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HELPING STUDENTS SOLVE PROBLEMS

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Expanding manufacturing capacity to support mission

Honeywell and the NNSA celebrated another facility milestone on July 26 with a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Kansas City National Security Campus to mark the completion of a manufacturing expansion area. The new space adds approximately 10,000 sq. ft. of low humidity manufacturing to support the development and production of emerging programs. It brings flexibility to many major electrical assemblies and enable us to support several different programs and increase our ability to support our mission. This modification of a portion of the KCNSC White Space included expanded and flexible utilities, HVAC Systems and required environmental measures to support production. The construction phase was completed 2 weeks ahead of schedule and approximately $.5M under the construction estimate.

Over the next 20 years, the U.S. nuclear stockpile will be sustained and modernized through vigorous surveillance, assessment, life extension, and dismantlement efforts. This expansion project was an innovative and cost effective way to support NNSA’s important national security mission.

Going to Capitol Hill

Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies (FM&T) President John Riccardelli was invited to appear before the House Armed Services Committee on Capitol Hill in September to discuss deferred maintenance along with other Nuclear Security Enterprise leaders Morgan Smith of Consolidated Nuclear Solutions (Y-12 and Pantex) and Charlie McMillan of Los Alamos National Lab. While Y-12, Pantex and LANL all have increasing maintenance issues and the safety challenges that comes with it, Kansas City is fortunate to have a great story of our unique public/private partnership that resulted in the Kansas City National Security Campus. NNSA Administrator Klotz also testified to encourage Congress to fund modernization efforts across the enterprise to turn the tide on the total cost of deferred maintenance across all NNSA property, which at the end of fiscal year 2015 stood at $3.7 billion. Watch the replay of the hearing or the news coverage on CNN.

Office of Secure Transportation leader tours New Mexico operations

The new Assistant Deputy Administrator for NNSA’s Office of Secure Transportation (OST), retired Air Force Colonel Vincent Fisher, toured the KCNSC New Mexico Operations on August 31. After a brief overview of the operations, senior Honeywell and NNSA leaders updated her on operational enhancements that are bringing significant savings to the taxpayer.
Augmented Reality is All Science - No Fiction

Imagine working on a car while wearing a pair of glasses that shows you how to replace your oil and even notifies you if something is placed incorrectly. Today’s technological advances are moving in that direction and generating a wave of opportunities in manufacturing like never before. Information is presented immediately, right in front of a user’s eyes, to perform almost any task, prevent errors, and improve efficiency.

Honeywell engineers at the Kansas City National Security Campus are applying this Augmented Reality (AR) technology. It’s taking Virtual Reality a step further to incorporate computer data and overlay helpful information directly into a user’s field of view. Applications include work instructions, remote collaboration and real time data. AR will benefit the KCNSC in numerous ways with its ability to convey information unlike any other means currently in use at the facility.

“Our ultimate goal is to simplify the operator’s task of reading work instructions on computer screens or on paper,” said David McMindes, Chief Technology Officer. “We can do this by using smart technology like tablets and immersion goggles and interactive visual aids to provide real time feedback to an operator.”

With the combination of software and hardware, AR will create a more efficient, hands-free work environment while reducing lengthy training and dependency on historical knowledge. It has the potential to drive productivity and reduce mistakes by finding new ways to deliver information and validate actions while completing manual tasks. Click the photo above to check out the Tech Talk video on the KCNSC YouTube channel.

The Naval Air Systems Command have kept the H-53E Super Stallion Helicopters flying for the United States Marine Corps since 1980. As these heavy-lift helicopters continue to age, it gets harder and harder to find commercial companies to maintain their outdated technology. Fortunately, this is the expertise of our Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages group at the Kansas City National Security Campus.

With only hardware provided and no accompanying drawings or definitions to work from, Honeywell engineers set out to reverse engineer and produce replacement parts for the customer. This task was made even more daunting because some components in the project were impossible to find.

The longevity of the five-year project, coupled with its wide requirements for expertise, resulted in a team of 300 people throughout the business representing engineering, testing, analysis and fabrication departments contributing to the effort. The number of employees involved in this unique project will continue to grow, as there continue to be many unknowns and problems yet to solve until the completion of the project.

“It has been a great personal and professional pleasure to work with the good people at KCNSC”, said Richard Tullos, NAVAIR’s H-53 Sustainment Support. “We are immensely lucky that our organizational paths crossed at a time when we most needed you. The H-53 service life keeps moving ever longer, and we had incredibly few options to keep two working computers in every airplane. Our Marines and Sailors don’t know it yet, but they will owe you a huge debt of gratitude.”

Thanks to the strong leadership and dedication to the customer’s mission, we will help keep the H-53E Super Stallion Helicopters flying for many years to come.
More than 70 Honeywell employees from several Kansas City National Security Campus teams recently received recognition for their work supporting NNSA’s 2016 Defense Programs.

Mike Roberts, NNSA Kansas City Site Assistant Manager, Office of Stockpile Management, presented the awards in a special ceremony on September 19 to the six teams, including the W88 Frame Spray Sourcing team, Header Working group, Polymer Additive Manufacturing First Insertions team, Test Data Monitor team, Surveillance Disassembly team, and Common Product Specification team.

The last award went to Sr. Mechanical Engineer Mary Anne Benton for her significant impact to a new KCNSC coating process, which saved time and money during qualification across multiple programs.

“The KCNSC plays an important role within the nuclear security enterprise. This facility is looked to as an innovative leader in process improvements and operational excellence,” said Roberts. “We truly appreciate the hard work that goes into making this facility a national security asset.”

The awards recognize on an annual basis the contributions of work performed in support of the Stockpile Stewardship Program. The awards are given for significant achievements in quality, productivity, cost savings, safety or creativity in support of the nuclear weapons program.

Protective Force shows off skills at Border Showdown

The Protective Force at the KCNSC had a good showing at the Kansas City Metro Crime Commission’s annual “Border Showdown” shooting competition but in the end the Kansas City Police Department took home top honors. The day-long event invites the best marksmen from Kansas and Missouri law enforcement agencies to show off their shooting skills in various situations. We’ll be back next year for a shot at that trophy!

3 million reasons to celebrate

Honeywell employees at the KCNSC exceeded 3 million hours without a Day Away from Work Case injury (DAFWC) by the end of July. In addition, our New Mexico Operations worked over 40 months without a DAFWC. These world class numbers are tremendous achievements considering all the new employees and increased workload. Thank you to our employees for making safety a priority! Keep it up!
Employees help students go back to school in style

Brightly colored backpacks filled to the brim with essential school supplies were assembled in the KCNSC cafeteria last month. Honeywell employees at the KCNSC collected the items to help 45 students prepare to go back into the classroom. The Back-To-School Supply Drive benefited the Guadalupe Center of Kansas City. The Guadalupe Center is expecting more than 800 students to enroll in their charter school this year and many of those students are in need of basic school supplies.

The Guadalupe Center improves the quality of life for individuals in the Latino communities of greater Kansas City by providing early childhood, secondary, preparatory and adult educational programs; facilitate access to health and social services; promote and provide cultural enrichment events and social activities.

Helping students solve problems

Students at Grandview High School are putting their thinking caps on to solve problems with the help of Honeywell engineers this year. The school offers an Innovation class and recruited several engineers to help mentor students through the iterative process of finding solutions to real world challenges.

Honeywell employees at our New Mexico Operations, including Dr. Kim Linder pictured above, showcased Electromagnetics to a group of middle school girls attending Tech Trek Summer Camp at New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM. This camp is where girls find their passion for high-tech careers through hands-on problem solving.

Honeywell employees help students go back to school in style

NEW MEXICO OPERATIONS SHOWCASES HELPING STUDENTS SOLVE PROBLEMS...