 EMS Resolutions

Projects and Organizations Have Set Objectives and Targets for Reducing Environmental Impacts and Carbon Footprint

Engineering, Projects and Construction

- Incorporating LEED Green Building Design standards into the construction of the 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility
- Looking for environmentally preferred replacements for at least one petroleum or chemical product each quarter
- Looking for ways to reduce or convert new construction waste to recyclables
- Looking for ways to recycle or reuse old facility materials prior to demolition and decommissioning.

Decommissioning and Demolition

- Integrating methods for controlling air emissions into 105-KE disposition planning
- Identifying methods for reducing water use
- Identifying methods for minimizing and immobilizing residual sludge left in the K West Basin.

Waste and Fuels Management

- Using point-of-generation waste management whenever possible to minimize the environmental impact that could occur during waste container transport and handling
- Evaluating past practices then recommending corrective actions to minimize petroleum-based spills during in-field equipment operations or refueling activities
- Identifying opportunities to replace petroleum and chemical products with bio-based products.

Plutonium Finishing Plant Complex Closure

- Broadening spill mitigation efforts by evaluating alternative fuels and implementing administrative and engineered controls
- Looking for ways to reduce the number of private vehicles commuting to the project
- Seeking ways to return unused and contaminant-free items to the vendor or redeploy them to others on the Hanford Site.

Soil and Groundwater Remediation

- Cleaning up groundwater by:
  - Getting the newly constructed DX pump-and-treat system online
  - Constructing the 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility
  - Treating 500,000,000 gallons of 100D, 100H and 100K Area groundwater
- Reducing CY 2010 baseline groundwater sampling by 10%
- Completing removal, treatment and disposal (RTD) or confirmatory sampling activities for 51 Group 1 waste sites
- Tracking and quantifying waste reduction cost savings from efforts involving drill cuttings returned to the environment, replacing 55-gallon drums with reusable Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility boxes, and purgewater generation avoidance.

Functional Organizations

At the 2420 and 2425 Stevens Center buildings:

- Providing the results of a transportation survey aimed at reducing fuel consumption, then continuing a campaign for alternative transportation
- Compiling CY 2010 government vehicle logbook data aimed at increasing carpooling by 2%, then initiating a campaign for efficient use of government vehicles
- Compiling CY 2010 paper and toner cartridge usage data aimed at decreasing usage by 5%, then continuing a campaign for paper and toner cartridge conservation
- Initiating a campaign aimed at incorporating bio-based products into supply cabinets
- Initiating a campaign for efficient use of office electronics
- Initiating a campaign for energy conservation.

December EMS Challenge

Make Your Own Resolutions for a "Greener" New Year!

To enter, e-mail EMS with your name, the date and a description of your plans to incorporate "green" practices in FY 2011. Increase your chances of winning by entering often.

Congratulations to November’s winners, Scott Krupp and Lisa Rosenblum!

EMS Targets and Objectives

http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=9
On behalf of the entire senior management team, I would like to thank you all for another great year on this project. Your commitment and the hard work you put in every day is what makes this project a success. Through rain, wind, snow and fog, you work safely to keep cleanup happening through all seasons and in all types of weather.

Thank you as well for your efforts to keep the giving season going all year long. Your hard work is not limited to the Hanford Site. Each year, CHPRC employees donate hundreds of hours to company-sponsored activities as well as countless hours and money donated to their individual favorite causes, and those efforts are making a difference.

This season, whether you’re at work, out in the community or at home, please remember that accidents and injuries increase around the holidays as the winter weather sets in. Take extra time to be safe and protect yourself and those around you. We want every one of you to leave work in the same condition as when you arrived.

We wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season and are looking forward to another great year on the job.
Pedestrian Safety

Every day at one time or another, most of us are pedestrians. Usually, we take for granted that we can walk without incident, because most of the time we do. However, accidents still occur, like on Nov. 4 at 6:55 a.m., when a pedestrian was nearly struck by a vehicle in a crosswalk on Front Street between 2750-E and the south parking lot. The crosswalk was the same one where another near-miss occurred weeks earlier.

Each year, there are approximately 4,600 pedestrian deaths — approximately 11% of all traffic fatalities — and another 70,000 pedestrians are injured in roadway crashes. In 2009, Washington State had 61 pedestrian fatalities. None of those occurred in Benton and Franklin counties, but there were 11 in Spokane and 17 in King County. The Federal Highway Administration Office of Safety has set a goal to reduce pedestrian fatalities and injuries by 10% by the year 2011.

Remember, safety is important for all roadway users. Have a safe and happy holiday!

Safety Tips for Pedestrians

• Walk on sidewalks. If unavailable, walk on the edge or left shoulder of the road facing the traffic flow. Use available pedestrian bridges.
• Cross at marked crosswalks or intersections. Pedestrians are most often hit at places other than intersections.
• Stop at the curb to signal your intention to cross, then look left, right and left again for traffic. Always obey traffic signals.
• See and be seen; drivers need to see you to avoid you.
  – Stay out of drivers’ blind spots
  – Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets
  – Wear bright colors or reflective clothing at night
  – Carry a flashlight at night
  – In bad weather, make sure your umbrella or raincoat does not prevent drivers from seeing you.
• Don’t let children play near traffic or cross the street by themselves.

CHPRC Safety Representatives

Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (HAMTC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead Safety Representative</td>
<td>Jill Molnaa</td>
<td>509.373.1803</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste and Fuels Management Project (WFMP) /</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Receiving and Processing Facility (WRAP) / T Plant</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other WFMP Facilities/Projects (Central Waste Complex / TRU Retrieval / Low-Level Burial Grounds / Liquid Effluent Treatment Facilities / 310 / 340 / Canister Storage Building / Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility)</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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</table>
Promising New Tools Expected to Save Time and Streamline Surveys

The Kiwi and Kubota may have exotic names, but they are promising, nearly real-time technological solutions for streamlining the survey and closure process. In comparison, the hand-held equipment typically used to verify cleanup efforts often requires workers to spend months in the field.

In October, members of the Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project team conducted a two-week side-by-side comparison of the new equipment by using them to survey more than 70 acres of excavated land at the BC Control Area.

“We are using state-of-the-art technology that has been proven at other sites across the country.”

“We are using state-of-the-art technology that has been proven at other sites across the country,” said Randy Hermann, a field team lead for Outer Zone remediation. “The equipment verifies, almost in real time, whether cleanup goals were achieved in the areas we excavated.”

The final results of their detection abilities will be used to determine if future land use will be safe and protective of human and environmental health. The Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project team will continue to utilize its Kubota at the BC Control Area as well as at other waste sites.
Waste Retrieval Project Passes ISMS/EMS Re-Evaluation

After six months of hard work, the waste retrieval project passed an ISMS/EMS re-evaluation in October, a successful effort that allows CHPRC to proceed with its application for Voluntary Protection Program Star Status.

“The success is a combined effort by our entire project team as well as the central Safety, Health, Security and Quality group,” said Ty Blackford, Waste and Fuels Management Project vice president. “Working together, they revised work plans and implemented new technologies that demonstrate our project’s ability to meet CHPRC’s ISMS/EMS policies and procedures.”

The waste retrieval project specializes in digging up long-buried waste from trenches on the Hanford Site, so it can be repackaged and disposed of according to modern requirements. Until early February 2010, the team had made steady progress, finding waste neatly buried in the trenches. Then on Feb. 1 when the team was working in Trench 11, which was in an unusually disarrayed condition, an excavator hit a glove box where nothing was expected. A second incident occurred on Feb. 4, when an excavator hit an unidentified object that caused a pressurized release of gas from the ground.

The waste retrieval project team spent months working closely with DOE to develop and execute a comprehensive recovery plan. After managers were briefed and causes identified, the work plans, procedures and work packages were rewritten. Finally, after conducting drills and exercises based on improved work plans and procedures for retrieval activities, the waste retrieval project’s successful ISMS/EMS re-evaluation was completed. CHPRC’s ISMS/EMS program is awaiting DOE approval following completion and verification of corrective actions identified in spring 2010.

The team has been testing ground-penetrating radar mapping and global positioning system technologies at Trench 17 by comparing the maps produced by the technologies with documentation of the waste configurations. By using these technologies to gain a better understanding of a trench’s contents, the team will be able to complete the best possible planning and preparations before work is resumed in Trench 11.

Members of the waste retrieval project (above top) complete a drill before passing the ISMS/EMS re-evaluation. Improved work plans and new technologies will allow workers to safely conduct retrieval activities, whether waste configurations are neat (above middle left) or unexpected (middle right), or when they encounter degraded containers (left).
Gone, Gone, Gone... D&D Work Wraps Up at ALE Reserve

In early November, Decommissioning and Demolition (D&D) crews made one of their last commutes up Rattlesnake Mountain, up a 17% grade to the approximately 3,500-foot peak, to remove two communications buildings and wrap up almost a year's worth of demolition at the Fitzner–Eberhardt Arid Lands Ecology Reserve.

Altogether, the D&D team removed 24 structures — more than 33,000-square feet — and more than 200 debris piles from the 120-square-mile site. The $8.7 million project, funded by the Recovery Act, helps DOE meet its goal of shrinking the 586-square-mile Hanford Site footprint by 45–60% percent in 2011.

The cleanup was logistically challenging. Cultural and ecological sensitivities required extensive coordination with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to identify and evaluate possible cultural significant items. Narrow roads, high winds and steep inclines challenged crews. In July, for example, a vehicle debris site in a steep mountain ravine required a helicopter. It was the safest option for workers and the environment.

An ongoing research project that is expected to conclude in September 2011 is still using one structure on the Lower Reserve, so D&D crews will return during FY 2012 to demolish and remove it.
200 West Biological Process Plant Shows Night and Day Differences

Work crews and passersby are seeing dramatic daily progress at the 200 West pump-and-treat site as Engineering, Projects and Construction forces erect the Central Plateau’s landmark groundwater treatment plant.

By day, work crews swarm across the site, building forms and pouring concrete. The limited sunlight of shorter winter days leaves just enough time for it to cure before the night shift arrives. A second shift begins at sunset, with pre-job briefings and stretch-and-flex exercises setting the stage for another safe workday. By night, crane operators hoist structural steel into place for workers to assemble the Biological Process Plant until, at sunrise, the daily cycle begins anew. Working split shifts not only expedites construction, it improves site safety by allowing steel and concrete work to occur in tandem without intruding on other crews’ work.

A key factor in achieving both the operational goal and the Recovery Act-funded completion milestone set at the end of FY 2011 is paying riveted attention to the construction schedule during the next 60 days, particularly during challenging winter conditions.

Together, the Biological and Radiological Process plants will have a 52,000-square-foot footprint, roughly the size of an NFL football field, and will be the largest groundwater treatment facility ever constructed for DOE.
CHPRC Hero is Recognized for Long History of Community Leadership and Commitment

Taking the lead toward building a healthy Tri-Cities community — that’s why Eric Greager is the latest recipient of the 2010 Volpentest Leadership Award.

It all began more than 25 years ago when Greager, an environmental scientist for CHPRC’s transuranic waste project, was the race director for the St. Patrick’s Day Foot Race. Since then, he has not only been active in directing a wide range of Tri-Cities running, biking and swimming races and other events, he has served in leadership positions for the 3 Rivers Road Runners club and serves on the board of Columbia Basin Dive and Rescue.

"I am honored to accept this award, but the races and events I have helped direct wouldn’t be successful without the many volunteers and all the others who participate," said Greager.

One reason Greager has been so successful is that he has built strong community-wide relationships that allow him to recruit the many volunteers that are needed. As the current president of 3 Rivers Road Runners, Greager makes sure the club’s equipment is shared with other race directors in the Tri-Cities region so they too can be successful. The club also has recognized local students by providing a yearly academic scholarship.

Greager, known as “E-man” among his fellow runners, feels strongly about helping others bring fitness into their lives.

"Foot races and other multi-sport events allow people of all ages to feel a sense of accomplishment and to participate in a healthy lifestyle," said Greager. "And those are just two of the reasons why these kinds of events are a valuable asset for a healthy community."

Making the Tri-Cities community a better place to live — that’s the reason Eric Greager is this month’s CHPRC Hero.

About the Award
The Volpentest Award — affectionately known as the Sammy after its namesake Sam Volpentest — is annually awarded by Leadership Tri-Cities to a single individual who has demonstrated:

- A history of making a positive difference in the community
- Exemplary leadership capabilities
- A commitment to the Tri-Cities region.

Leadership Tri-Cities is a non-profit corporation with a mission to provide a "cadre of skilled leaders who will be catalysts for positive change in our community and who will mentor others towards this end; to facilitate an exchange of ideas and solutions for problems best addressed at local and regional levels." To learn more about Leadership Tri-Cities, visit http://www.leadershiptc.org/

3 Rivers Road Runners
To learn more about 3 Rivers Road Runners, local races and opportunities to volunteer, visit http://www.3rrr.org/

Editor’s Note: Each month, On the Plateau will feature a CHPRC Hero, someone in an unusual or significant challenge at home or at work. If you know someone worthy of recognition, contact CHPRC Communications at chprcc@rl.gov.
Dec. | Event
--- | ---
10 | Hanford Day Off
22-23 | Holiday/Facility Closure
24 | Hanford Day Off
25 | Christmas Day
31 | Holiday/Facility Closure

Jan. | Event
--- | ---
1 | New Years Day
7 | Hanford Day Off
17 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
21 | Hanford Day Off

Feb. | Event
--- | ---
4 | Hanford Day Off
18 | Hanford Day Off
21 | President’s Day/Facility Closure

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**Stay informed.**

Visit DOE's Hanford website at http://www.hanford.gov to stay up to date with local news and events. If you visit from home, you can also visit the HanfordSite Facebook, Twitter and YouTube pages.

Visit CHPRC’s website at http://www.plateau remediation.hanford.gov to read and watch the latest news stories.

Visit DOE’s energy blog at http://blog.energy.gov to stay up to date with the latest news at headquarters.
Annual Blood Drive Is Another Way to Give This Holiday Season

Join the American Red Cross and local Tri-Cities businesses for the second annual "12 Days of Giving" holiday blood drive. From Dec. 10-23, various locations throughout the community will be ready for donors. In keeping with the holiday spirit, each donor will each receive a gift from a local sponsor.

Each year, the event recognizes a Cardiac Kid, a child born with heart defects. This year’s recipient is Cienna Manderbach, the daughter of Mark Manderbach, a CHPRC and Fluor employee.

Sign up to donate or learn more about the blood drive by visiting http://www.the12daysofgiving.org.

United Way Pledges Are Setting New Records

Your generosity is showing. As of Nov. 17, CHPRC donors have pledged $242,513 for the coming year. The total tops last year’s record donations by more than $6,000, and the 25% company match has not yet been added!

Setting New Records

The United Way Pledges Are Setting New Records.

Total donations are up too — from 480 last year to 532 so far, with 11 more donations rolling in since November. Thanks, everyone, for your kindhearted support!

There’s still time to pledge. If you would like to donate through payroll deduction in the coming year, download a pledge form at http://www.unitedway-bfco.com/images/PDFFiles/PledgeForm.pdf then mail or fax it to: United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties, 401 N. Young St., Kennewick, WA 99336, 509.735.7005.

Get Ready for 2011 EXPO

Planning is already under way for the 2011 Health & Safety Exposition (EXPO). The annual two-day event showcases outstanding performances in health and safety, promotes a 24-hour safety conscience and demonstrates ways to keep our community healthy and safe in everyday activities.

More than 60,000 people attended EXPO 2010, visiting more than 200 booths and participating in an array of classes and demonstrations.

Take part in making EXPO 2011 even more fun for all. Create an exhibit or volunteer at the event. Hope to see you there.

Another 1,349 yards were awarded during November, bringing the cumulative number of yards earned since October 2009 to 50,028 yards. Six more employees became game winners as well. Keep up the safe work so you too can be in the Safe Zone!

Nominate Coworkers or Check Yard Awards Online

http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/SHSQ/afezone/nominate.cfm

Lockers Room

http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/SHSQ/index.cfm?pagenum=6

Total Employees Winning Awards

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<td>30 or more</td>
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<td>234</td>
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<td>More than 100</td>
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Remember to visit the Locker Room to redeem your yards!