Top 10
Accomplishments for 2009
and a look ahead to 2010

We asked B&W Y-12 President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst to assess 2009 performance and look ahead to 2010.

Q: What do you see as Y-12’s biggest 2009 successes?

A: Progress on the Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility (HEUMF) and the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) are at the top of the list, although meeting all our deliverables isn’t far behind.

In addition, the completion of more than 100 projects that contribute to Y-12’s transformation is keeping us on track to realize our plans for creating a more efficient and cost-effective site that the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) recognizes as a valuable element of its Nuclear Security Enterprise.

There’s no doubt that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding we received was key to Y-12 being able to accelerate cleanup work, while also giving an economic boost to area small businesses.

Our nonproliferation efforts have been outstanding, both in removal and safeguarding of materials from NNSA and the development of technologies and training to support President Obama’s number-one national priority—preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear and radiological weapons.

Dismantlement has reached its highest throughput level in more than 25 years, and we’re completing our deliverables ahead of schedule, both of which demonstrate...
Among the many accomplishments at Y-12 in the past year, a number stand out for their level of achievement and importance. A Top 10 list was compiled by the senior leadership team from the “Year in Review” reported in the Performance Self-Assessment Report for FY 2009. According to Scott Baker, senior vice president for Business Services, “FY 2009 represented a phenomenal year of performance for Y-12, as demonstrated by the diversity and magnitude of the Top 10 accomplishments.”

1. Attained $52.8 million in savings and efficiencies during FY 2009 against an aggressive goal of $46.2 million, representing the highest annual savings attained by B&W Y-12 in a single year.

2. Completed all W76-1 Life Extension Program deliverables ahead of schedule, exceeding NNSA expectations and supporting commitments to the U.S. Department of Defense.

3. Achieved the highest dismantlement throughput level in more than 25 years and exceeded the baseline disposition volume by 140 percent, reducing the backlog of dismantled components.

4. Jumpstarted several planned projects through ARRA funding totaling $267 million, with “boots on the ground” the first day work was authorized. Within four months, created or saved 449 jobs, completed 18 performance milestones, and committed approximately $20.9 million to subcontractors and vendors. A total of 93.1 percent of ARRA procurements went to small businesses.

5. Led the way in meeting the NNSA Administrator’s multi-site goal for consolidation and removal of nuclear materials from NNSA sites, shipping over 7.5 metric ton units (MTUs) or more than 93 percent of the overall goal for NNSA.
Continued aggressive site transformation by conducting a successful Independent Verification Review and Readiness Assessment for HEUMF, finalizing the 30 percent design for UPF, completing the 60 percent design for the Complex Command Center and completing a new Y-12 Master Plan.

Successfully completed over $300 million of project scope on more than 100 Line Item, Small Capital and Expense projects, with improved safety performance, within budget and on or ahead of schedule.

Completed development of the ES-3100, a significantly advanced Type B fissile material shipping container. The ES-3100 is now used routinely at Y-12, much of the DOE Complex and commercial sites. The technology of the ES-3100 has been licensed to a vendor who will manufacture and sell the container to the private sector.

Made the world safer from terrorist threats by more than doubling Y-12 work on President Obama’s number-one national priority—preventing terrorists from acquiring nuclear and radiological weapons. Y-12 is fabricating new Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) Equivalent Radiological Signature Training Devices, a tool that can revolutionize the way special nuclear material is detected.

Successfully coordinated the 2009 DOE Integrated Safety Management Conference held in August for 963 attendees from 28 states, Canada and the United Kingdom. Working with local corporate sponsors and national vendors, Y-12 held the conference without cost to DOE or NNSA.
Each year, it seems as if we are asked to achieve tasks against insurmountable circumstances, but we prevail through our tenacity, ingenuity and teamwork. That's the reputation that Y-12 has earned through its almost 67-year history, and it is our duty to carry that into the future.

—Darrel Kohlhorst
President and General Manager

Y-12’s role in nuclear nonproliferation keeps growing through technology development and training courses in special material detection and protection.

2009 saw a landmark level of materials disposal, and 2010 most likely will surpass it.

The new year will see two large capital projects at Y-12 come online: the water tanks and the smaller, more efficient steam plant.

2010

Look ahead
our ability as a production site and our commitment to the U.S. Department of Defense. I think one of the biggest reasons we’ve realized these successes is our continued focus on productivity improvement. Every division within Y-12 has a productivity plan. By taking a look at all of our processes and work environments, we’ve streamlined activities and created logical work spaces, all of which enable us to become more efficient. We’ve been able to achieve $52.8 million in savings in 2009, some of which we put to work doing critical scopes that were unfunded and other dollars that will carry over into 2010.

**Q:** What do you see as challenges for 2010?

**A:** Safety continues to be a number-one challenge. When we can do our jobs every day without accidents, we will have achieved our target for safety. We must maintain a constant mind-set that incorporates working in the moment and taking into consideration our work environments.

We had some great examples of that dedication to safety this past year, and our role as coordinator of the 2009 DOE Integrated Safety Management Summit in August was certainly an honor, but we ended the year with some injuries that reinforced the fact that safety is a constant vigil.

Moreover, 2010 promises to be a year of significant milestones. We will receive authorization and begin operations at HEUMF. We also will complete our new water storage tanks and bring our new natural gas-fired steam plant online. Our production outlook continues strong and will offer new challenges.

One of the biggest overall challenges for Y-12 will be to maintain the path forward toward transforming Y-12 into a facility that is more efficient and has improved stewardship. Keeping UPF design on schedule and significantly increasing cleanup work will be a major focus.

**Q:** What can Y-12 employees expect to see in the coming year?

**A:** Things will continue to change physically around the site—not just with construction and demolition, but also our high-security footprint is diminishing. That’s good for Y-12 in a number of ways—we have fewer buildings to sustain as we consolidate our special materials, which reduces our security and operating costs and allows us to redirect that money into our current operations and facilities so that we can maintain them better.

Until we can get UPF built, we still must safely and effectively use existing production facilities to accomplish our missions, so keeping them online and improving their reliability will be one of our priorities.
Holiday greetings

The B&W Y-12 senior leadership team and I wish you and your families a holiday season filled with love, happiness and peace.

This year, instead of cards or ornaments, we are providing all B&W Y-12 employees a 2010 membership to the American Museum of Science and Energy (AMSE) in Oak Ridge. AMSE offers exhibits, films and hands-on activities to explain science and technology in an entertaining way for all ages. The museum also highlights the history of Oak Ridge and Y-12’s role in World War II’s Manhattan Project. AMSE’s website features a calendar of events and more information about the permanent exhibits and the special activities.

Your AMSE membership includes:

- Free admission for 2010
- Free admission to over 250 other museums across the nation
- Discounts in AMSE’s gift store, the Discovery Shop
- Invitations to members-only events
- Discounts on facility rentals, birthday parties, camps, classes and workshops

To receive your membership, download the special B&W Y-12 form (see YSource) and return it to AMSE or stop by the museum to pick up an application form. Although the free membership is for B&W Y-12 employees only, you can upgrade your individual membership to family or grandparent membership at a reduced rate.

Again, happy holidays and best wishes for a year of enjoyment and discovery at the American Museum of Science and Energy.

Holiday wishes,
Darrel Kohlhorst

YES holiday party success

More than 3,000 employees and their family members celebrated the holiday season at the two holiday events sponsored by the Y-12 Employees’ Society (YES).

President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst said, “It was great to see the large turnout at the employee holiday celebration. Celebrating a successful year and the upcoming holidays with the Y-12 family allows us to be thankful for what we’ve achieved. YES does a great job organizing the parties and allows the Y-12 family to fellowship with one another.”

Prizes were awarded at the employee event Dec. 10. Pam Goans, Science, Technology and Partnerships, won a Blu-ray player. “I am very surprised to win! I appreciate the work the YES board does. The program is great for a company of our size and adds a personal touch,” Goans said.

Business Services’ Antonin Bukovsky, winner of the digital camera and bag, said, “Wow, what a surprise to come in on Monday morning and be a winner. I am very excited to have received such a wonderful prize.”

Employees’ children and grandchildren enjoyed the Dec. 12 event. Food, games and Santa highlighted the event. The young attendees sang karaoke, played in the ball bounce, visited with Santa and had their faces painted.

Rhonda Morgan, Safeguards, Security and Emergency Services, said, “Thank you YES for such a great Christmas party. My son is still talking about it.”
In memoriam

Co-worker Rob Richmond said, “All the engineers in our group relied heavily on her expertise and professionalism. She took it upon herself to always provide extra effort that ensured an exceptional outcome. She was a joy to work with.”

Long’s office mate Jerry Waitinas added, “Lisa had the people skills, knowledge and great attitude to handle any challenge presented to her. She will be missed by all who had the opportunity to work with her.”

Lisa Long, a procedure writer in Engineering, passed away Dec. 3. She had 18 years of company service.

Around Y-12 ...

- B&W Y-12’s management team recently recognized the Y-12 commercial motor vehicle drivers for their safety record of 16 years without a U.S. Department of Transportation recordable accident. This goal was accomplished by 160 drivers from the Atomic Trades and Labor Council and Knoxville Building and Construction Trades unions. “Private carriers like B&W Y-12 seldom achieve a record of this magnitude,” Dave Neubauer, Safety manager, said.

- It’s not too late to provide input to the Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Y-12 National Security Complex. You can send an e-mail to y12sweis.comments@tetratech.com or complete a comment card at the New Hope or Jack Case centers.

- When employees return to work after the holidays, remember the safety PAUSE—Practical Achievable Understandable Safety Expectations. No matter the season, safety is the reason to PAUSE before starting a job.

- Janet Bradshaw and Lisa Harris of the Y-12 Employees’ Society said more than 275 “angels” from Morgan, Anderson, Roane, Monroe and Loudon counties received items—ranging from Barbie dolls and GI Joes to coats and shoes—thanks to the generosity of Y-12 employees. Sala Bean of Facilities, Infrastructure and Services said, “We realize there are lots of families out there who are not as fortunate as we are and that everyone should help in any way they can.”

- B&W Y-12 has contracted with Microwave Synergy Inc. to complete the detailed design work of the microwave caster (pioneered at Y-12) by early 2010 and deliver the unit July 2010. Overall completion of installation, checkout and turnover of the microwave caster to operations is scheduled for the end of fiscal year 2011.

- The B&W Y-12 float won top honors for the second consecutive year by snagging the Judges’ Award at the Oak Ridge Christmas parade, held Dec. 12. The annual parade is sponsored by the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce.

- Garland Sharp (Human Resources) and Blake Scott (Programs and Quality) visited West Valley Middle School Dec. 7 and presented information on radioactive decay. Sharp brought items for a hands-on experiment. Scott said, “Both Garland and I were impressed with the kids’ knowledge and interest in the subject.”

Angel Tree

More than 30 bicycles and helmets were purchased by two anonymous donors for the Y-12 Employees’ Society Angel Tree Program.
Home for Christmas

Thanks to the dreams of Larry Brown and Tim Morris of the Plant Shift Superintendent’s Office, the soldiers of the 278th Armored Calvary Regiment Armory in Clinton will be home for Christmas.

According to Morris, Brown mentioned the upcoming holidays and wondered whether there was anything they could do for local soldiers. Morris made a call to the armory in Clinton and learned that those soldiers would be deploying to Iraq for a year.

Morris noted that these brave troops will never ask for anything, but if you ask what they need, you’ll find out how you can help. The team asked, and upon learning the soldiers were allowed to come home for Christmas but had to pay their own way, the team knew they had their first mission.

The goal was to raise $5,700—enough to bring 48 men and women home for the holidays. In the true spirit of the season, the effort snowballed. In addition to monetary contributions totaling more than $9,000 from employees, B&W Y-12, WSI Oak Ridge, the City of Clinton, Oak Ridge Associated Universities and the International Chemical Workers Union, the Atomic Trades and Labor Council volunteered to help the families with minor household issues while the soldiers are deployed.

According to Sgt. Sande Hooks, the troops are ecstatic. “They don’t have to worry about their children not having Christmas, plus they get to come home and spend some time with family.”

A University of Tennessee fan, Morris told the soldiers, “I support two groups of volunteers—one wears orange and white, and the other defends the red, white and blue.”

Thanks to the generosity of Y-12 employees and corporate donations, soldiers of the 278th Armored Calvary Regiment Armory in Clinton will be home for Christmas. Lee Brooks (WSI-Oak Ridge) and Tim Morris (foreground; Y-12) greet members of the 278th, including (from left) Spc. Deborah Jefferies (who is a security police officer at Y-12), Pfc. Katherine Borck; Pfc. Matthew Lewandowski, Pvt. Matthew McGill; Pvt. Kaitlyn Coats and Staff Sgt. Steven Knowles.