



CAMEO Puts Lab at Forefront for Emergency Preparedness

*Designated a Noteworthy
Practice by the Tiger Team*

An electrical fire occurs at PPPL. How do the firefighters extinguish the blaze when water conducts electricity, and they could be electrocuted? Naturally, they throw the electrical breakers to isolate the area. But how can they quickly find the relevant switches, especially when smoke makes it impossible to see? And how can they know what other consequences shutting off the electricity will have?

The answer is CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations), an emergency operations data base that runs on a Macintosh computer. The fire captain (or other trained operator) sitting in the Command Vehicle has immediate access to the CAMEO and its information.

The fire captain calls up and prints out a map that gives a bird's eye view of the affected area. Another printout shows exactly where the isolating devices are located, and it can be used as a checklist. The fire captain then consults with "qualified electrical persons" who go in and operate the isolating devices, removing the electrical hazard. (They can also retrieve information from CAMEO on how throwing a particular switch will affect overall Laboratory operations—a very serious issue when TFTR is running.)



Mike Spadafora (at the computer) consults with Pete Del Gandio on the many uses of CAMEO to enhance Lab safety.

Photo : James Faczak

Now firefighters can enter the fire zone without fear of an electric shock. At the same time, with the aid of the CAMEO data base, they are made aware of the location of flammable materials, chemicals, and other potential hazards.

With such an important safety role to play, it's no wonder that the use of the enhanced CAMEO program at PPPL was designated a "Noteworthy Practice" by the Tiger Team.

Data at your Fingertips

Peter Del Gandio, Head of Special Projects in the Environment,

Safety, and Health (ES&H) Division, modified and redesigned an existing CAMEO software program to respond to *any* fire or chemical hazard situation that may occur at PPPL, including the firefighting capability described in the above scenario. He explains, "Typically, when a sudden emergency occurs, you don't have all the information you need at your fingertips, and if you have a telephone-book size manual to look through, it's not very efficient. CAMEO helps to

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rectify that situation because we can retrieve crucial information within seconds."

Gregg Tompkins, PPPL Fire Captain, notes that the firefighting and safety teams are very pleased to have CAMEO as a resource. "You can call up a list of all the chemicals stored in a given area with their Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) information, including potential hazards and remedies. If there's a chemical spill, you can call up a list of the protective clothing required and a map of the storm sewers in the area to see just where the run-off would be. The evacuation zones are also defined."

Tompkins also notes that CAMEO can make a big difference in how quickly and efficiently certain incidents get handled, though it wouldn't be required in every case.

He says, "We have many drills here, especially for the twenty-four TFTR fire zones, and we employ CAMEO information there."

In addition, other emergency management information is also available on CAMEO. Data includes, for example, emergency management plans and procedures, contingency plans, site evacuation plans, and demographic information.

Keeping Current

The job of researching the required information and keeping it up to date is enormous. Jack Anderson of the Emergency Services Unit has been charged with the task of surveying all the sites, room by room, and identifying all potential hazards that could impact employees, fire fighters and/or the environment. Allen Stevens, of AC Power, has been providing all information regarding isolating devices and their impacts to the Lab.

The fact that their work on C-Site took about nine months reflects just how considerable the task of providing that information was. All fire detection and suppression equipment, flammable chemical cabinets and their contents, compressed gas cylinders, cryogenic materials, and electrical components are part of these surveys. Michael Spadafora, of ES&H, reviews all this information, after which he enters it into the CAMEO data base.

To keep information current, hazardous materials will be registered in their current positions. Then, before items such as chemicals and cylinders can be moved, ES&H

must be notified so appropriate updates can be made in CAMEO.

"Developing a CAMEO data base for PPPL is really a vigorous undertaking," observes Tompkins. "It takes dedicated people to build up the information and continually fine tune it." Clearly, Pete Del Gandio and Mike Spadafora are dedicated to CAMEO. In addition, Del Gandio currently serves as president of the Mid-Atlantic CAMEO Users Group. They are willing to pour so much time and effort into it because they understand that during emergencies, accurate, specific information can make the difference between life and death.

Spreading the Word

According to Del Gandio, he originally read about CAMEO in a software magazine ad in 1986. With backing from his boss, Joe Stencel, Deputy Division Head, ES&H, who recognized its potential, Del Gandio ordered the program and has been modifying it ever since.

CAMEO was originally designed as a tool to help local community emergency planners and first responders to safely handle chemical accidents. It was developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Program of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Now, with data custom-developed for the Lab and upgrades that include firefighting information, PPPL's version of CAMEO is at the forefront of Emergency Preparedness for DOE facilities. Perhaps, with the help and expertise from PPPL, other DOE facilities will also be given the opportunity to profit from this truly noteworthy program. ■

HOTLINE

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PPPL Hosts Materials Management Workshop

The 35th Annual Materials Management Workshop, held here April 29 to May 2, brought together Materials Management staff from DOE facilities nationwide. Presentations by PPPL staff included: "Packaging and Transportation," by Chris Gillars, Head of the Mate-

riel Control Division; "Statistical Sampling for Property and Stores Assets," by Trevor Bayes, Property Administration Supervisor, also of Materiel Control; and "The CAMEO System," by Peter Del Gandio, Head of Special Projects in the Environment, Safety, and Health Division.

Tony DeMeo, Head, Information Services, presented an overview of PPPL.

The last time the Workshop was held at PPPL was in 1980, according to Bill McCreedy, Manager of Stores Operations, who hosted this year's Workshop. He observed, "The workshops are an extremely valuable way for materials managers to meet, exchange ideas, and increase expertise about Lab supply functions."

He noted that one of the major topics of the 1991 Workshop was systems contracting. Systems contracting is sometimes referred to as "Just in Time" because needed materials may be shipped to the site only 48 hours before they will be used. One example familiar to everyone is the way office supplies are ordered at the Lab. "Systems contracting cuts down on inventory and storage problems," explained McCreedy. "At PPPL we manage 15 contracts that employ the "Just in Time" concept." ■



Materials Management Staff from DOE Laboratories throughout the US are shown in front of the fountain at the Princeton Marriot during the Materials Management Workshop held here April 29 to May 2. PPPL staff are: Jim Conover, Store Supervisor (second row, third from left), Bill McCreedy, Manager, Stores Operations, and Chris Gillars, Head, Materiel Control Division (third row, fourth and fifth from left, respectively.)

Photo: Dietmar Krause

Volunteer Teachers Encourage Students

Thanks to the efforts of a group of PPPL employees, the Lloyd McCorkle Training School for Boys and Girls, a state-run facility in Skillman for incarcerated youths from throughout New Jersey up to age 18, has a custom-made course in soldering and wiring assembly. On Monday nights, Mark Oldaker and another volunteer, Bill Ludt, (not from the Lab) teach, and on Tuesday nights Gene Baker and Hal Anderson work with the four boys in the course. Gary Damico and Art Kolupanowich are back-up instructors.

Dave O'Neill originated the course three years ago and continues

to coordinate the program. Betty Aramburu, a teacher and the Volunteer Coordinator at McCorkle, remembers, "Dave got the equipment and tools together. All we did was supply the space, lighting, and of course, the boys. And it's been a true success. It's a chance for them to do something that's not available at our school, and they love it."

Gene Baker observes, "I've been pretty impressed with the kids in the course. They are often bright and talented. They've just been steered wrong." Adds Hal Anderson, "The students have endless questions, and even with two instructors to four stu-



Mel Gensamer looks on as Mark follows a wiring diagram.

Photo: John Peoples

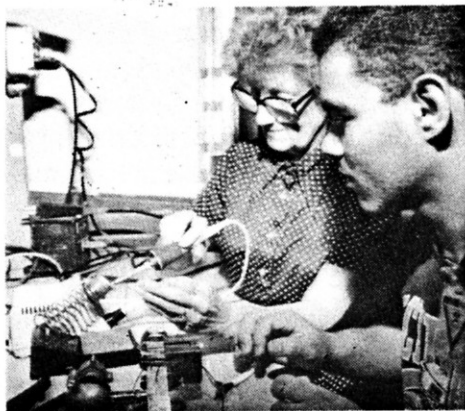
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Volunteer Teachers

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dents, it's hard to keep up with them. But the ones who are quicker take pride in helping the others, which supports everyone."

During the course, which spans three months, the students begin soldering training on a "garbage" or practice board. Once they've mastered the basics, they're given boards designed by Mark Oldaker. These boards allow them to develop an operating circuit with eight light-emitting



During their visit to the Lab in December, McCorkle students put the finishing touches on their boards. Madeline Michalowski helps Isaa with his soldering and wiring project. Photo: John Peoples

ting diodes triggered by sound volume.

At the end of the course, students visit the Lab, where they complete the display portion of their projects, working under the direction of Mel Gensamer and Madeline Michalowski in the electronic shop. In addition, Madeline, a M1-STD-2000 Instructor/Examiner category "C," inspects to industrial standards the workmanship of the boys' boards. While here, they also have lunch and a tour of PPPL. This trip has proven to be a highlight of the course.

Some McCorkle students have become so enthusiastic that they have wanted to pursue electronics as a career. The course has become so popular that about 25 youths apply to be in it, although only four can be accepted.

Despite the fact that the volunteers must commit one night a week to the course for three-month periods, they also seem very pleased with the experience. Says Gene Baker, "I wanted to do something in the community, and this is a pretty nice way to do it."

"Other PPPL volunteers are wel-



Volunteer teachers at the Lloyd McCorkle Training School for Boys and Girls are (front) Dave O'Neill, Mark Oldaker; (center) Hal Anderson, Gene Baker; (back) Art Kolupanowich, Gary Damico. Photo: John Peoples

come to become involved at McCorkle," says Aramburu. "We need tutors in reading, math, life skills such as job interviewing, cooking, sewing, and driving. We'd be pleased to have courses in virtually anything that could help them get a job." Dave O'Neill will be glad to talk to anyone who wants to design a course, for example, in home carpentry. For information about volunteering at McCorkle, call Betty Aramburu at 466-2200. ■

Retirees Honored

At the April 18th Annual Retirement Recognition and Awards Ceremony, retirees representing a total of 459 years of service at PPPL were honored.

Those honored included: Harry Anderson, Henry Bornkamp, Uffe Christensen, Hsi Feng, Elsie Ferreras, Helen Glover, John Grabowski, Gil Graydon (posthumously), Sam Hand, George Hill, Willie Mae Holman, Joseph Kittel, Gioietta Kuo-Petravic, Frank Lawn, Paul McCann, Arthur Miller, Henry Miller, Carl Oberman, Chester Ptak, Michael Silvestri, Joseph Solivoda, Joseph Stevenson, Eugene Steward, and Leo Ulatowski.



Spence Holcombe (left), joins recent retirees Marie Steer and Helen Glover in chatting with Ron Davidson (standing), during the reception following the Retirement Recognition and Award Ceremony held at PPPL on April 18. Gary Kater and Bobbie Forcier are seated in the background. Photo: James Faczak

During the ceremony, Director Ron Davidson presented each retiree

with a Seiko mantle clock in recognition of service to the Laboratory.