



Around the Region in Homeland Security February 2008

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest. This monthly status report summarizes activities related to Homeland Security in the Pacific Northwest, including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska.

This issue highlights

- Visits by Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) leadership
- Availability of a pandemic influenza preparedness training video
- Possible collaborations between research and public health
- Early registration for catastrophic incident recovery symposium.

DNDO Deputy Director Visits Area

On February 17 and 18, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Deputy Director of the DNDO, Dr. Chuck Gallaway, visited the Seattle/Tacoma area. Accompanying Dr. Gallaway throughout the visit was the Principle Deputy Assistant Director of the Product Acquisition Directorate of DNDO, Ernie Muenchau. The first day of their Seattle/Tacoma visit was spent at the Port of Tacoma where DNDO has established the Rail Test Center (RTC) to study and test technologies, conduct of operations plans, and operational impacts associated with radiation scanning devices. Tacoma is well suited for this purpose given the high percentage of cargo moved directly from ship to rail, a particularly challenging problem when integrated with radiation scanning. While at Tacoma, Dr. Gallaway and Mr. Muenchau were joined by their DNDO colleagues, Mr. Julian Hill (Assistant Director of Systems Engineering and Evaluation), Mr. Patrick Simmons (Deputy Assistant Director for Ports of Entry in the Mission Management Directorate), and Mr. Matthew Graviss (RTC Program Manager under Mr. Hill). All were able to meet with the RTC multi-stakeholder team, including DNDO, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Port of Tacoma, terminal representatives, and staff from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), who manage the RTC. Touring the port and meeting with stakeholders provided the visitors first-hand experience with the challenges and complexities faced by the RTC.

questions, please contact Ann Lesperance at ann.lesperance@pnl.gov (206.528.3223) or Steve Stein at steve.stein@pnl.gov (206.528.3340).

Upcoming Events

March 5

Sound Shake Regional Exercise, to include a full-scale demonstration of the Regional Technology Initiative (RTI) interconnected emergency operations center capability
Across the region

March 18 - 20

Standardization Evaluation and Assistance Team (SEAT) Program Evaluation
Camp Murray, Washington

March 19

Catastrophic Incident Recovery Workshop
Seattle

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Operated by Battelle for the
U.S. Department of Energy

Around the Region in Homeland Security is a monthly report from the Northwest Regional Technology Center, operated by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The goal of the NWRTC is to bring together major stakeholders from across the region that have a vested interest in homeland security issues and provide a collaborative environment that addresses Northwest regional homeland security requirements, needs, and challenges. For more

information, contact Director Steve Stein at steve.stein@pnl.gov or 206-528-3340, Deputy Director Mary Peterson at mary.peterson@pnl.gov or 509-372-4655, or see the website at <http://nwrtc/pnl.gov>.