

UniTRACK



NUCLEAR SERVICES NEWS

UniTech Services Group, Inc. • Volume 20 Issue2 • Fall 2022

Increasing Worker Comfort and Productivity with UniTech's Launderable Covers

UniTech's launderable covers save clients time and money

UniTech strives to help our customers be as productive and cost-efficient as possible. We're always reimagining technology in the nuclear industry. Our Power Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) covers exemplify our commitment to innovation, quality, and safety.

Typical respirators, such as those in full face masks, are powered by a person breathing through a filter that's collecting radioactivity. A PAPR has a blower that pulls in outside air and runs it through a filter. The filtered air is then dispersed near the wearer's face and head, keeping the person cool and comfortable.

PAPRs are becoming increasingly popular because of the comfort level, which leads to longer work times. "In the world of nuclear, time is money," said Kent Anderson, Director, Canadian Operations for UniTech Services Group. "The longer you can keep someone in, working on a job, the more money you can save or the more efficient the project can become."

Launderable PAPR covers also have a considerable edge over single-use products when it comes to waste and cost reduction. Take a single-use hood that weighs half a pound, for example. If the hood costs \$10 to purchase and \$5 to throw away, that's \$15 a use. "If we come in with a launderable hood, and we charge them \$5 to clean it every time, then they're saving \$10 a use. Now, you multiply this by 100,000 jumps a year, and you have real, significant money," Anderson explained. Compared to single-use products, launderable products also have the advantage of more added features.

(continued on page 4)



Full Face Respirator with Launderable ProTech Cover



UniTech Department Spotlight	1
UniTech Staff Spotlight	2
Supplier Diversity Spotlight	3
UniTech at ETEBA	3



UniTech employees celebrate Founder's Day at corporate headquarters in Longmeadow, MA.

(Front row, L to R):
Lonnie Perez, Vasilii
Tsyganenko, Madeline
Puma, Tamika Thornhill

(Back row, L to R): Jeff
Landeem, Jon Couillard,
Gregg Johnstone, Lynn
Daniel, Cheryl Mack



UniTech Staff Spotlight

Gregg Johnstone: Director of Sales and Marketing

A suggestion from a family member set Gregg Johnstone on a career in the nuclear waste disposal industry.

Gregg's uncle owned a radioactive waste disposal company in Brooklyn, New York. "I was working summers and winters for him, driving trucks, picking up radioactive material during my college years," Gregg said. "Since I was taking atomic and nuclear physics in college and working with radioactive material, my uncle convinced me it would be a good area to go into."

A good area, indeed. Gregg received a bachelor's degree in physics and a master's in radiation science. He worked at two nuclear industry companies before joining Interstate Nuclear Services (INS) in 1983 as the manager of health physics. He moved into sales in the early '90s.

INS changed its name to UniTech Services Group, Inc. in 1999.

Gregg is now the Director of Sales & Marketing. After 39 years with the company, he's preparing for his next chapter: retirement. Reflecting on his career, he still remembers his first big achievement. "My first accomplishment when I took over the sales job was opening the midwest. We didn't have any facilities in the middle of the United States. My first contract I signed was with D.C. Cook in Michigan," Gregg recalled.

Since then, Gregg has been an integral part of UniTech's expansion throughout the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Europe. He's also been a key player in diversifying UniTech's capabilities from launderable services to selling consumable items, decontaminating equipment, tools, and recycling. For the last several years, he's managed the U.S. technical sales force.

“What I’m going to miss most are the interactions with coworkers and customers, specifically, our sales staff and our larger customers who I’ve become close friends with. That’s what I’m going to miss most.”



ABOVE: Gregg takes the wheel of an IndyCar at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum. (Front row, L to R): Bert Morales, Denise Arlen-Chanie, Gregg Johnstone, Jo Ann Dauberger, Shannon Fitzgerald. (Back row, L to R): David Welcher, Jeff Wilson, Dick Downard, Brian Guckian
ABOVE LEFT: Kevin Bumpus and Gregg Johnstone represented UniTech at the Tennessee Valley Corridor National Summit in Washington, D.C. in June.

Although he's seen many changes over the years, Gregg's favorite part of the job has always remained the same: solving problems for people, beginning with his first client, D.C. Cook. "The advantage I had is having a technical background in dealing with radiation technicians and radiation production managers. I was able to understand their problems," Gregg explained.

As he prepares for retirement, Gregg said he'll miss the personal connections he's made. "What I'm going to miss most are the interactions with coworkers and customers, specifically, our sales staff and our larger customers who I've become close friends with. That's what I'm going to miss most."

While it's tough to leave a place after so many years, a "life of leisure" looks pretty nice! Gregg and his wife, Laura, will celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary in November. The couple has three children and four grandchildren. Gregg said he's looking forward to more time with his family, along with traveling, skiing, golfing, boating, and fishing. And, who knows? He may not be finished with sales. Laura is an artist, and Gregg joked he may help promote and market her oil paintings.

"I've been significantly blessed to be a part of UniTech. First, the people, to work with people to help make it grow and work with customers and coworkers. I've gotten to do a lot of travel both within the United States and internationally for work, so it's been a real blessing. I've been blessed."

Enjoy your retirement, Gregg! You've certainly earned it! UniTech thanks you for your 39 years of service. ■ ■



SUPPLIER DIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

This month, UniTech shines its Supplier Diversity Spotlight on **Advetage Solutions**. The company is a leading supplier of laboratory and detection instruments, industrial solutions, safety supplies, and technical services to government agencies and private partners.

Founded in 2017 by Justin Kung, a former Navy Nuclear Operator, Advetage Solutions is also a certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB). "Part of our mission statement is to provide meaningful employment for veterans and disabled veterans, and also support veteran causes," Kung said. "We commit a portion of our sales and our profits to nonprofit organizations that support the veteran community."

Advetage supplies UniTech with single use cotton liner gloves that are worn under protective gloves. These cotton liners enhance worker safety and comfort by wicking away moisture. This allows the wearer to remove protective gloves more easily and minimizes the possibility of inadvertently spreading contamination from those gloves due to moisture sticking.

Kung said he wanted to fill a gap in the industry for diverse small business contract requirements. As a diverse supplier, Advetage provides a different perspective to provide innovative new products, services, and solutions.

A unique part of Advetage's business model is to remain committed to supporting the veteran community by working alongside other disabled veteran-owned businesses to put together their resources to make their business and nuclear industry as impactful as possible.

"Advetage Solutions is proud to partner with Unitech to help enhance workplace safety in the nuclear industry. Their support goes a long way in supporting veteran causes and veteran-owned businesses," Kung said. ■■

Words of Wisdom

“ We see enormous potential in nuclear power to advance our climate goals, to enhance our energy security, to widen affordable energy access, to create millions of high quality, good paying jobs. ”

– Jennifer Granholm

U.S. Energy Secretary

From the International Atomic Energy Agency's
International Ministerial Conference
on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century



UNITECH AT ETEBA

UniTech maintains a strong presence at trade shows and conferences throughout the year.

Jo Ann Dauberger, ORSC Technical Sales & Service Manager, and Kevin Bumpus, Business Development & Government Accounts, are pictured here at the ETEBA Business Opportunities & Technical Conference in Knoxville, TN in October.

Thank you, Jo Ann and Kevin, for representing and promoting the great services and products UniTech provides!

Upcoming Conferences

*Events are subject to change.

- Nov. 13 - 15, 2022: INPO Expo, Atlanta, GA
- Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, 2022: Perma Fix, Nashville, TN
- Jan. 23 - 25, 2023: RP/ALARA Conference, Key West, FL
- Jan. 25 - 27, 2023: Region 1 & 2 RPM Meeting, Key West, FL
- Jan. 24 - 26, 2023: USA Supply Chain, Savannah, GA
- Feb. 13 - 15, 2023: Nuclear Deterrence Summit, Arlington, VA
- Feb. 26 - March 2, 2023: Waste Management, Phoenix, AZ

Recent Contract Highlights

- FMP-Knolls: ProTech Bag Suits & Hoods
- TMI-2 JV: ProTech Coveralls, Rubber Gloves & Shoes, HEPA Covers
- Constellation, Nine Mile Point: GripTech Gloves, Signs, CoolTech Scrubs
- Washington River Protection: ProTech Coveralls, Shoe Covers
- Southern Nuclear, Hatch: FR Laundry Services
- Aecon Industrial: Microfiber Towels
- FRJ Telecom: RF Coveralls, Hoods, Gloves, & Socks
- Los Alamos N3B: Respirator Contract
- Government Scientific: DryGuard
- SONGS DS: Mobile Supply Store Items

- Talen Energy, Susquehanna: DAW & Laundry Services
- OBBCO Safety: New Respirator Contract
- Nuclear Fuel Services: UniTrek Rubber Shoes, ProTech Lab Coats, Shoe Covers
- Canadian Nuclear Labs: FR Coveralls, DryGuard
- NorthStar Nuclear: 3M Versaflo Items
- Idaho Environmental: Decon Gel
- South Texas Project: 3M Versaflo Items, Lithium Batteries
- GE Hitachi: CoolTech Scrubs, MaxAir Hoods
- United Cleanup: Agreement with UCOR for Non-Rad Laundry
- Sistemas De Ingenieria: UniTrek Rubber Shoes & Gloves, Booties

For one customer in Canada, UniTech makes a launderable cover that fits snugly around the lens of a typical full face respirator. The launderable cover has elastic, which allows the fabric to stretch over the lens and fit tightly against the lens frame, which protects the mask/worker from external contamination. In contrast, a single-use hood made of Tyvek® requires duct tape to hold the hood in place, creating additional, unneeded, radioactive waste. "It doesn't take long, in the economics, to consider a better product that removes the extra labor and removes the extra waste. With a lot of these products, we're getting 100 cycles, so the payback on this is very significant," Anderson said.

The reduction in waste disposal, for the full line of launderable products, has added up considerably. Over the past 20 years in Canada alone, UniTech has implemented 35 different launderable items to reduce radioactive waste, improve efficiency, reduce cost, and improve function. Those initiatives have resulted in the elimination of 8 million pounds of radioactive waste.

UniTech's commitment to forward-thinking technology that benefits our customers' bottom line is evident in our long-standing relationships with our clients. "I've worked with UniTech since 2001 when OPG first contacted them to help as a contingency laundry service provider, through the last 10 years of full service, and most recently their turnkey program for the first Darlington refurbishment project. UniTech has always met OPG's needs, brought forward new and improved clothing/service options to improve worker efficiency and protection while reducing the generation of radioactive waste and overall program cost so OPG can focus on making power," said Bill Owens, Senior Vice President, Refurbishment Execution for OPG. ■■



Fire Retardant (FR) hood



PureFlo PAPR with launderable ProTech cover

“UniTech has always met OPG's needs, brought forward new and improved clothing/service options to improve worker efficiency and protection while reducing the generation of radioactive waste and overall program cost so OPG can focus on making power.”



Thanks for reading UniTRACK!

This edition's gift is a super-soft T-shirt!

The shirts come in two colors: gray for men and a lovely slate blue for women. Made of a cotton-poly blend, you'll be cool and comfortable while you show off your UniTech pride. **Visit UniTechUS.com to have this shirt sent to your door!**

Enter code: TSHIRT

U.S. Locations

Corporate Office

UniTech Services Group, Inc.
138 Longmeadow Street
Longmeadow, MA 01106
Toll free: 800-344-3824
Tel: 413-543-6911
Fax: 413-543-6989
Email: info@UniTechUS.com
www.UniTechUS.com

Service Center

Oak Ridge, TN

UniTech Services Group, Inc. is a subsidiary of UniFirst Corporation.

UT-21-11

Plants

Springfield, MA
Royersford, PA
Oak Ridge, TN
Barnwell, SC
Morris, IL
Santa Fe, NM
Ontario, CA
Richland, WA

EU Locations

Euro Nuclear Services B.V.

De Mars 11, NL-7742 PT Coevorden, NL
Tel: +31-524-599-699
Fax: +31-524-599-688
Email: ens@UniTechEU.com
www.UniTechEU.com

UniTech Services Group, Ltd.

Unit 5 Oakwood Close
Pen-Y-Fan Industrial Estate
Crumlin, Newport NP11 3HY
United Kingdom
Tel: +44-1495-249-688
Fax: +44-1495-240-982
Email: UniTechLtd@UniTechEU.com
www.UniTechEU.com

UniTech Services GmbH

Brookdiek 2L
D-49824 Laar, Germany
Tel: +49-5947-910-2910
Fax: +49-5947-910-29188
Email: UniTechGmbH@UniTechEU.com
www.UniTechEU.com

UniTech Services S.A.S.

ZA la Malvesine
Parc Avenue
13720 La Bouilladisse, France
Tel: +33-965-012247
Fax: +33-442-048387
Email: jgrisot@UniTechEU.com
www.UniTechEU.com