

SRS ALARA CENTER (AC) MARCH 2008 ACTIVITY REPORT

ASSISTANCE, DEMONSTRATIONS, RESEARCH, AND TOURS

The external SRS ALARA Center website is posted at www.srs.gov/general/programs/alara/alara_center.htm

The internal SRS ALARA Center website is available in ShRINE at the ES&H Regulatory and Radiological Technologies web-site. www.srs.gov/general/programs/alara/

The FLUOR Hanford ALARA Center website is available at www.hanford.gov/rl/?page=973&parent=0

The G/O Corp 5 gallon carboy container (Stores item number 32-21894.00) will include a Whirl Pak poly bag for storing the inner plug. A poly bag was added to the Stores inventory and bags were distributed for those in the field. However, contact the ALARA Center if you need a poly bag.



On March 19, 2008 ALARA Center personnel conducted a walk down of Waste Management Programs 55 gallon drum TRU repack and drum handling operations in F-Area. Facility Management requested the walk down so the ALARA Center could identify opportunities to reduce occupational worker radiation exposure when repacking and transporting TRU drums. The walk down included observing low activity TRU drum repacking, receipt of drums from SWMF and employee interviews with Operations and Radiological Control Operations personnel.

Below are the recommendations.

- Have a U-shaped wall on wheels manufactured on-site or procured off-site. Lead-X Vinyl could be procured by the ALARA Center and protected in herculite by the Containment Fabrication Facility then affixed to the U-shaped wall. This is the same material as the "toilet seat cover" used to pack waste in the parent and daughter drums. This shield could be used at the parent and daughter drum.
- Require use of Bar Ray Vari-Flex Starlight Lightweight frontal protection aprons when repacking all TRU drums. They are currently required only when processing high activity drums (> 25 mrem/hr @ 30 cms).
- Implement RCO inspector suggestion to modify drum transporter or procure a different transporter. This modification would add a chain to ensure the drum does not fall off the transporter thus eliminating the needs for a second person in contact with the drum. Another alternative is to purchase new drum transporters. See Morse Mobile Karrier at www.morsemfgco.com/lit/80.pdf. Cost is approximately \$500. A distributor is Zorin Materials at www.zorinmaterial.com (888-378-6525).

The ALARA Center provided C-Lab with a Nilfisk GM-80 HEPA filtered vacuum system (rated at 87 cfm). Five were also provide to F-Area for cleaning the TRU glove box prefilter screen. www.nilfiskcfm.com/ProductDetail.aspx?m=100

The ALARA Center and Radiological Controls Operations worked together to obtain the following items to be used for emergency response.

- Step-Off pads (Hot, Cold, & Warm Zones and Clean Area) for firefighter bunker gear removal.

- Magnetic mount retractable yellow and magenta 24 foot reel tape for barricading an area.
www.gocorp.com/product.php?ID=149

On 3/17/08 Construction personnel on F-Area Tank Farm were lifting a Nilfisk GM83 HEPA vacuum into the bed of a truck when the pedal bar was inadvertently lifted thus releasing the waste container from the unit. Waste spilled onto the truck and asphalt. Maximum contamination levels were 40,000 dpm beta gamma probed and 1,700 dpm/100 cm2 smearable. A similar event occurred in 2006 with a Nilfisk GM625 and modification instructions were issued to prevent reoccurrence. The modification instructions were revised to include the model 83 (see below). Nilfisk discontinued the Model 83 approximately five years ago and the Model 625/626 the last quarter of 2007. Also attached is the WSRC Site issued Lessons Learned Special Information Notice issued on this event.



The ALARA Center provided F-Area TRU Repack three pads of 36"x 36" white adhesive step off pads (SOPs) for evaluation. They will be placed on the drum lifter shoot where the waste is pulled out from the drum for repackaging. Each pad contains thirty SOPs and one will be removed after a drum is processed. The goal is to minimize contamination on the drum lifter thus reducing time spent on decontamination efforts. A picture of the drum loader is below.



The SOP would be affixed above the line.

Comments have been positive from HTF concerning the use of the NFS Model SP 1000 LV (FM 48) Portable HEPA filtered Filtration Unit. A NFS MAC-21D HEPA filtration unit was also provided to the Saltstone Facility for localized ventilation.

The ALARA Center provided assistance to Oak Ridge concerning gloves worn for contamination control. The North ATCP1815Y latex rubber, 15 mil, 15 inches long launderable glove and the Kimberly Clarke 7 mil ambidextrous HC4411 (number for large) is worn for disposable.

The ALARA Center designed a new step-off pad at the request of the Tritium Facility and ordered five. The part number is SOP555NPF. Description is; Standard 20"x30"x40 mil thick with two stop signs. MAT: PLASTIC, CLEAR, LEXAN, SUBSURFACE MAGENTA LETTERING ON YELLOW BACKGROUND READING: PLEASE REMOVE OUTER SHOE COVERS AND GLOVES BEFORE STEPPING HERE.

VENDOR INFORMATION AND VISITS

The ALARA Center is expanding its mission to provide more assistance to the Industrial Safety and Hygiene programs. The first initiative is to have the Desco Manufacturing Company Southeast District Manager conduct two training seminars on dust free tools – their use and applications. The objective is to educate the appropriate personnel to use engineering controls to eliminate airborne chemical hazards. The dates are;

- Tuesday April 16, 2008 766-H Rm 1045, 1 PM
- Wednesday April 17, 2008, 766-H Rm 1045, 9 AM

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