# UniTRACK



# NUCLEAR SERVICES NEWS

UniTech Services Group, Inc. • Volume 16 Issue 1 • Spring 2019

# **UniTech Readies for Waste Management Expansion**

For many utilities, the Oak Ridge Service Center (ORSC) has been a critical cost-saving resource. UniTech customers now benefit from Bulk Survey for Release (BSFR) at reduced rates, saving millions each year.

Since UniTech launched the ORSC in 2016, adding the final step in a now turnkey solution to waste management, demand has grown, and grown fast. So fast that we've now outgrown the ORSC!

UniTech is in the early stages of purchasing property in nearby Clinton, TN that will triple waste processing capacity. A letter of intent was issued in March. The property supports rail access, as well as water processing and discharge.



The new campus will increase UniTech's waste management storage capacity by over 40 acres, and will be suitable for lifting of large components (for example, a 200-plus-ton crane).

In addition, the facility will host laundry processing and respirator processing services. Overall, UniTech's storage capacity will expand by 175,000 square feet when moving from the ORSC to the Clinton facility.



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We anticipate the new facility to be fully operational by 2020. Stay tuned to UniTech social media for more project updates as UniTech begins to renovate the Clinton facility and prepare for a very exciting move!

Land	2 acres	40 acres
Waste Processing	10,000 sq ft	80,000 sq ft
Rail Access	No	Yes
Water Processing	Νο	Yes
Location	Oak Ridge, TN	Clinton, TN
Barge Access	No	Yes
<b>Respiratory Processing</b>	Νο	Yes
Laundry Processing	No	Yes
Storage Inside	0	20,000 sq ft
Storage Outside	45,000 sq ft	200,000+ sq ft
Large Component Capability	50 T crane (manual rigging > 50 T)	200 T crane



# Last Chance to **Register for R<sup>3</sup>**

UniTech's R<sup>3</sup> Nuclear Workshop returns to Chicago June 5-7. Join us at the iconic Blackstone Hotel for hands-on idea sharing, exchanging of best practices, and advanced nuclear benchmarking!

R<sup>3</sup> brings together UniTech, our key partners and industry professionals from across the U.S. and Canada for three days focusing on cutting nuclear plant operational costs by 30 percent or more

This year's peer-to-peer educational sessions will cover:

- Reducing radwaste cost and volume
- New monitoring and decontamination techniques
- Advancements in fall protection, heat stress and helmet technology
- Innovations in decontamination and decommissioning

The itinerary also includes a technical tour of UniTech's Morris, IL facility and decon operation.

Register ASAP to ensure a spot. Follow the QR code, or visit www.UniTechUS.com/R3nuclearworkshop2019. 



# **UniTech Presents at National Meetings**

The UniTech team kicked off the early months of 2019 with two key presentations in Arizona, focused on cost-preventative customer behaviors with substantial positive impacts on nuclear plant operating costs.



#### **USA Supply Chain Winter Conference**

First up was a trip to Scottsdale for the Utilities Services Alliance (USA) Supply Chain Winter Conference January 28-30. Technical Accounts Manager - Dick Downard, and Director of Sales and Marketing - Gregg Johnstone, presented recent findings about the ways in which customers

are utilizing UniTech's Mobile Supply Store and RF tagging to reduce nuclear plant operating costs.

The Mobile Supply Store acts as "just-in-time inventory" — a customized semi-trailer stocked with a complete line of health physics supplies, industrial safety apparel, equipment, fall protection, first-aid kits, lockout systems, and consumables. The Mobile Supply Store offers the flexibility to deliver supplies to a job site to support special short-term projects (such as outages), or deliver to a facility consistently with scheduled restocking shipments, as a long-term solution. Ultimately, the Mobile Supply Store provides a significant cost savings advantage over warehouse charges and handling fees.

Customers have also been achieving cost savings through radio frequency identification (RFID) tagging of high-value inventory items, such as respirators. RFID tagging prevents items from being removed from the plant in Dry Active Waste (DAW) sorting. This works in tandem with a digital inventory system to eliminate human error in inventory management and tracking. The end result is less time spent searching, and significant loss prevention savings. RFID tagging is useful in eliminating the human error of logging vacuums and HEPA vacuums, traditionally completed through paper logs.

During its first outage employing the RF tagging program, LaSalle County Generating Station recovered 11 blowers and 4 vacuums, inventory worth \$8,000.



#### Waste Management Symposia

In Phoenix at the 45th annual Waste Management Symposia (March 3-7), Director of Canadian Operations - Kent Anderson, participated as part of an expert panel focused on Canadian nuclear plant waste management, after submitting a paper on

the topic of "Rad Waste Cost/Volume Reduction Using New Monitoring/ Decon Techniques, Launderable Items & Recycling."

Anderson contributed panel expertise on how UniTech and Canadian customers have collaborated to reduce waste volume and cost, while increasing recycling and reuse of materials.

Improved radiation monitoring and decontamination techniques over the past decade have been difference-makers. In the past 10 years, 2,700 metric tons of scaffolding and tooling have been released for unrestricted use, returning back to Canadian utilities, or recycled as non-radioactive scrap metal.

A major countrywide shift towards reusable (launderable) protective clothing items in the past decade has reduced the cost per use by more than 50 percent, reduced wasteful use of plastic wraps and eliminated thousands of cubic meters of Canadian nuclear plant waste.

The sheer impact of this shift was apparent when two Canadian reactors went through a large-scale midcycle refurbishment project, which occurred between March 2006 and November 2010. The operating utility avoided 3,581 cubic meters of radioactive waste by using launderable Radiological Personal Protective Equipment (RPPE), leading to a waste savings worth over \$15 million, and an additional cost avoidance of over \$3 million on direct purchase of single-use disposable RPPE.

(continued on page 4)

#### **New UniTech Videos**

UniTech has launched new videos to reflect its expanded capabilities in tool and metal decontamination, waste management and costeffective single use protective clothing programs. Customers are taking advantage of those programs to help lower plant operating costs in line with the industry-wide Delivering the Nuclear Promise initiative.



Learn more about our Tool and Metal Decontamination Services:





Learn more about how our Tool and Metal Decontamination and Waste Management Services work hand-in-hand together:





Learn more about our Hybrid Single-Use Protective Clothing Program:



#### **QA Update**

#### **Custom Monitoring Methods**

UniTech is committed to continuous improvement of the quality services our customers depend on. Quality improvement includes the design, production, and implementation of new radiological monitoring equipment to improve detection while reducing labor for 3M<sup>™</sup> helmets and breathing tubes.



These high-volume items include 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> helmets, as well as 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> breathing tubes that connect the helmet to accompanying PAPRs. UniTech has modified its existing technology to design monitors specifically for 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> helmets and breathing tubes. The "beehive monitor" provides custom monitoring of 3M<sup>™</sup> Versaflo<sup>™</sup> helmets, utilizing four distinctive detector arrays, providing consistent radiological monitoring with little to no change in geometry. These beehive monitors feature 35 gas-filled alpha-beta-gamma detectors, controlled by software similar to that featured in UniTech's automated laundry monitors.

UniTech's breathing tube monitor was derived from our custom scaffold monitor. The newly configured breathing tube monitor features 16 gas-filled alpha-beta-gamma detectors with fixed geometry for consistent radiological monitoring results.

Continuous engineering and advancement of monitoring technology by the UniTech team results in better monitoring at reduced costs. Building more automation into the monitoring process helps to eliminate the risk inherent to human performance and handfrisking errors.



#### **Product Spotlight: CoolShirt Systems**

The dog days of summer are fast approaching. In hotter climates, the temperatures are already rising, impacting the safety and productivity of nuclear plant employees.

AquaVest<sup>®</sup> by CoolShirt Systems is one of the most popular heat stress management solutions offered by UniTech across the U.S. and Canada, especially in the harshest warm weather climates.

AquaVest keeps workers cool and comfortable by helping to maintain a safe core body temperature, ultimately lessening dehydration. The garment is launderable, and its patented non-kink tubing ensures consistent and continuous cooling. AquaVest can be used with either a portable cooling BackPack System, or a Multi-Person Cooling Station that cools up to six workers at a time.

Other CoolShirt Systems vest and shirt models, as well as cooling systems, are available upon request. For more information on UniTech's full product line of heat stress management offerings, which includes other garments, scrubs, coveralls, and supplied air systems, contact your UniTech account manager or contact our corporate office at (413) 543-6911.



#### **Upcoming Conferences**

- May 2-3 ETEBA NM Federal Business Opportunities Forum/ Albuquerque, NM
- May 20-23 NSA/INPO Innovation Expo/Atlanta, GA
- May 29-30 TVC Summit/Chattanooga, TN
- June 5-7 UniTech R<sup>3</sup> Nuclear Workshop
- June 17-21 USA Executive Summit/San Antonio, TX
- June 18-20 PWR ALARA/San Antonio, TX
- June 19-21 EPRI International Low-Level Waste Conference/ Orlando, FL
- July 28-31 NEI Radiation Protection Forum/Memphis, TN
- August 4-7 Utility Working Conference and Vendor Technology Expo/Amelia Island, FL

August 27 Region III RPM Meeting/Lisle, IL

#### **Recent Contract Highlights**

- Fluor Marine: ProTech Bag Suits & Hoods
- PG&E, Diablo Canyon: MaxAir Filters & Batteries
- GE Hitachi: CoolTech Scrubs
- West Valley: UniTrek Rubber Shoes
- First Energy, Davis Besse: GripTech Gloves
- Westinghouse Electric, Waltz Mill: Waste Processing
- Exelon, Peach Bottom: Plastic Bags, Mops, CoolTech Scrubs
- Florida Power & Light, Turkey Point: HEPA Recertification
- Savannah River Remediation: UniTrek Rubber Shoes, Laundry Bags, Coveralls, Lab Coats

- Xcel Energy, Monticello: 3M VersaFlo PAPR Items, CoolTech Scrubs
- Westover Communications: RF Coveralls, Hoods, Gloves, Socks
- Washington River Protection: FR Coveralls, Bar Towels
- Los Alamos National Security: Laundry Bags & Stands, Coveralls, Lab Coats, Rubber Shoes
- Fluor BWXT Portsmouth: 3M VersaFlo Assemblies & Cartridges
- Ontario Power Generation, Darlington: Insulation Bags

#### **UniTech Staff Updates**



Join us in welcoming Kevin Bumpus to our team!

Kevin will fulfill the role of Business Development Manager for government accounts. He will be expanding and developing our service to government customers by working closely with UniTech's team of regional sales representatives.

Kevin brings 36 years of invaluable nuclear industry experience to our staff, having served in facility management, operations management, maintenance management, work control management, project management, and procurement roles, contributing to key Department of Energy initiatives along the way.

He most recently served as a facility manager for Omega Technical Services.

**Thanks for reading** 

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**UniTRACK!** 

# **Reducing Waste ... and Reducing Golf Scores**



Technical Accounts Manager Dick Downard and Director of Supply Services Vic Crusselle teamed up with Randall Heredia (SONGS) and Ronnie Gonzalez (Palo Verde) to shoot -16, and win the PermaFix Waste Management Charity Golf Tournament at Whirlwind Golf Club!

UniTech was a silver sponsor for the tournament, during the annual Waste Management Symposia in Phoenix. The event raised money for St. Jude's Hospital and the Roy Post Foundation.

#### UniTech Presents at National Meetings (continued from page 2)

In his paper, Anderson concluded that nuclear plants can increase volume of reusable and recyclable materials by employing the following tactics:

- A proven combination of advanced, cost-effective, accurate, reliable, and precise monitoring techniques and technologies, which reduce or eliminate risks associated with inefficient, sub-optimal, manual techniques
- New, improved decontamination processes, applicable to a wide range of items
- Prevention of item decontamination via the use of launderable and multi-use protective strategies
- A comprehensive QA/QC methodology that captures necessary information and process data for fully-packaged regulatory compliance documentation



ISO 9001, ISO 14001

### **U.S. Locations**

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