

Chem-Bio News

- 1. WEB DEVELOPER BUILDS NUCLEAR REACTOR IN BROOKLYN WAREHOUSE:** *"Mark Suppes is a Web developer for the fashion house Gucci, but in his off-hours, he tinkers with his homemade nuclear-fusion reactor in a Brooklyn warehouse, unknown to his neighbors."*
- 2. HOUSE PANEL APPROVES WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BILL:** *"The 95-page bill would require the homeland security secretary to hold a "negotiated rulemaking committee" with other government agencies to develop enhanced regulations for biological research facilities and personnel. That body would in turn create a tier of disease materials deemed to be the most serious threats to the United States, labeling them "Tier 1 Material Threat Agents."*
- 3. NNSA CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL W87 JTA FLIGHT:** *"The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) today announced it recently completed a successful test of a Joint Test Assembly (JTA) for the W87 warhead. The test was conducted in close working cooperation with the U.S. Air Force."*

Chem-Demil News

- 1. CHEM DEMIL PROFESSIONALS GATHER AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:** *"The 13th annual Chemical Weapons Demilitarisation (CWD) Conference, held last month, provided an international forum to exchange information on the global successes and challenges experienced since inception of the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty. The first conference was held in 1998 in Bournemouth, United Kingdom, and since has been held annually all over the world."*
- 2. ENHANCING PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** *"Workers at the TOCDF [Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility], as well as those at other CMA disposal facilities, will soon begin utilizing a Modified Demilitarization Protective Ensemble (MDPE) suit to make entries inside the facility. The DPE is a one-piece, fully encapsulated protective suit that is slightly positive in pressure to prevent workers from becoming contaminated when entering areas of the facility which are known to have chemical agent contamination."*

CB Daily Report

Chem-Bio News

WEB DEVELOPER BUILDS NUCLEAR REACTOR IN BROOKLYN WAREHOUSE

By Liz Goodwin
Yahoo! News
June 23, 2010

"Mark Suppes is a Web developer for the fashion house Gucci, but in his off-hours, he tinkers with his homemade nuclear-fusion reactor in a Brooklyn warehouse, unknown to his neighbors. In a video interview with BBC News' Matthew Danzico, Suppes cheerfully shows the reporter how his reactor works, warning him to step back as the machine activates and emits a small amount of radiation. The reporter is heard laughing nervously in the background, telling Suppes to be careful.

Suppes' is the 38th homemade reactor built by an independent amateur scientist, according to Fusor.net. On that website, "fusioneers" discuss attempts to create a nuclear-fusion reactor that produces as much energy as it consumes, a problem that has plagued some of science's greatest minds."

The full article can be found at: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ynews/20100623/sc_ynews/ynews_sc2797
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HOUSE PANEL APPROVES WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION BILL

By Martin Matishak
Global Security Newswire
June 24, 2010

"The 95-page bill would require the homeland security secretary to hold a "negotiated rulemaking committee" with other government agencies to develop enhanced regulations for biological research facilities and personnel. That body would in turn create a tier of disease materials deemed to be the most serious threats to the United States, labeling them "Tier 1 Material Threat Agents."

The Agriculture and Health and Human Services departments would then conduct inspections of those laboratories to enforce the rules written by the negotiating committee and retain their current oversight roles. Agriculture and HHS officials also would be assigned to establish training programs for employees at those sites.

Pascrell and King also addressed the broader danger posed by biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons, calling for the national intelligence director to receive new authority to coordinate with other federal offices to develop and implement strategies for countering WMD threats. The Health and Human Services Department would also be required to develop and implement a national strategy for distributing medical countermeasures in the event of a unconventional weapons event.

The bill is derived from recommendations made last year by the Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism. That congressionally mandated panel concluded that an attack involving a weapon of mass destruction is likely to occur somewhere in the world by the end of 2013 unless significant security improvements are made.

It also stated that there was a greater likelihood of a biological attack than a nuclear strike because of the worldwide prevalence of deadly pathogens and other disease materials."

The full article can be found at: http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20100624_5600.php
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NNSA CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL W87 JTA FLIGHT

US National Nuclear Security Administration Press Release
June 24, 2010

"The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) today announced it recently completed a successful test of a Joint Test Assembly (JTA) for the W87 warhead. The test was conducted in close working cooperation with the U.S. Air Force.

JTA flight "This successful JTA test illustrates NNSA's commitment to ensuring that all weapon systems perform as designed," said Brig. Gen. Garrett Harencak, NNSA Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Application. "The continued strong cooperation between the NNSA and DoD is vital to U.S. national security."

The W87 JTA flew from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, on board a Minute Man III missile. The Air Force assesses missile performance and reliability and NNSA assesses the same for the warhead.

This Series 4 W87 JTA is the most sophisticated and complete warhead replica, now flown for the third time. The JTA's sensors and resulting data prove that the W87 performed as designed. The test evaluated overall performance of the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile weapon system.

NNSA designed and produced the JTAs. As part of the Joint Flight Test Program, NNSA and the Air Force share the cost of the JTA. The JTAs simulate actual weapon configuration and use as much war reserve hardware as feasible.

The JTA includes a telemetry system which collects and transmits data on the warhead. The data is fed into a reliability model developed by Sandia National Laboratories and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to evaluate the warhead reliability.”

The full article can be found at: <http://nnsa.energy.gov/mediaroom/pressreleases/jtaflight062410>
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Chem-Demil News

CHEM DEMIL PROFESSIONALS GATHER AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

US Army Chemical Materials Agency Monthly Update

June 24, 2010

“The 13th annual Chemical Weapons Demilitarisation (CWD) Conference, held last month, provided an international forum to exchange information on the global successes and challenges experienced since inception of the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty. The first conference was held in 1998 in Bournemouth, United Kingdom, and since has been held annually all over the world.

This year’s setting was in Prague, Czech Republic, and the conference aimed to promote cooperation between government, Army Forces, industry, academia, and research and development organizations. Members of the conference were encouraged to share ideas and network with speakers, decision makers and those involved with policy at the international level.

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency was well-represented at the event, including a number of guest speakers from Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD). DCD representatives presented various topics, including public involvement, process improvement, secondary waste disposal and GA/Lewisite destruction efforts.

“Conference attendees had an opportunity to gather valuable information that may provide solutions to challenges associated with world-wide chemical weapons disposal efforts,” stated Ted Ryba, Site Project Manager for the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF). “We look forward to participating next year as we prepare to wrap up TOCDF operations.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?DocID=003683105>
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ENHANCING PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

US Army Chemical Materials Agency Monthly Update

June 24, 2010

“Workers at the TOCDF, as well as those at other CMA disposal facilities, will soon begin utilizing a Modified Demilitarization Protective Ensemble (MDPE) suit to make entries inside the facility. The DPE is a one-piece, fully encapsulated protective suit that is slightly positive in pressure to prevent workers from becoming contaminated when entering areas of the facility which are known to have chemical agent contamination.

The MDPE is the same as the traditional DPE, but it offers approximately a 35 percent larger field of

vision. The “enhanced vision mask” extends lower on the suit than the traditional DPE, allowing the individual to see more of his working environment, which makes it easier to manage and maneuver their air supply hose.

“Now when the entrants look down towards the floor, they can actually see the floor and what’s below them, instead of seeing the inside of their suit,” explains Bert Durrant, CMA Personal Protective Equipment Team Lead. The modified visor is also fabricated in a bubble form, which will eliminate the worker’s respirator mask from rubbing on the inside of the suit.

The modified suit is fabricated of the same material – Polyvinyl chloride and chlorinated polyethylene, better known as PVC and CPE – as the traditional DPE suit. The MDPE will continue to offer the same protective qualities as before; the modifications will simply enhance the visibility and movement of the workers.

TOCDF workers will continue to use the traditional DPE suits until they have a surplus of MDPE suits available, which they anticipate to take place around July. Once the MDPE surplus is established, TOCDF will send the remaining traditional suits back to the manufacturer to be retrofitted with the new modifications, upon which, they will be delivered back to the TOCDF.”

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cma.army.mil/fndocumentviewer.aspx?DocID=003683105>
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