

CONVERDYN^{News} Wire – JANUARY 2004

An up-to-date information bulletin on the nuclear fuel cycle

Our Mission: We will be the premier provider of nuclear fuel cycle services with customer satisfaction as our primary focus – Unique, Innovative and Successful.

January 7, 2004

NRC Meeting in Metropolis

Management and staff from the Metropolis conversion plant of Honeywell International Inc., located in Metropolis, Illinois, held a meeting with representatives of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission at 6:00 pm on January 6, 2004 in Metropolis. The public was invited to observe the meeting and had opportunities to communicate with the NRC and Honeywell Management after the business portion of the meeting.

Honeywell representatives presented their findings regarding the release of uranium hexafluoride from a valve in a process line on December 22, 2003. The NRC also presented the findings of their Augmented Inspection Team's investigation of this incident. Key topics reviewed by Honeywell and the NRC included plant operators' performance, the plant equipment involved, Metropolis procedures and the overall response to the release. The detailed report from the NRC will be available within 30 days.

At the end of the meeting the NRC and Honeywell stated that UF₆ operations at the Metropolis conversion facility will be allowed to resume only after all parties are satisfied that safe operations can be maintained. After certain corrective actions, including further operator training, have been completed, another NRC meeting will be required prior to re-start.

As previously stated ConverDyn's deliveries of natural uranium hexafluoride to all enrichment locations have been affected. ConverDyn intends to resume deliveries as soon as possible after production commences and the effects of the delay can be overcome. Updates will be provided.

#####

In order to keep our customers, suppliers and friends current on important timely topics that require immediate communication – we send out the ConverDyn^{News} Wire periodically. Comments and suggestions are welcomed as always