

New Scaffolding Monitor Solves Customer Decon Challenge

UniTech's Springfield, MA plant has solved another customer problem by taking on a large-scale decontamination project requiring customized technology to execute. Industrial scaffolding, required for worker access during outages, consists of hollow pipes and flat planks. Because of the shape of the pipes in particular, the scaffolding presents a unique challenge to properly decontaminate and monitor. UniTech successfully and cost-effectively decontaminated 330,000 pounds of scaffolding for an Ontario-based power company – and saved the client 30-40% that would have otherwise been spent on new materials.

The scaffolding decontamination project began with the shipment of the pieces in 23 20-foot Sealand containers, all of which had to be decontaminated and surveyed for radiation, along with their contents. UniTech



workers unloaded the scaffolding and brought it into the decontamination area to remove residual tape, paint or other materials before coating the pieces with a heavy-duty cleanser. They then blasted each piece with hot water pressurized to approximately 5,000 PSI, stripping away the cleanser and any contaminants.

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Product Innovation: Launderable Air-Fed Suits and Filters

UniTech/ENS is pleased to announce the availability of several new products designed to take the place of costly disposable single-use items. Since our customers continue to demand more launderable options, we've spent the last year developing the technology to make launderable air-fed suits and filters a reality.



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Launderable Air-Fed Suits and Filters

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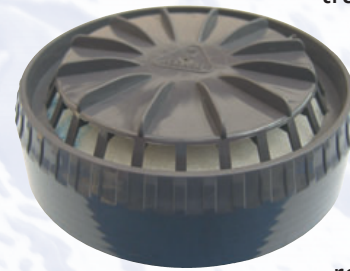
Launderable Hoods

In Canada, workers are currently limited to using disposable air-fed Tritium hoods, which make up a large percentage of the radwaste generated by the power plants. In response to significant demand, UniTech is creating a launderable air-fed hood with a barrier to keep Tritium out while remaining lightweight, flexible and comfortable to wear. The lens is removable and can be easily replaced after laundering.



Launderable Respirator Filters

Other elements that frequently find their way into radwaste – at significant replacement costs to the nuclear facilities – are the respirators worn by workers in radioactive environments. Typically, the entire filter cartridge, which protects the worker from breathing contaminated air, is discarded after a single use. But now UniTech, in collaboration with the European company “Draeger,” has developed a launderable and reusable filter cartridge for respirators. The filter medium, made of a disposable paper product, can be removed while the rest of the cartridge pieces are washed. The rear piece of the filter is



transparent, so wearers can verify that the new filter medium is safely in place before donning the respirator.

Gunter Bruckner, European Operations Manager at UniTech’s German subsidiary, said that these new products represent an opportunity that other manufacturers have yet to take advantage of. “Our competitors aren’t developing and marketing launderable site wear because they would prefer to sell and re-sell the whole product. Also, very few companies offer the kinds of laundering services that UniTech specializes in, and so they focus on single-use items.” As always, UniTech is proud to offer products that will last longer, minimize waste and save customers money! ■■



Launderable Air-Fed Suits

Ventilated suits are a necessity in nuclear environments, allowing the wearer access to a filtered air supply. Unfortunately, the majority of the air-fed suits available are single-use only and cannot be laundered, primarily because the existing suit designs do not allow for easy decontamination in the laundering process. In order to make such a suit launderable, both the material and design need to allow for easy decontamination and drying.

UniTech/ENS has recently put the finishing touches on just such a suit, the first widely available launderable air-fed suit that is also flame retardant and anti-static. The suits are made from a comfortable lightweight material that can be economically washed and dried in licensed facilities. “Most importantly,” said Gregg Johnstone, UniTech’s Director of Sales and Marketing, “the cost-per-use will be dramatically less than what customers are currently paying for their single use air-fed suits.”

The outside air supply for the new launderable air-fed suits will be available in two forms: a backpack-style filter and pump that allows more mobility for the wearer, or a centralized outside filter connected to the suit by a hose.

“ Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower ”

– Steve Jobs,
Apple Computer Founder

UniTech Expands Customer Service Staff



Tanya French

As part of our commitment to customer service, UniTech has recently added two new Assistant Technical Account Managers. Our new colleagues work both onsite and offsite to assure UniTech is meeting the customers' needs. They will also be focusing on our new Mobile Safety Stores to assure they are stocked according to customer specifications.

Tanya French joined UniTech early in 2006 as an Assistant Technical Accounts Manager. She works closely with Jan Long at the Barnwell, SC office. Among other responsibilities, French provides onsite coordination during refuel outages, develops new business and sales of safety supplies and clothing, and serves as the Mobile Safety Services Coordinator. Prior to her work in the nuclear industry, French served as a paramedic, and later as a Senior Decon Tech and HP Technician, working for SCE&G-VC Summer. She is an avid Carolina Gamecock Football fan.



Denise Arlen

Denise Arlen is not new to the UniTech family, having started in June 2005 as a Production Supervisor at the Springfield, MA plant. There, she was responsible for laundering, monitoring and shipping of garments. When the new position opened up at the plant, Arlen was eager to put her extensive customer service background to work on the client service side. Arlen was hired to her new position in March 2006 and now works closely with Kent Anderson, focusing on Northeast U.S. and New Brunswick, Canada-based customers. Arlen graduated from UMass Amherst with a Bachelor of Science degree. Arlen had also managed a small chain of Western Massachusetts-area retail stores for 10 years, where she was in charge of all operations and customer service. ■■

QA Brief: ISO 14001 Certification

In addition to being certified to ISO 9001, UniTech Services Group recently achieved companywide certification to ISO 14001. ISO 14001 is an international specification for an environmental management system used by organizations to establish environmental policy, determine impacts on the environment, develop environmental objectives and targets, and provide verification, corrective action and management review.

The ISO 14000 environmental standards exist to help companies minimize how their operations negatively affect the environment, ensure compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations, and provide for continual improvement. ■■

Upcoming Conferences

U.S.

- December 11-14: PermaFix Mixed Waste Forum, Nashville, TN
- January 15-17: Int'l ALARA, EPRI Radiation Protection, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- January 19-20: US NRC Region III RPM Meeting, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- January 21-24: HPS Midyear on Decommissioning, Knoxville, TN
- January 23-24: BWR/PWR ALARA Committee, Tampa, FL
- January 24-26: NISHA, Tampa, FL
- January 28-30: USA Supply Chain Meeting, San Antonio, TX
- February 26-March 2: Waste Management '06, Tucson, AZ

- June 3-6: Rapid Users Conference, Sand Key, FL
- June 13-15: USA Conference, Cour de Lane, ID
- June 25-28: EPRI/LLW Conference, Foxwoods Resort, CT
- July 8-12: HPS Annual Meeting, Portland, OR

Canada

- February 28-March 1: Canada Nuclear Association Annual Seminar, Ottawa, ON Canada

Europe

- March 21-23: Kontec 2007, Dresden, Germany
- May 14-16: ICAPP, Nice, France
- May 22-24: Kerntechnik 2007, Karlsruhe, Germany

Recent Contract Highlights

- CWI, Idaho, Respirator services
- Los Alamos, Contract renewal
- Defense Supply Center, RF protective covers
- MIT, Contract renewal
- Entergy-Fitzpatrick, ProTech "One" program
- FPL, Seabrook, ProTech "One" program
- Bechtel Bettis, ProTech bagsuits
- Radiac Research, Safety supplies
- DC Cook, Inneralls and SoftTech coveralls
- Fluor Hanford, UniTrek shoecovers
- SRS, UniTrek shoecovers
- First Energy, ProTech coveralls

Scaffolding Decon Challenge

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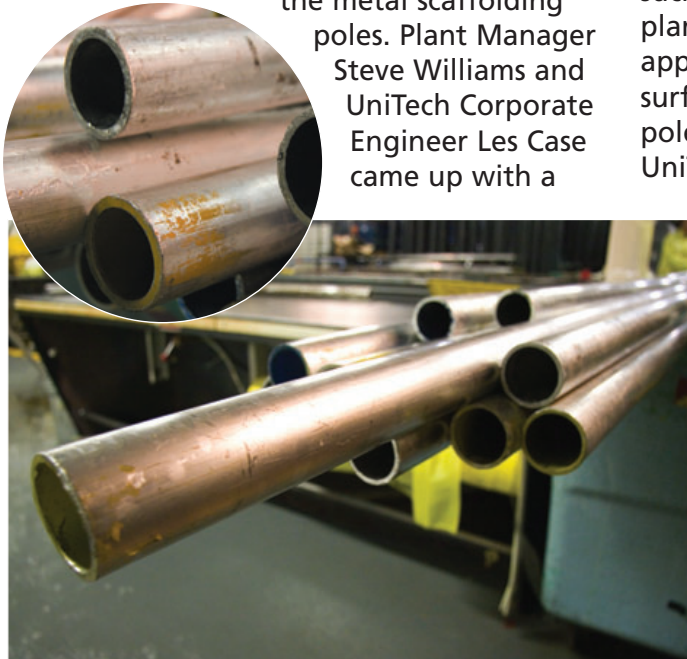
After decontamination, UniTech staff placed the small pieces, such as the connector “knuckles” used to connect scaffold poles, into a small article monitor to check for any residual contamination. They monitored the contamination levels of the planks in the same kind of monitor used to scan clothing after being decontaminated.

The challenge arose with the metal scaffolding poles. Plant Manager Steve Williams and UniTech Corporate Engineer Les Case came up with a

new method that is capable of measuring contamination levels on all sides of the poles. “Typical conveyor type radiation monitors only take measurements on the top and bottom of the article,” explained Williams. “That’s suitable for flat items, such as clothing or flat planks, but it means that approximately 50% of the surface area of the round poles would go unchecked.” UniTech commissioned the development of a round scaffold monitor with staggered radiation detectors and its own conveyer belt, which is designed for poles.

“The new monitor design made all the difference – we were able to thoroughly evaluate the poles and clear them for return,” said Williams. “Many customers are now

asking us about this technology. It’s clear that no one else is offering this type of service yet.” ■■



Scaffolding pipes before and after decontamination



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ISO 9001 & 14001 Certified
ISOQAR, INC.

UniTech Services Group, Inc.
295 Parker Street
P.O. Box 51957
Springfield, MA 01151
Toll free: 800-344-3824
Tel: 413-543-6911
Fax: 413-543-6989
E-mail: info@unitech.ws
www.unitech.ws



European Locations
ISO 9001 and 14001 Certified – TUV

Euro Nuclear Services B.V.
Coevorden, The Netherlands

ENS Nuklear Services GmbH
Ellgau, Germany

Euro Nuclear Services Ltd.
Peterborough, United Kingdom