Nevada National Security Site

ONE VOICE

March 2015

A Publication for the
Nevada Enterprise (NvE) Complex

Super Guardians

RSL gains attention for efforts during Super Bowl XLIX.

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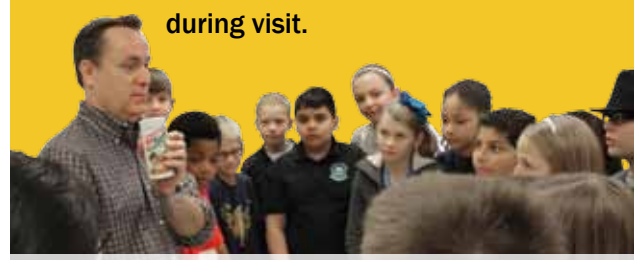
Radioactive Learning

Local students learn truths about radiation during visit.



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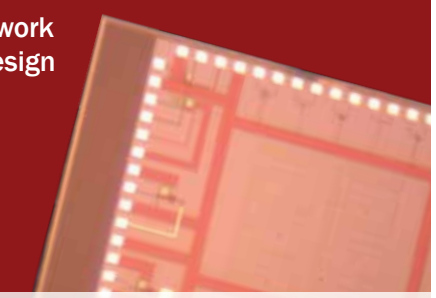
High-Tech Collaboration

NSTec, UNLV work together to design new chip.



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Deputy Administrator Creedon Visits the NNSS

By Darwin Morgan, NNSA/Nevada Field Office

Madelyn Creedon, deputy administrator for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), made her first visit in her NNSA role to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) in early February. Creedon has a long history with the Site in previous roles as deputy administrator for Defense Programs and as a senior professional staffer with the Senate Armed Services Committee. Her visit to Nevada was two-fold: to see and touch some of the vitally important national security work performed at the NNSS, and engage with employees to hear first-hand their thoughts, concerns and issues.

Operations in U1a and preparations for upcoming Los Alamos National Laboratory subcritical experiments were one of the areas presented. Both laboratory and personnel from National Security Technologies (NSTec) demonstrated the challenges they face working in the 963-foot-deep complex. As well, they articulated the importance of the NNSS' contribution through subcritical experiments that support NNSA's national security goals.

Creedon also toured the expansive Device Assembly Facility (DAF), and got a comprehensive look at not only on-going programs and activities but the potential to further support NNSA's missions and goals.

At the DAF, she engaged with Centerra-Nevada security police officers. From them she got a better sense of their duties, day-to-day routines and their personal thoughts on what it takes to provide the necessary security for not just the DAF but the massive 1,365-square-mile NNSS.

One of the other important elements of Creedon's visit was an hour-long brown bag lunch with about 30 federal employees. They took the opportunity to sit with her and not only get her direct perspective on the agency, but also provide her their thoughts on where improvements could be made to help the field better support NNSA at the Washington level.

Creedon's visit exemplified what she and NNSA Administrator Frank Klotz state often: "Mission first, People always!"

Photo: David Pacheco

NSTec Defense Experimentation & Stockpile Stewardship's Director Raffi Papazian shares some information about U1a with Madelyn Creedon.

5th Street Construction Project Challenges NvE Employees

North Las Vegas officials working closely with NLV facility on road closures

By Jeff Donaldson, *OneVoice* Editor

The first year of a major project is underway that will allow North 5th Street near the Nevada National Security Site's North Las Vegas (NLV) facility to cross over Interstate 15, Losee Road and the Union Pacific Railroad. But officials say the traffic challenges on Losee will continue due to periodic road closures and traffic redirection from now until the proposed project conclusion in February 2016.

Until then, NLV facility management will work closely with the city of North Las Vegas to notify employees about the traffic conditions – something that so far has worked well with project updates being made available almost three weeks in advance, said Desiree Ang, federal project director for the National Nuclear Security Administration/ Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO).

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Photo: Jeff Donaldson

Work continues along the fence of the NLV facility on the 5th Street Overpass project.

Phoenix Media Covers RSL at Work for Super Bowl XLIX

By Lory Jones, *OneVoice* Editor

Before Super Bowl fans were stunned by the one-half yard call, entertained by Katy Perry's dancing sharks, and tallying their favorite commercials, scientists, technicians and pilots from the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Remote Sensing Laboratory (RSL) were surveying ground and air for radiological or nuclear threats, commonly called "dirty bombs." This was nothing new to RSL scientists, who conduct surveys for cities hosting big-crowd events – but it was new to the Phoenix media.

Tom Stampahar (right), AMS Science Team, monitors the gamma events and equipment health.

Attracting more than thousands of ticket holders and hundreds of millions of television viewers, the Super Bowl has been supported by RSL teams since 2008. This year, RSL received coverage from Phoenix TV station 12 News. In an exclusive, 12 News explained to viewers about RSL's twin-engine Bell 412 helicopter – "what that chopper is doing over our valley" from Jan. 22 to Jan. 28. They interviewed Senior Scientist Johanna Turk at central command, and got onboard the helicopter.

RSL began planning SB49 (that is, the 49th Super Bowl) in early 2014. RSL is responsible for the NNSA's specialized radiation detection system known as the Aerial Measuring System (AMS). AMS sensors are mounted on aircraft to provide real-time measurement of air and ground radiation.

RSL's Aviation team and AMS work hand in hand during events like the Super Bowl, according to RSL-Nellis pilot Mike Toland. He and fellow pilot Manuel Avaro were in Phoenix surveying the ground from their twin-engine Bell 412 helicopter. They flew approximately 23 hours over a six-day period. Crew chief and mechanic Ed Zachman maintained the helicopter.

"We were assigned survey areas by the AMS science team. Thereafter, we're responsible for ensuring the airspace is safe to fly in," said Toland. "We look at the airspace and terrain of the survey area and contact any air traffic controllers to coordinate our mission. For SB49, we were assigned seven survey areas totaling over 22 square miles. Survey areas were in very close proximity to three large airports: Phoenix Sky Harbor, Scottsdale Municipal Airport and Glendale Municipal Airport. Two of these survey areas were literally over the runways of these airports.

"We flew down to Phoenix to meet with representatives from each tower, along with other aviation representatives in the area including the Federal Aviation Administration, Medevac, and police and airport operations managers, to mitigate any hazards our flights might cause. I, along with RSL's Dr. Piotr Wasiolek, briefed the locals on our mission and discussed any safety issues we had. Due to all this planning and briefings, our mission was a complete success from an aviation/AMS perspective. The flights were very dynamic, with a good amount of communication with air traffic controllers."

The AMS team deploys with scientists, data analyst and equipment specialists to allow for in-the-field data collection and analysis. The event planners received map products of the areas flown for the ground teams and other agencies to review the data and identify any areas of concern. Wasiolek was the mission scientist who coordinated the flights for data collection with the Aviation team. Principal technologists Tom Stampahar and Jezebel Stampahar maintained and operated the AMS equipment, as well as analyzed the data from the seven flight areas, respectively. AMS senior scientists Russell Malchow and Turk were also there. Malchow ensured the quality assurance and control of the AMS data, while Turk, as communications liaison, interfaced with different groups and agencies about the AMS maps.

RSL's AMS and Aviation team work together to complete important missions throughout the year. The AMS mission has been in existence since the early 1960s for the Department of Energy. RSL ground support also aided in this project.

To read more about the Phoenix media coverage, visit: http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/12-news/2015/01/26/12news-on-the-hunt-for-dirty-bomb-threats/22377305/.

Photos: Piotr Wasiolek

Helicopter view of the University of Phoenix Stadium, where the Super Bowl was held, as the RSL team conducted the background survey.

In Memoriam

Rich Klitzing,
Livermore Operations
1951-2015

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ONEVOICE

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NNSA National Nuclear Security Administration

"Image is Everything!" Management Training Battles Your Fears in Next Phase

By Jeff Donaldson, *OneVoice* Editor

Imagine sitting down with your employees, or in a group with your fellow workers, and someone asks you if your department is successful at your mission. You think for a moment, and then you realize – what exactly is my job? You're not sure what your department's performance goals actually are. No one has ever defined them.

This scenario isn't as far-fetched as you might think. Surveys among employees of the Nevada Enterprise (NvE) in 2013 indicated that an overwhelming number of employees feel that management doesn't communicate expectations well enough. That included some who felt that their performance goals were unclear.

The third phase of a management training program entering its second year at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) in 2015 attempts to tackle obstacles that might hinder communicating such goals – primary obstacles being the supervisors themselves.

Supervisors at National Security Technologies (NSTec)'s Livermore Operations office in December 2014 were the first to take "Spark Your Mastery" – a behavior-based course that forces them to do some serious self-examination of their shortcomings, says Shari Morrison, business specialist of NSTec's Organization Learning and Outreach.

"Spark Your Mastery focuses on helping you get out of your own way in creating the kind of environment you want in the workplace," Morrison said, adding that most managers list as their number one fear appearing incompetent in front of their employees. "This class helps you identify your fears and move beyond them."

"Spark Your Mastery" offers six classes for supervisor staff from NSTec, National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO), Navarro Research and Engineering, and Centerra-Nevada. Morrison says these classes are an important next step in redefining the core values of the NvE.

Indeed, in an attempt to address the concerns of employees potentially affecting their productivity, senior management recognized it was time to shift from a culture of defensiveness and blame to one of inclusion, ownership and respect for those at the other side of the table. They wanted weaknesses to transform into growth opportunities, and for leaders to address difficult issues fairly and with care.

Born from that effort was the Learning as Leadership (LaL) program – a three-tiered management training program that teaches everyone from executive leaders to line supervisors how to become more aware of their own behaviors in order to better communicate goals to employees. LaL's programs are designed for employees to break down personal and professional barriers, by listening and communicating while putting egos aside.

The first level was the "4-Mastery" program designed for executives. That was followed by "We-Lead," a program for middle management with modules taken for three days each quarter during fiscal year 2014. "Spark Your Mastery" is the final phase and will run for the first several months of 2015.

"We want to create a culture of accountability and ownership through greater trust and communication within and between NSTec, NFO and our other NvE partners," said NFO Manager Steve Lawrence. "At the same time, we're developing the next generation of leaders at the NNSS."

Morrison said the management approach also coincides with NSTec's strategy in 2015 for redefining core values associated with the NNSS mission. One goal for creating a culture of operational excellence is increasing employee engagement.

Carol Champion, HR and Program Support for Livermore Operations' senior manager and leadership team, said the "Spark Your Mastery" encourages such employee interaction by forcing supervisors to listen, identifying self-images and desired outcomes of various interactions, and avoiding knee-jerk reactions.

"My favorite activity was when we had to just listen… no comments, no gestures, no acknowledgements….just listen to what my activity partner was saying. This was to allow the speaker the opportunity to have uninterrupted time to talk without any distractions. For me, that was hard since I am an "active" listener," Champion said.

"Having to listen also revealed to me how easy it is to be distracted just by what the other person is verbally (and non-verbally) saying. It sends the mind thinking and yet you are to stay focused. On the flip side, talking without someone acknowledging what I was saying brought awareness of how important it is to articulate ideas for appropriate reception. To me this meant THINK about what you want to say ahead of time in order to deliver meaningful communications with purpose, and not waste another person's time," Champion said.

Morrison said the "Spark Your Mastery" class, as with all the LaL classes, is designed to share a common language and build a deeper cultural commitment to being a learning organization for the Nevada Enterprise.

NvE Calendar of Events

- **March 19 – "Conversation with Pioneers," SEB Auditorium, UNLV, with Ray Juzaitis**
- **March 31 – NLVF Blood Drive (American Red Cross)**
- **May 2 – NSTec Company Picnic**
- **May 16 – City of Las Vegas Corporate Challenge Closing Ceremony at Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas**

News Briefs

Navarro Kicks Off New Environmental Programs Services Contract

March heralded in not only rain, but a new Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) environmental programs services contractor, Navarro Research and Engineering.

Navarro's experienced staff of professionals who continue their service at the NNSS gathered March 2 as Program Manager Dave Taylor welcomed them to the new contract. "Every one of you is here because of your past and future contributions to the success of environmental programs at the NNSS," said Taylor.

Dr. Susana Navarro, owner and in-the-trenches leader of the Oak Ridge-based Corporation in Tennessee, echoed Dave's sentiment and shared with the group Navarro's successes at other Department of Energy and NASA facilities. "Our Navarro team is stronger because of you and I am excited about the future of this new contract!"

Under the new five-year contract, Navarro is responsible for environmental investigations, characterization, cleanup and closure of NNSS sites and groundwater impacted by historic nuclear research, development and testing. In addition, the Navarro team is tasked with surveillance and monitoring of those sites, as well as the review/evaluation of low-level/mixed, low-level waste streams proposed for disposal at the NNSS.

NSTec Quality Control Inspectors Get Certification

Congratulations to National Security Technologies (NSTec)'s Darrin Anderson and John Wagner for their recent certifications. Both work as senior Quality Control inspectors within the Quality Control & Calibration Services Department in NSTec's Mission Assurance & Safety directorate.

Anderson obtained national certifications from the American Concrete Institute (QCI) in materials testing disciplines as a certified testing technician in the categories of field and laboratory, aggregate, grout and concrete testing. In his job, Anderson works with the concrete, grout and soils samples for projects conducted at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) and North Las Vegas Facility (NLVF).

John Wagner obtained national certification as an American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) Inspector Level Two. ASNT certified Wagner in visual testing, magnetic particle testing and liquid penetrant testing. In his job, Wagner inspects welds for projects conducted at the NNSS and the NLVF. ASNT is accredited as a third-party certification body by the American National Standards Institute. ASNT's certification process has improved the quality of the profession, and provided an accepted means for members to demonstrate they have met the requirements of the industry.

Las Vegas School Wins 24th Annual Nevada Science Bowl

By Dan Burns, NSTec

Northwest Career and Technical Academy (NWCTA), a public magnet school in Las Vegas, roared through the competition and won the Nevada Science Bowl Jan. 31, held at VegasPBS studios.

NWCTA did not lose a single match, defeating Reno High School in the finals. Thirty-two teams from 29 schools started the competition on that Saturday morning. The teams came from all over Nevada, as well as parts of California and Utah.

The Nevada Science Bowl is the premiere academic competition in the region. During fast-paced matches, students "buzz-in" to answer exceptionally difficult questions covering science and mathematics.

The National Nuclear Security Administration/ Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO) is the signature sponsor of Nevada Science Bowl. Nevada Science Bowl also receives generous donations from Northrop Grumman, National Security Technologies, Navarro Research and Engineering, Centerra-Nevada, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Atomic Testing Museum and VegasPBS.

"All our sponsors step up to do a terrific job supporting science and math education through Nevada Science Bowl," said NFO Manager Steve Lawrence. "We congratulate the 2015 winners from Northwest Career and Technical Academy and we look forward to next year when we celebrate 25 years of Nevada Science Bowl."

The NWCTA team received $5,000 for their school's math/science departments, plus an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. for the Department of Energy's National Science Bowl April 30 - May 5.

"The National Science Bowl has grown into one of the most prestigious science academic competitions in the country and challenges students to excel in fields vital to America's future," U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said. "I congratulate these students for advancing to the National Finals, where they will be among some of the brightest science and math students from across the country."

The championship match of the Nevada Science Bowl will be televised on VegasPBS (CH10) on Wednesday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m.

ADDED: As of this writing, Hyde Park Middle School's Blue team took the championship for the Nevada Science Bowl's middle school competition Feb. 27-28. Hyde Park, too, will advance to the Nationals in Washington.

Photo: Daniel Burns

The Northwest Career and Technical Academy team (l-r): Jake Cray, Mackenzie Wooten, Kevin O'Neill, Dakota Jones, Riley Simpson and Coach David Grade.

Nevada Field Office Educates Students about Radiation

"Radioactive" is More than a Song

By Patricia Neese, Navarro Research and Engineering

On Jan. 30, Certified Health Physicist Stacey Alderson, who supports the Environmental Management Program at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS), paid a visit to fifth-graders in the science department at Somerset Academy Sky Pointe Campus in Las Vegas. More than 120 students viewed his presentation on radiation and took part in a hands-on demonstration.

When asked what their thoughts were hearing the word radiation, several students began singing the popular Imagine Dragons song, "Radioactive." Others said they thought radiation was dangerous.

Using common household items that include fertilizer, a smoke detector and a salt substitute, along with a radiation detector, Alderson showed students how radiation occurs naturally in the environment. He used graphs and photos to demonstrate how radiation is measured, the sources of radiation and forms of radiation occurring naturally in the body and in food, and the materials (paper, aluminum, lead, water and concrete) that stop different types of radiation.

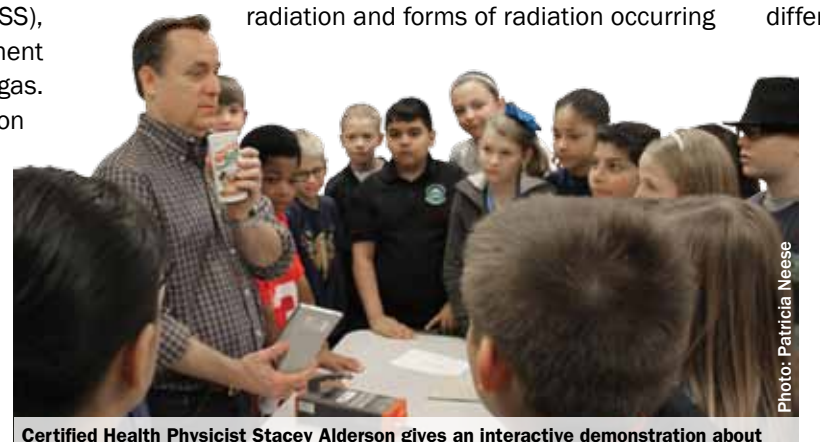


Photo: Patricia Neese

Certified Health Physicist Stacey Alderson gives an interactive demonstration about radiation.

"Many of the students were surprised to discover radiation occurs naturally in the environment, in food we eat, and even inside the human body," Alderson said. "They now understand how radiation has various significant uses, such as cancer treatment."

Much to the amusement of their classmates, a few students had the opportunity to don specialized personal protection suits complete with rubber shoes and latex gloves, similar to those Alderson used in the field at the NNSS.

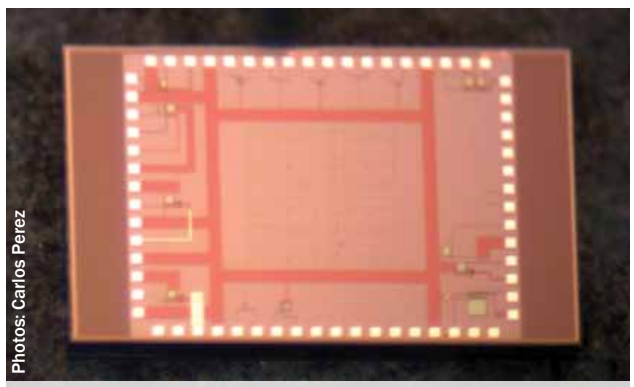
NSTec, UNLV Collaboration Headlines ASIC Development

By David Pacheco, NSTec

More data at faster speeds. More bandwidth with less noise. More diagnostics using less power. More storage in smaller packages. One would think these are promises from a smartphone advertisement.

But such technological feats are not reserved for high-tech consumer products alone.

National Security Technologies (NSTec) engineers face many hurdles when designing diagnostics to accurately record and store information for future experiments. The ever-increasing demands for more data, combined with efforts to keep costs down, are fundamental challenges to new projects. Designers rely on commercial-off-the-shelf components to reduce development risk, complexity and costs.



Photos: Carlos Perez

Prototype ASIC Chip

In 2013, NSTec pursued collaboration with Dr. R. Jacob (Jake) Baker, professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). The collaboration, based on an idea from Jared Gordon, an engineer with NSTec's Defense Experimentation & Stockpile Stewardship directorate, was formed to develop an opto-electronic application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) chip. This collaboration between NSTec and UNLV takes advantage of synergies to create better devices with improved performance at lower costs and reduces development risks for NSTec customers.

ASIC development incorporates electronic systems, and hybrid optical and opto-electronic systems on the same chip. Once integrated, an infinite number of ASICs can be developed to meet a broad range of applications from imaging to spectroscopy to velocimetry. A variety of ASIC designs explore design tradeoffs and fabrication parameters as a first step for the future use of this technology. The opto- part of the device is still in the works while ASIC development continues.

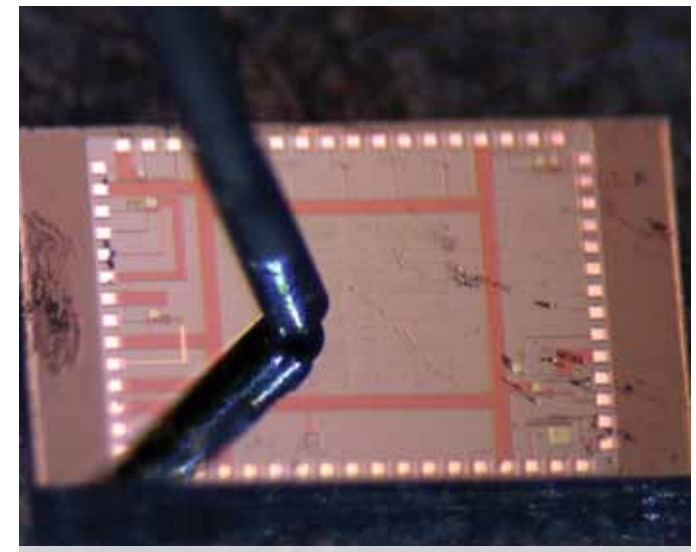
Tom Waltman, DE&SS project manager, says, "Until now, our development has been limited by the physical size of commercial components and printed circuit board technology. The smaller components and closer spacing available in an integrated circuit provide higher bandwidth with improved performance and less power dissipation. Our collaboration with UNLV to develop ASICs will allow more diagnostics capabilities in a smaller space."

The ASIC development has also resulted in benefits for UNLV students, adds Baker. "The same commercial integrated circuit design tools used to design, lay out and simulate the NSTec/UNLV ASICs are used by students in courses on chip design. The students can transition easily into the research lab, at UNLV or elsewhere, if they are interested in pursuing graduate work in chip design."

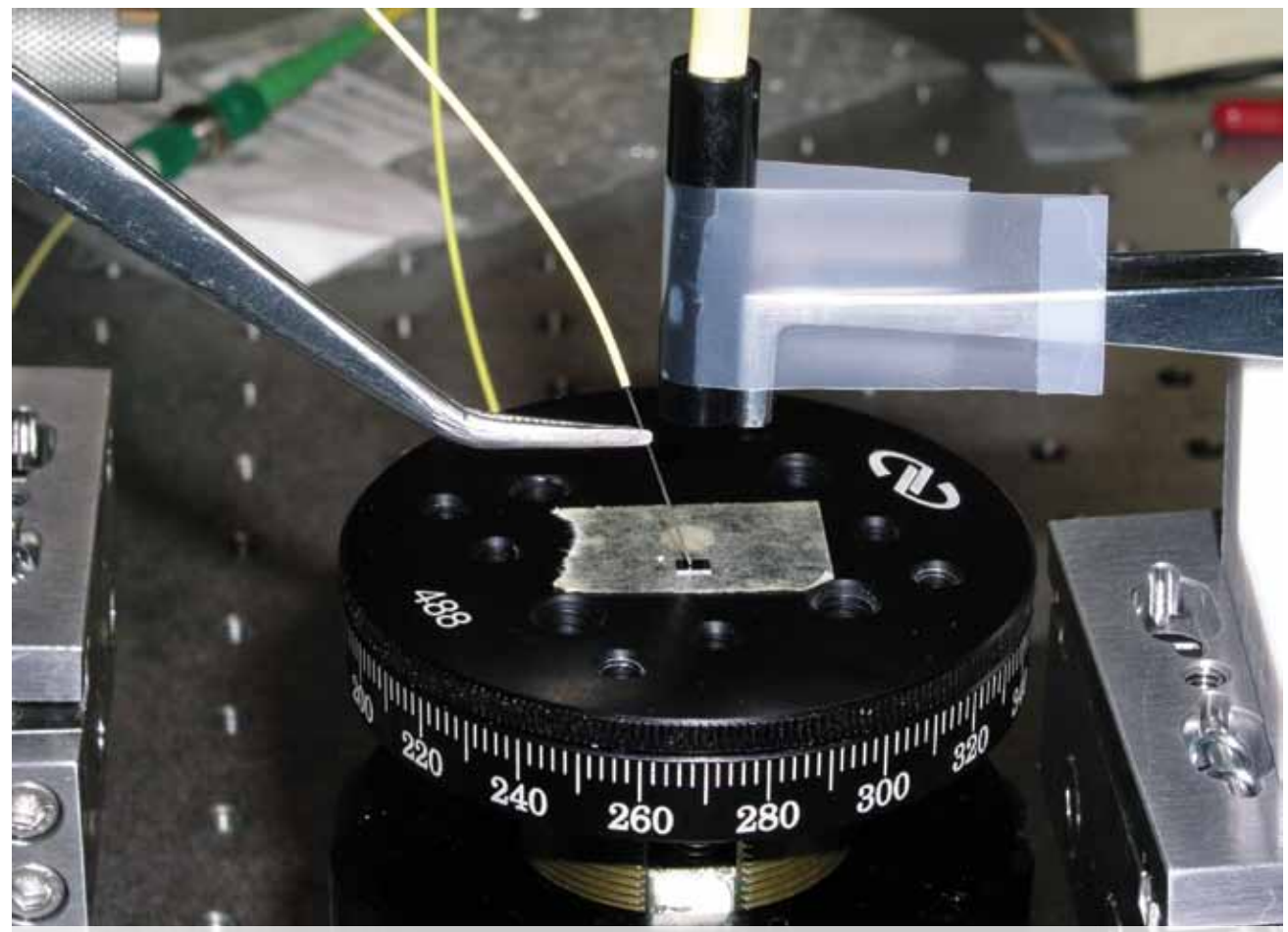
The design's functionality is first verified using a computer simulation. The physical design is constructed using software, and the design is uploaded to the fabrication company. A commercial microelectronics fabrication company (known as a foundry) is used to produce multi-project wafers of custom ICs in small quantities. The foundry delivers either bare-die or packaged chips, depending on the intended use of the IC. The bare-die chips are mounted onto a personal computer motherboard using a thin gold wire the thickness of a human hair.

Said Gordon, "Speed and bandwidth, gain, power dissipation, noise and layout area are just a few of the many parameters that are controlled directly by the designer. More often than not, these factors will limit the overall resolution, signal-to-noise ratio and the number of measurements that a diagnostic instrument will take during an experiment."

Baker goes on to say that, "Industry continues to develop more robust sensors and sensing systems. While the requirements of the diagnostic systems used by NSTec are unique, many of the resulting techniques can be applied elsewhere. The result is faster data transmission, higher resolution measurements, imaging systems that can process infrared wavelengths (to see the temperature of objects), and detection of incredibly small signals such as a single electron or photon. It's an exciting time to be designing chips."



Focus Launch Fiber Return



Test setup. Note the tweezers holding the probe for scale.

NNSS' Warehouse 23-160 Receives DOE Award for "Green" Improvements, Cost Savings

By *OneVoice* Staff Reports

Recently, the Department of Energy (DOE) honored the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS)'s Warehouse 23-160 with its Sustainability "Green Buildings" award. The Green Buildings award, which falls under the Sustainability Award's Site and Project category, recognized the Warehouse for its goal management of energy conservation and cost savings.

Built in 1965, Warehouse 23-160 is the main warehouse for the NNSS. Its personnel are responsible for receiving, staging, documenting, loading and delivering material and equipment for the Site and the Tonopah Test Range. In 2003, the 50,451 square-foot building used 786,358 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity annually, at a cost of more than $108,000. By the end of fiscal year 2013, with lighting and heating controls installed, the amount of electricity had dropped to 361,533 kWh, at a cost of $56,042 – saving $52,475 annually.

"Many of the older buildings at the NNSS present a challenge to the energy program in terms of finding cost-effective ways to save energy. Often it's the cumulative little gains that make a building energy efficient," says Dawn Starrett, manager of Facility and Infrastructure Planning in National Security Technologies (NSTec)'s Operations & Infrastructure directorate.

In fiscal year 2013, NSTec became part of a new era in environmental energy conservation. A recycling innovation known as the Clean Burn System was implemented at Warehouse 160. The Clean Burn System, the first of its kind at the NNSS, involved installing four Clean Burn furnaces and four very large high-volume low-speed fans. The furnaces were installed to help keep Warehouse 160 warm during the winter months; the fans circulated the warm and cool air, creating an ambient temperature throughout the warehouse.

The Clean Burn System is a renewable source which uses recycled oil. One gallon of recycled oil generates the same amount of energy as 18 kWh of electricity. It takes about 8,000 gallons of recycled oil to heat the warehouse for one winter. During the first month of operation, Warehouse 160 realized a reduction of about 21,885 kWh of electricity as compared to the usage amount the previous year.

"The oil currently being used by the Clean Burn System is generated through NSTec's Fleet, Fuel and Equipment preventative maintenance program. The energy cost savings to heat Warehouse 160 will be significant. There will be less commercial energy consumption, saving the company year after year. In addition, recycling the used fuel reduces disposal costs and the risks associated with shipping it for disposal," said Denise Skougard, NSTec principal facilities specialist.

Other improvements to Warehouse 160 include:

- Installed four high-speed, low-velocity fans.
- Installed a water fountain with filter and meter. To date they have saved 1,744 bottles from going to the landfill. Water is still ordered but only for workers going out in the field.
- Replaced high sodium 100 and 500 watt bulbs with 60 watt light emitting diode (LED) bulbs on the exterior of building (with a total of eight lights).
- Replaced 66 (32 watt) fluorescent bulbs with 15 watt LED bulbs.
- Installed air strip curtains on two exterior rolling door exits.
- Sealed off roof vents inside the building with clear plexi-glass. This prevents heating and cooling escaping through the vents and provides some day lighting in the warehouse.
- Replaced 40-gallon water heater with a 10-gallon-size water heater. The water heater services only the men's restroom.
- Placed weather stripping around all walk-in entrance doors.

NNSS Facilities Management Manager Steve Mortensen continues to look for improvements. Tenants are changing their behavioral attitude and actions towards energy conservation by turning off lights and equipment for evenings and weekends and setting back heating and cooling temperatures to suggested energy-saving levels.

The 2014 DOE Sustainability Awards continues efforts to recognize teams and individuals for their outstanding contributions to the Department's sustainability mission, including accomplishments in managing pollution, waste, energy, water and vehicle fleets. Nominations are collected through the DOE Sustainability Awards Database. The Green Buildings awards recognizes site-wide programs and projects within the DOE that promote comprehensive green building principles and demonstrate progress toward meeting the Guiding Principles for High Performance Sustainable Buildings.

Energy curtains installed inside and outside are just some of the energy savers at Warehouse 23-160. The inside curtain (left), located in the building's center, prevents a wind tunnel blowing through the warehouse, preserving heating and cooling. The tinted curtain (right), keeping sunlight out, performs as an insulating barrier from ultraviolet rays which generate heat.

5th Street Construction

Continued from page 1

"Every day our facility manager coordinates with the city and sends out alerts for anything major that might be taking place. We've taken the lead on making sure our employees are aware," Ang said.

In May 2013, the NNSA/NFO signed over 11,000 square feet of land located along the easterly perimeter of the NLV facility, which runs along 5th Street, to assist with the North 5th Street Super Arterial Project. The NNSA/NFO was also able to successfully obtain a waiver that saved the City of North Las Vegas $63,588 on the project.

North Las Vegas project Construction Manager Michael Hudgeons said that, although there have been some traffic delays around the Atlas and Energy Way gates, working with NLV facility managers has made the process run a lot more smoothly. "We've been keeping Desiree and (Facility Manager) Reneé Rowe up to speed on our day-to-day activities through weekly updates – they generally know what's going on out there," Hudgeons said. "They have no hesitation in calling me for information. This has been a good example of government agencies working together."

The collaboration will have to remain strong for a while, Hudgeons admits, as much of the access area for construction is located on and around 5th Street. Hudgeons said this project is the last funded phase of a plan to clear congestion in the industrial area.

NNSS to Receive DOE Sustainability Award for Meeting Conservation Goals

By *OneVoice* Staff Reports

The Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) has been selected to receive a 2014 Department of Energy (DOE) Sustainability Award for progress toward the DOE's sustainability goals. This award is one of several new awards specifically selected by the Sustainability Project Office staff to recognize outstanding sustainability commitment and progress.

"At the NNSS, we reduce use of power, water and greenhouse gases, among other goals. In most cases, we've already exceeded goals set for FY 2015," said Dawn Starrett, manager in Facilities & Infrastructure Management, a division of National Security Technologies (NSTec)'s Operations & Infrastructure directorate. Starrett added that NSTec's sustainability goals could extend to 2020.

DOE Sustainability Awards celebrate excellence in energy, water and vehicle fleet management, as well as achievements in projects representing exemplary sustainability practices. Some of the sustainability goals for the NNSS are:

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Comprehensive Inventory.
- Energy use in buildings, including "cool" roofs with measurable thermal resistance.
- Water use efficiency and management.
- Pollution prevention and waste reduction.
- Electrical renewal energy.

The NNSS's commitment to planning, reporting and achieving DOE's sustainability goals are essential to ensuring DOE is a government-wide leader in sustainability. The DOE Sustainability Performance Office oversees departmental sustainability efforts and related federal laws and regulations.

Photo: Lory Jones

NSTec's Facility and Infrastructure Planning Energy Team includes (l-r, first row): Christina Smith, Cheryl Lydon, Yvonne Townsend, Martha MacIntosh and Mike Zimmerman. Second row: Brad Janota, Savitra Candley, ShaLonda Palmore, Dawn Starrett, JP Martinez (NFO) and Angela McCurdy.

DOE, State of Nevada Formalize Working Group to Advance Shared Interests at NNSS

By *OneVoice* Staff Reports

U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz and Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the senior-level Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) Working Group, previously established to address issues of interest related to the NNSS.

The NNSS is considered critically important to the Department of Energy (DOE) and the State of Nevada. The MOU supports the continuation of a variety of activities, including the review and discussion of waste streams, waste acceptance criteria, public safety and environmental stewardship, future missions at the NNSS, and other important issues.

Both the State of Nevada and the DOE believe that proactive and candid communication is essential to promote a collaborative working relationship between both parties. Through such proactive communication, both can better inform stakeholders of what is happening at the NNSS, identify areas of improvement and resolve key concerns. Additionally, the DOE and the State share compatible interests. These include the important national security mission at the NNSS, investments in solar and geothermal energy technology across the state, and the role of Tesla's gigafactory in mass producing batteries for electric vehicles.

"This announcement formalizes a long-standing and productive relationship between the Department and the State of Nevada," Moniz said. "I have been very pleased with the positive interactions of both parties to date, and look forward to collaborating further on matters associated with the Nevada National Security Site in the years to come."

"This is an important step forward in ensuring continuity in collaboration between Nevada and the Department of Energy. Today's announcement solidifies the Nevada National Security Site's Working Group and represents a milestone achievement in our commitment to candid and direct communication on these critical issues," said Gov. Sandoval.

The DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration also issued a Record of Decision (ROD) that works to preserve and enhance the important national security activities taking place at the NNSS. The State of Nevada and the DOE have acknowledged the broad and critical national security mission that the NNSS serves, and recognize their mutual interest in long-term and safe management of the Site, officials say.

Following the signing of the MOU and issuance of the ROD, the State and DOE plan to continue and enhance the development of best practices and foster a strong dialogue with the community on issues such as the safe and environmentally sound transport and disposal of low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste.

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DOE Honors Troy Wade with Lifetime Achievement Award

Former NNSS employee's career spanned 50 years in nuclear defense

By *OneVoice* Staff Reports

Troy Wade, who has more than 50 years of dedication to our nation's nuclear programs, was recognized by the Department of Energy (DOE) with the Johnny Foster Lifetime Achievement Award. The award, named in honor of former Lawrence Livermore National Lab Director Johnny Foster, annually recognizes an individual whose life and work have been "dedicated to serve the greater good and security of the nation not only as a public servant but also as a citizen…"

Said Steve Lawrence, manager of the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office, "Troy has long made significant contributions in Idaho, here in Nevada and as deputy assistant secretary for defense programs. This award validates what we have already known for years and underscores why I, and countless others, have nothing but respect for him and his contributions to the nuclear security enterprise. This award was well deserved on his part."

Added Raymond Juzaitis, president of National Security Technologies, "Given his lifelong dedication to the nuclear security mission of the United States, there is no one in the nuclear weapons enterprise more deserving of this singular honor. At the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS), we are proud to embrace Troy as 'one of our own national treasures.'"

Photo: Laura Tomlinson, NNSA/NFO

Troy Wade accepts the Johnny Foster Lifetime Achievement Award from Don Cook, NNSA Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs.

The award ceremony was held Feb. 18 during a luncheon at the 7th Annual Nuclear Deterrence Summit in Washington, D.C. Key officials from the Obama Administration and U.S. military, as well as other national and international dignitaries and speakers, including the ambassador of the Russian Federation to the U.S., attended the summit.

The honors did not stop there: On March 2, Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman recognized Wade for his achievements.

Wade's resume highlights many outstanding achievements – from serving as the nuclear weapons explosives expert at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in the early 1960s at the NNSS, to one of the top leadership government positions in the Department of Energy's nuclear defense establishment. After his retirement from government service in the mid-1980s, Wade has continued in pivotal roles within the nuclear weapons complex as an industry leader, as well as a leader within the Southern Nevada community promoting nuclear science education.

Wade also helped create the National Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas. Since February 2005, the museum has portrayed the history of nuclear weapons testing and related nuclear defense programs. The museum estimates to draw approximately 70,000 visitors annually.

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