

NEVADA NATIONAL

NNSS

SECURITY SITES

MEDIA KIT



WE SECURE AMERICA'S FUTURE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the NNSS	3
Locations	4
Programs	5
National Assets and Facilities	7
The Nevada Enterprise	9
Leadership	10
NNSS Facts	11
Site-Directed Research and Development (SDRD)	12
Partnerships	13
Community Outreach	14
Tour Program	15
Nevada Economic Impact	15
Resources	16
Media Inquiries	16

ABOUT THE NNSS

Mission

The Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) helps ensure the security of the United States and its allies. We support the stewardship of the nation's nuclear deterrent; provide nuclear and radiological emergency response capabilities and training; contribute to key nonproliferation and arms control initiatives; execute national-level experiments in support of the National Weapons Laboratories; work with national security customers and other federal agencies on important national security activities; and provide long-term environmental stewardship of the NNSS' Cold War legacy. Our motto, "We Secure America's Future," reflects this mission.

[Read more about the NNSS' work as a premier, high-tech national security asset.](#)

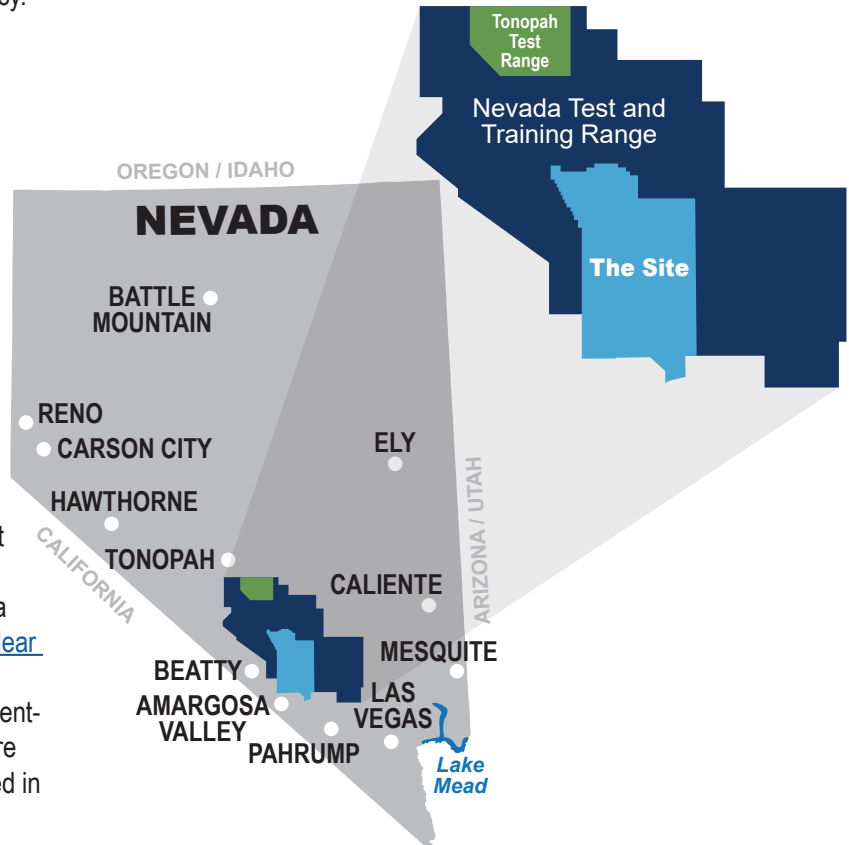
Video: [Overview of the NNSS](#)

Management, operation and oversight

The NNSS is managed and operated by Mission Support and Test Services LLC (MSTS). MSTS is a joint venture between Honeywell International Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and HII Nuclear. The NNSS is a national asset under the jurisdiction of the [National Nuclear Security Administration](#) (NNSA), a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. Government-controlled and contractor-operated, NNSS operations are overseen by NNSA's Nevada Field Office, headquartered in North Las Vegas.

About the Site itself

Located in a remote, highly secure area of Southern Nevada, the Site is a premier outdoor, indoor, airspace, and underground national laboratory. The 1,355-square-mile Site performs experiments supporting the NNSA's nuclear weapons stockpile stewardship programs; national defense programs; national security research, development and training programs; and vital programs of other federal agencies.



LOCATIONS



The Site
Nye County, Nevada



NNSS, Remote Sensing Laboratory - Nellis
Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada



NNSS, DC Office
Washington, D.C.



NNSS, Counterterrorism Operations Support (CTOS)
Edgewood, New York



NNSS, Livermore Operations
Livermore, California



NNSS, Special Technologies Laboratory
Santa Barbara, California



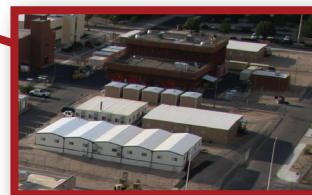
NNSS, North Las Vegas Facility
North Las Vegas, Nevada



NNSS, Los Alamos Operations
Los Alamos, New Mexico



NNSS, Remote Sensing Laboratory - Andrews
Joint Base Andrews, Maryland



NNSS, Sandia Operations
Albuquerque, New Mexico

PROGRAMS

Stockpile Stewardship

A primary mission of the NNSS is to help ensure the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile remains safe, reliable and secure from our enemies. To accomplish this, the science-based Stockpile Stewardship Program deploys a wide range of science and technologies, focused on experiments in weapons science and the potential for weapons dismantlement. NNSS facilities are the only ones in the country authorized to use weapons-grade plutonium in its subcritical experiments.

Since the United States no longer conducts full-scale nuclear tests – the U.S. voluntarily ended underground nuclear testing in 1992 – stockpile scientists and engineers now obtain data from breakthrough scientific experiments, engineering audits and analysis, high-tech computer simulations, and world-class diagnostic measurement systems.

[Learn more about Stockpile Stewardship at the NNSS.](#)

Global and Homeland Security

Global security is the totality of efforts to protect against threats, which are transnational in nature and pose a risk to human stability and survival. The NNSS is working to execute the activities needed to ensure our protection from transnational threats. Activities that support our global security efforts include international treaty compliance monitoring, cyber security, critical infrastructure threat mitigation, and radioactive material release threat reduction.

NNSS global security efforts are in response to six distinct areas of transnational threat: chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) and digital. These efforts encompass those activities that are, in most cases, direct outgrowths of NNSS' historical work in nuclear weapons issues. These efforts include counterterrorism activities, bio-security projects, nuclear forensics and detection capability development, weapons and material protection, and emergency and event response ([VIDEO](#)). Threat reduction comprises those activities intended to mitigate national security threats before they amass into distinct CBRNE threats.

[Learn more about NNSS Global Security Programs.](#)

Continued on Page 6 ...





Programs ... continued from Page 5

Global Security: Nuclear Nonproliferation/ Treaty Monitoring

In support of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, NNSS supports the nation's nuclear nonproliferation and treaty monitoring work. NNSS conducts work aimed at improving arms control and nonproliferation treaty verification.

Some of the NNSS' work in this area includes safe and environmentally regulated [chemical/biological/explosive experiments](#) and experiments providing ground truth data that will enhance the United States' ability to detect and discriminate "low-yield" underground nuclear explosions from the clutter of conventional explosions and small earthquake signals.

- ▶ Corrective actions to address contaminated groundwater, facilities, and soils resulting from historic nuclear research, development, and testing at the Site and the Nevada Test and Training Range, which includes the Tonopah Test Range.

[Learn more about NNSS Environmental Programs.](#)

Strategic Partnership Programs

In addition to its work with the National Labs, the NNSS also works with entities outside the Department of Energy through cooperative research and development agreements and other strategic partnerships. An example of this is the NNSS' work with NASA and Los Alamos National Laboratory to demonstrate a nuclear reactor power system that could enable long-duration crewed missions to the Moon, Mars and destinations beyond.

Environmental Management

Environmental programs at the NNSS address the environmental legacy from historic nuclear weapons-related activities, as well as ensuring the health and safety of workers, the public, and the environment at the Site.

Environmental activities include:

- ▶ Radioactive waste management. The NNSS plays a pivotal role in the cleanup of historic nuclear weapons sites in the United States by providing a safe and environmentally effective facility for the permanent disposal of low-level radioactive, mixed low-level radioactive and classified waste. The waste disposed at the NNSS is accepted only from approved DOE and DoD sites and must comply with the [Nevada National Security Site Waste Acceptance Criteria \(NNSSWAC\)](#).
- ▶ Environmental protection, compliance, and monitoring of the air, water, plants, animals, and cultural resources at the NNSS, through studies like this survey of the Site's [pronghorn antelope and mule deer](#).



NATIONAL ASSETS AND FACILITIES

Big Explosives Experimental Facility (BEEF) – VIDEO

Providing data through explosive experiments, BEEF is a hydrodynamic testing facility that supports the Stockpile Stewardship Program and non-nuclear capabilities through diagnostics.

Device Assembly Facility (DAF) – VIDEO

Special nuclear material, radiation test objects and high explosives studies are conducted at the DAF in support of Stockpile Stewardship and other programs.

National Criticality Experiments Research Center (NCERC)

Providing Nuclear Arms Treaty verification technologies, emergency response training, and nuclear criticality investigations, the NCERC is located inside the DAF and is operated by the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER) – VIDEO

Featuring a two-stage, light gas gun to assess behaviors of materials under various conditions, the JASPER facility predicts performance of aging weapons and analyzes effects of shockwaves on nuclear material.

Principal Underground Laboratory for Subcritical Experimentation (PULSE) – VIDEO

PULSE, formerly the U1a Complex, houses a wide range of experiments – from measuring element properties under weapons-like conditions to developing diagnostics to studying radiography – all in a subcritical, environmentally safe manner.

Counter Terrorism Operations Support – VIDEO

CTOS develops and conducts radiological and nuclear response training for more than 13,000 emergency responders each year.

Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex (NPTEC) – VIDEO

NPTEC is the largest facility in the world used for training and open-air testing of hazardous materials and biological stimulants in addition to light aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle support.

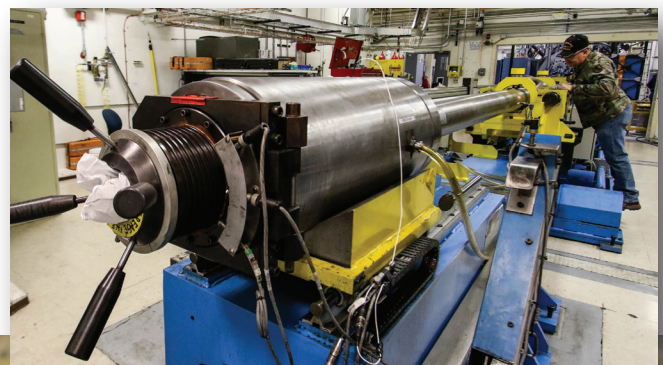
Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex (RNCTEC)

RNCTEC delivers system performance validation to protect the nation from radiological or nuclear threats.

Livermore Operations

The Livermore, California, facility develops and maintains the diagnostic instrumentation and sensor capabilities used in energy measurement experiments.

Continued on Page 8 ...





National Assets ... *continued from Page 7*

North Las Vegas Facility

The North Las Vegas facility supports the Sites by providing administrative and operational assistance.

New Mexico Operations

Los Alamos and Sandia operations in New Mexico support the Stockpile Stewardship Program and subcritical experiment diagnostic development.

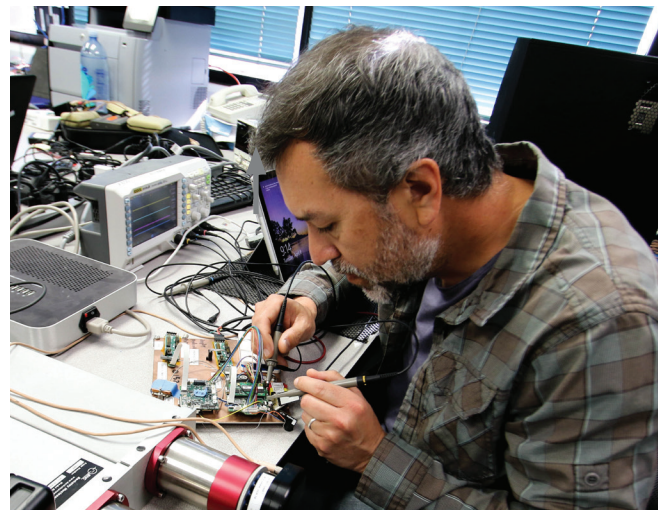
Remote Sensing Laboratories (RSL) – VIDEO

Equipped with emergency response operations, remote sensing activities and counterterrorism capabilities in relation to the loss, theft or release of nuclear or radioactive material, the NNSS' Remote Sensing Laboratories – located at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada and Joint Base Andrews in Maryland – are poised to deploy within hours' notice to begin scanning the area of any unplanned radiological event throughout the world. By providing detailed, accurate scans of the path of radiological fallout, RSL's aerial measurements provide affected communities with information they can use to address the health and safety of their people, food supplies and air.



Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center (FRMAC)

The FRMAC holds the capability to deploy response teams within 24 hours to a radiological emergency, which include, but are not limited to, nuclear device detonation, nuclear power plant radiation release and terrorist threats.



Special Technologies Laboratory (STL)

Located in Santa Barbara, California, the STL develops methods and instruments for experiments in field or laboratory environments.

NNSS Fire & Rescue

Highly trained in specialized rescue operations, the Fire and Rescue Department provides emergency response services to more than 3,000 site employees as well as surrounding communities and motorists traveling the highway adjacent to the Site.

Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site – VIDEO

Low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste is regulated, managed and permanently disposed of in Area 5.

Washington, D.C. Office

The DC Office supports the Sites by providing administrative, government/customer relations and strategic partnerships assistance.

THE NEVADA ENTERPRISE

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Nevada Field Office (NFO)

Originally established in 1962 to oversee the work at the then-Nevada Test Site, the Nevada Field Office today provides federal oversight to the NNSS management and operating contractor. Their purview includes the NNSS and all of its related laboratories and facilities in California, Maryland, Nevada, New Mexico and New York.

Mission Support and Test Services

The management and operating contractor for the NNSS, MSTs is a joint venture limited liability company consisting of Honeywell International Inc., Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. and HII Nuclear, Inc.

Navarro

Navarro performs work at the Site on behalf of the Department of Energy Environmental Management Nevada Program.

JGMS, Inc.

A contractor for the NNSA NFO, JGMS Inc. provides administrative support services.

Joint Laboratory Office – Nevada (JLON)

Representatives from Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories are based out of the NNSS and are a part of the Nevada Enterprise.



LEADERSHIP

Betty L. Huck

**Manager,
Nevada Field Office**



Betty L. Huck serves as the Manager for the Department of Energy (DOE)/ National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Nevada Field Office (NFO). She is a member of Senior Executive Service. She is responsible for overall administration of

the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS) contract, oversight of contractor operations, and the direction of NFO programs, projects, and administrative functions to accomplish NNSA's missions in stockpile stewardship, nuclear nonproliferation, counterterrorism, national and international emergency response, environmental management, and science and technology development.

The NNSS supports high-hazard operations, experiments, training, diagnostics and instrumentation, data analysis, and materials staging; conducts criticality experiments; provides research experimental facilities for nuclear nonproliferation and counterterrorism activities; and supports low-level radioactive waste material disposition. The complex also executes a significant Strategic Partnership Program mission, supporting such initiatives as threat reduction, first responder training, and sensor development.

Within the NFO, Huck has held multiple leadership positions providing oversight and contract performance evaluation of high-hazard and nuclear operations, non-nuclear research and development, strategic partnership programs, nuclear and non-nuclear safety, emergency management, continuity of operations, and nuclear security programs.

Prior to joining the NFO, Huck supported the DOE, Department of Defense, and Intelligence Community in the areas of nuclear energy, nuclear propulsion, advanced technologies, counterproliferation, and counterterrorism for 15 years.

Huck holds a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Roger R. Rocha

**President
Mission Support and Test Services LLC**



Roger Rocha currently serves as President of Mission Support and Test Services (MSTS), which manages and operates the Nevada National Security Sites (NNSS).

Rocha joined the NNSS in 2020 as the MSTS Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. In that capacity, he led Mission Operations, including Stockpile Experimentation & Operations and Environmental Management;

Infrastructure; Global Security; Mission Assurance; Security and Emergency Services and the Field Intelligence Element; Information Technology; Procurement; and Program Integration.

Prior to joining the NNSS, Rocha served as Deputy Principal Associate Director for Operations at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), with management and oversight responsibility of operational matters for Weapons and Complex Integration (WCI). Rocha also led the WCI Facilities Operations organization, tasked with managing all WCI facilities in a safe, secure and efficient manner in support of the programmatic missions.

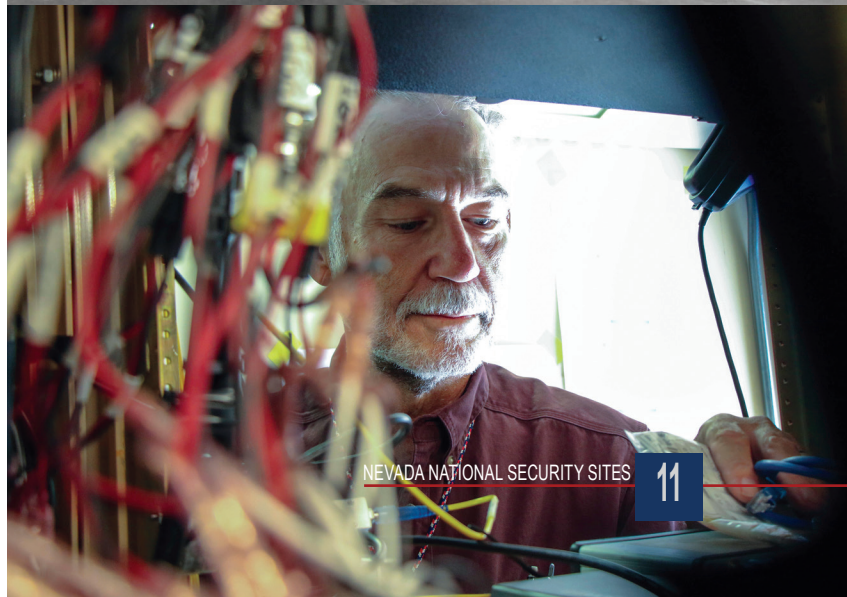
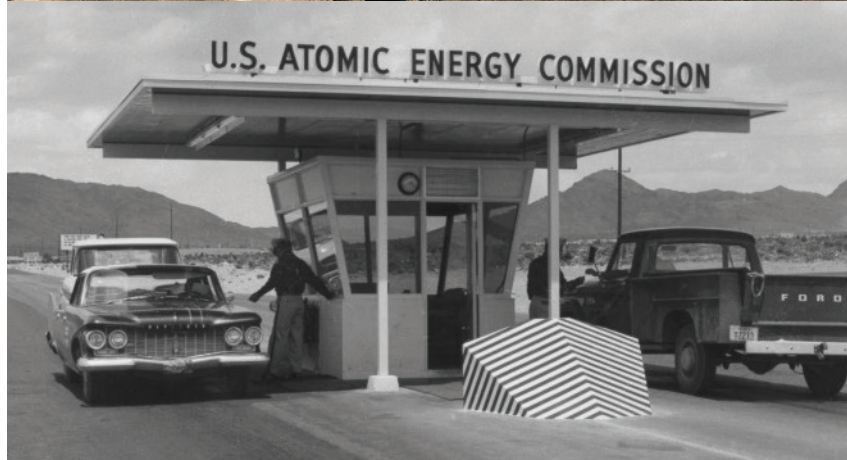
In addition to Principal Associate Director-level support, Rocha represented WCI on institutional and external committees and working groups that span a broad spectrum of operational, safety and security issues. He collaborated with the programmatic, scientific and operations managers across the laboratory to deliver operations and services in an effective and cost-efficient manner and ensured the organization provided the systems and support necessary to deliver on LLNL's missions.

Rocha joined LLNL in March 1996 and held several key positions at the laboratory over the course of his 25-year career. In addition to his role as the Deputy Principal Associate Director for Operations in WCI, Rocha was also the Deputy Program Director/Division Leader for Operations in WCI's Primary Nuclear Design Program/B Division. In that role, he served as Senior Advisor to the program/division leadership and was the point of contact for major operational issues. Prior to that, Rocha was the Program Leader for the Nuclear Materials Technology Program, where he was responsible for two program elements: superblock and radioactive and hazardous waste management.

Rocha graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

NNSS FACTS

- ▶ Following the first nuclear test at the Trinity Site in New Mexico, the United States moved its nuclear weapons experimentation program to the Pacific. Security and logistical issues quickly illustrated the need for a continental test site. In 1950, the Atomic Energy Commission determined that the Las Vegas Bombing and Gunnery Range in Nevada satisfied nearly all criteria. President Harry Truman authorized a 680-square mile section of the Range as the Nevada Proving Grounds the same year. In 1955, the name was changed to the Nevada Test Site (NTS).
- ▶ The first atmospheric nuclear test, “Able,” was detonated at the NTS January 27, 1951. A total of 100 atmospheric tests were conducted at the NTS until July 1962. All atmospheric testing was banned on August 5, 1963, when the Limited Test Ban Treaty was signed in Moscow, giving birth to the age of underground testing.
- ▶ The United States conducted 828 underground tests at the NTS. The last underground test, “Divider,” was conducted September 23, 1992.
- ▶ After conducting 928 nuclear tests, full-scale nuclear testing came to an end in 1992 when the U.S. entered into a unilateral testing moratorium with Russia and France, followed by the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban in 1996, which effectively ended the nuclear test era. In order for the U.S. to maintain the safety and reliability of its nuclear stockpile without conducting full-scale tests, subcritical experiments – where no critical mass is formed and no self-sustaining nuclear reaction occurs – were initiated at the NTS.
- ▶ In 2010, the NTS was renamed the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) to more accurately reflect its mission.
- ▶ The Site includes 433 buildings, 340 miles of primary roads and 300 miles of secondary roads. The Site is supported by three public water systems and 174 power substations.
- ▶ In 2023, Nevada National Security Site was renamed to Nevada National Security Sites – inclusive of its facilities across the United States – and took up a new motto: “We Secure America’s Future.”



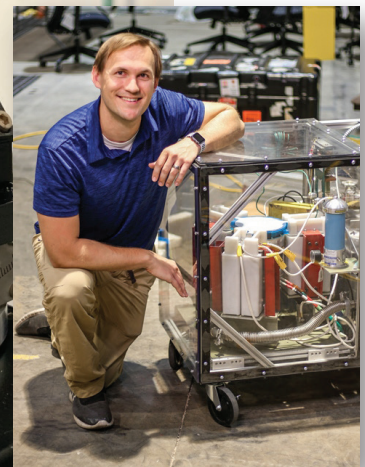
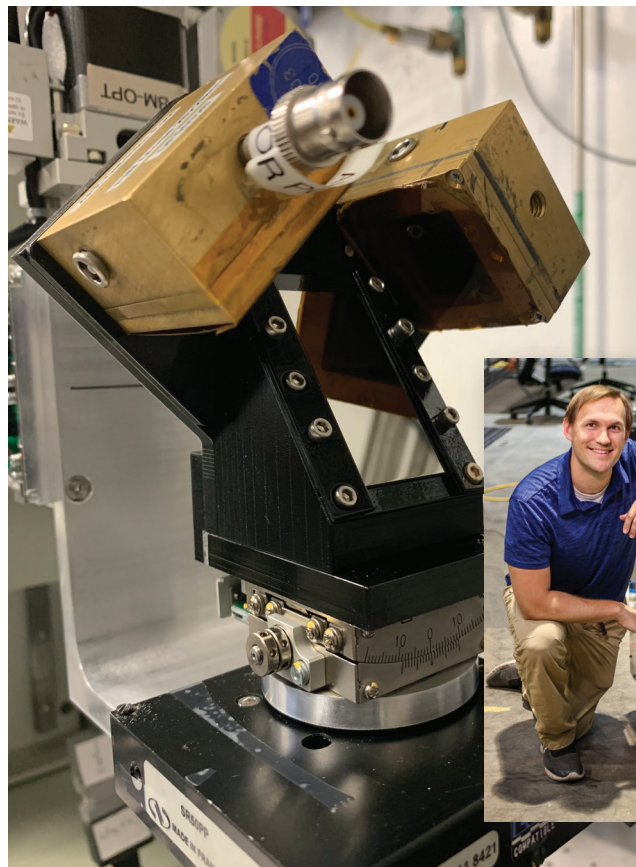
SITE-DIRECTED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SDRD)

Started in 2002 by Congressional authorization, the Site-Directed Research and Development (SDRD) Program is an essential element of the NNSS' technical enterprise. The SDRD program is the NNSS' premier science and technology venue and primary source for discovery and innovation for NNSS national security missions. Similar to the laboratory-directed research and development (LDRD) programs at the NNSA National Laboratories and production plants, SDRD enhances the technical vitality of the NNSS by addressing the following core areas:

- ▶ Developing and demonstrating innovative ideas and technologies to advance new solutions to national and global security needs
- ▶ Enhancing core competencies required for current and emerging technical missions
- ▶ Retaining and recruiting individuals with critical skills

Proposals are solicited every year, and about two dozen projects are funded annually and are tied to principal thrust areas. An annual report is released every April for the previous year's projects.

Learn more about the [SDRD program](#).



PARTNERSHIPS

The NNSS partners with companies throughout the U.S. who come to the Site to take advantage of its unique geographic and security features. The Site itself offers an unmatched testing theater with qualities our partners would be hard-pressed to find anywhere else: talented experts, restricted

airspace, secure controlled environments, around-the-clock access, and of course, plenty of clear skies and sunshine.

Learn more about partnering with NNSS at our [Partnerships](#) page.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The NNSS supports a number of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs and initiatives, and many employees volunteer for nonprofits throughout Southern Nevada.

Some of the NNSS' community involvement includes:

- ▶ Partnering with at-risk schools
- ▶ Funding scholarship programs
- ▶ Funding programs such as First Robotics, which encourages engineering, programming, and teamwork among participants
- ▶ Volunteering at Three Square Food Bank

The NNSS also hosts the annual regional Nevada Science Bowl. Nevada Science Bowl features a fast-paced, nine-round format where students "buzz in" and answer tough questions covering

biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, astronomy and more. Teams of high school students compete for first place, with the top 12 teams receiving cash prizes for their school's math/science department and the first-place team traveling to Washington, D.C. to compete in the [DOE's National Science Bowl](#).

Learn more about the [Nevada Science Bowl](#).





TOUR PROGRAM

[Free, general-interest tours](#) of the Site are provided to the public on a monthly basis. Groups, civic or technical organizations, and private clubs may request specially arranged tours (for a minimum of 25 people) by sending an email to NNSSTours@nv.doe.gov.

Members of the media seeking a tour of the Site should contact the Office of Public Affairs at 702-295-3521.

NEVADA ECONOMIC IMPACT

- ▶ The Nevada National Security Sites are the largest high-tech employer in Southern Nevada, employing approximately 3,500 people, about 3,200 of whom work in Nevada.
- ▶ Annually, NNSS represents a nearly \$1 billion economic impact in Nevada.
- ▶ \$7.5 billion – total replacement value of infrastructure (road and building) at the NNSS.
- ▶ Since 2000, more than \$15 million to support emergency response capabilities.

[Find out more about the NNSS' economic impact.](#)



RESOURCES

- ▶ [Fact sheets](#)
- ▶ [Current news](#)
- ▶ [Press releases](#)
- ▶ [Nuclear Testing Archive](#)
- ▶ [Significant dates in nuclear history -- timeline](#)

Also find us on:

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- ▶ [Instagram](#)
- ▶ [LinkedIn](#)
- ▶ [DOE's Lab Partnering Service](#)

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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You may also contact:

Phone: 702-295-3521

Email: mediarelations@nv.doe.gov

Emergency Public Information

In the event of an emergency, information will be provided as it becomes available.

[Additional information on contacting the NNSS during an emergency situation is available on our website.](#)

