



November 4, 2008

TO: ANTHONY UMEK

FROM: JIM STAFFORD

**STANDARDIZE AND IMPROVE ADHERANCE TO RADIOLOGICAL CONTROLS**

**Owner:** Jim Stafford (DOE Counterpart: Brenda Mills)

**Description:**

Radiological control concerns identified during transition as well as recent personnel contamination events have resulted in the need for a concerted effort to increase radiological control management attention, to identify common causes and trends, to develop specific corrective actions with measurable milestones, and to track results using performance indicators. A radiological “back to basics” focus period was initiated 10/27/08. M&O Management was requested to review a “back to basics” presentation with all radiological workers with the emphasis being placed on individual responsibility. In addition, “flashing signs” at SRS perimeter barricades are being used to remind personnel of the individual responsibility associated with radiological work. The week of 10/27 had the message “Radiological Back to Basics – Be Aware of Your Individual Responsibilities,” while the message during the week of 11/3 is “Poor Radiological Practices May Lead to Contamination or Exposure Events/Errors.”

**Expected Outcome:**

It is expected that the M&O facilities will demonstrate an immediate and sustained adherence to radiological controls. Compared to the FY08 ORPS Personnel Contamination Event Rate, M&O will achieve at least a 5% reduction in the period 10/1/08 – 12/31/08.

**Resources Required to Implement the Initiative:**

Initially, labor resources in the form of management man-hours will be required to implement the initiative. Capital expenditures may be required as a result of the identification of facility conditions that are contrary to sound radiological control.

It is estimated that 4 FTEs will be required in the near term to implement the “Back to Basics” component of this initiative.

**Actions:**

1. Prioritize facilities in terms of radiological risk based on past performance, facility condition, dose consequence, and source term.

Due: 10/10/08      Responsible: Jim Stafford      Status: Complete

Description: The ranking (high to low) of facilities in terms of radiological risk is E-Area TRU Operations, F-Canyon TRU Operations, SRNL, H-Canyon/H-OF/HBL, F/H-Labs, NMM, Tritium Facilities, and S&G/D&D.

2. Establish an independent assist visit in E-Area TRU operations and F-Canyon TRU operations using both RPD and non-RPD senior radiological control personnel with extensive experience in glovebox operations with TRU radionuclides.

Due: 10/10/08      Responsible: Jim Stafford      Status: Complete

Description: The radiological control personnel participating in the assist visit were Joe Quattlebaum, Mike Conaway, and Deborah Solomon (FEB). A report with recommendations has been issued.

3. Establish a radiological control Senior Supervisory Watch (SSW) in the E-Area TRU operations. Description: The radiological control personnel participating in the SSW are Joe Quattlebaum, Ellen Parrish, and Thomas Smith. A report with recommendation is forthcoming

Due: 10/31/08      Responsible: Jim Stafford      Status: Complete

4. Establish the standard optimum transition area/step-off-pad (SOP) configurations. Use the models for a benchmark in conducting walkdowns of all transition area/SOPs in the facilities. Include facility operations in the walkdowns for needed support in configuration arrangement. Implement needed improvements as necessary.

Due: 11/21/08      Responsible: Area S&H Managers      Status: On-going

5. Conduct a radiological control re-focus briefing in HMD, which highlights recent events and re-emphasizes expectation. Senior HMD managers will conduct the re-focus briefing. The target audience is all HMD employees

Due: 10/31/08      Responsible: Ted Padezanin      Status: Complete

6. With the information from the radiological control re-focus briefing in HMD, all shift crews will receive an additional briefing conducted by the SOM, Shift FLM, and RCO FLM.

Due: 10/31/08      Responsible: Ted Padezanin      Status: Complete

7. Conduct a pre-outage radiological control pause in F/H-Laboratory to re-emphasize radiological control requirements and good practices.

Due: 10/17/08      Responsible: Terry Pifer      Status: Complete

8. Conduct a data review of radiological events to establish trends or common causes.

Due: 10/10/08      Responsible: Ellen Parrish      Status: Complete

Results: Over half of the FY08 ORPS/Non-ORPS contamination events occurred while workers were not signed in on JSRWP/SRWPs requiring sign-in and sign-out.

9. Conduct a detailed data analysis of the STAR Third Tier Bin categories to determine if there are trends or common causes.

Due: 11/7/08                      Responsible: Tricia Williams                      Status: On-going

Initial Results: The majority of the third tier bin data is in contamination control deficiencies.

10. Increase emphasis on radiological control self-assessments in facilities, with emphasis on Management Field Observations. Direct radiological control staff to use STAR to record findings, opportunities for improvement, and items that are corrected on the spot (COTS) as well as categorizing the issues down to the third tier bin for future data analysis.

Due: 11/14/08                      Responsible: Area S&H Managers                      Status: On-going

11. Due to legacy contamination issues discovered in the Fixed Contamination Area in (FCA) F-Canyon TRU operations, perform a detailed walkdown of all FCAs in M&O facilities. Identify areas where paint is worn, signs/labels are faded, inventory is incomplete. If paint is worn to the base coat, have RCI survey for removable contamination and request the facility management to re-establish the fixative coating

Due: 11/21/08                      Responsible: RCO Facility Managers                      Status: Walkdowns complete 10/24/08, corrective actions in progress

12. Establish a standing RPD staff meeting agenda item (bi-monthly) to review events, issues, STAR third tier bin items, and lessons learned. Establish an aggressive action plan to address any issues that are determined to be approaching a level of concern.

Due: 10/31/08                      Responsible: Jim Stafford                      Status: Complete

13. Establish a standing RPD staff meeting agenda item (bi-monthly) to review performance indicators to track success of this initiative or negative trends. Establish an aggressive action plan to address any issues that are determined to be approaching a level of concern.

Due: 10/31/08                      Responsible: Jim Stafford                      Status: Complete

14. Perform a management review of data obtained from self-assessments, MFOs, and outside audits. Areas of concern that are identified will be used to develop subsequent continuous improvement initiatives. Issue a Radiological Improvement Plan.

Due: 1/30/09                      Responsible: Jim Stafford                      Status: Open

c: B. G. Mills, DOE, 730-B  
C. L. Munns, SRNS, 730-1B  
W. J. Sependa, 730-1B  
R. T. Williamson, 730-1B  
C. R. Goergen, 704-2H  
C. G. Nickell, 704-2H  
C. R. Campbell, 704-1N  
C. Gentile, 235-H  
D. W. Armstrong, 730-1B  
D. M. Evans, 730-2B  
D. G. Murdoch, 735-B  
E. D. Haygood, 730-1B  
D. J. Carr, 704-55E  
D. L. Beeler, 730-4B  
E. Hodge, 704-N  
G. D. Coxon, 730-1B  
C. G. Reynolds, 703-41A  
J. M. Gaver, 730-1B  
J. Jackson, 730-1B  
F. Dohse, 704-2H  
J. W. Temple, 730-1B  
J. H. Fagan, 730-1B  
J. D. Chiou, 704-59E  
L. E. Johnson, 707-C  
M. A. Davis, 730-1B  
M. R. Eshelman, 730-1B  
M. A. Flora, 730-4B  
M. A. Benischek, 730-1B  
M. J. Kuntz, 730-1B  
N. G. Powell, 730-1B  
R. Slochum, 730-1B  
R. M. Sprague, 717-K  
S. K. Bhattacharyya, 773-A  
S. B. Speight, 730-2B  
J. S. Evans, 730-1B  
V. Wilson, 730-1B  
G. D. Guinn, 730-1B  
J. P. Goldenberg, 704-C  
R. M. Schroder, 730-1B  
N. S. Adams, 730-1B  
J. R. Wilson, 704-S  
D. F. McLane, 704-A  
M. D. Matheny, 766-H  
P. P. Williams, 730-1B  
K. W. Crase, 730-1B  
E. Z. Parrish, 730-1B  
M. L. Gilles, 730-1B

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C. D. Strain, 730-4B  
M. A. Waldrop, 730-1B  
G. G. Tunno, 735-2B  
T. Padezanin, 704-2H  
J. O. Quattlebaum, 740-12A  
H. M. Bolen, 704-K  
T. J. Pifer, 772-F  
D. P. Potocik, 235-H  
J. R. Windham, 773-A