

# **CONVERDYN***News Wire* - JULY 2003

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

July 25, 2003

ConverDyn announced today that the Metropolis conversion facility experienced a minor leak in a small section of the pipeline carrying hydrofluoric acid (HF) to the process areas of the plant on July 14. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other governmental agencies were immediately informed of this event. There were no injuries to personnel and all mitigation systems functioned as designed.

However, because HF is a very strong acid, and to continue to assure the safety of all plant personnel, the plant was shutdown. The plant resumed operation on July 25 and will run at a reduced rate for several weeks to assure that all systems are functioning normally. A detailed investigation of the cause is on going and may lead to further corrective action.

As a result of this incident, it is expected that shipping adjustments will be necessary. ConverDyn is working with the affected enrichment facilities to address the specifics of particular shipments to each location. Due to the long lead times built into deliveries in each step of the nuclear fuel cycle, at this time it is believed that no utility customer deliveries are expected to be affected.

*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.*