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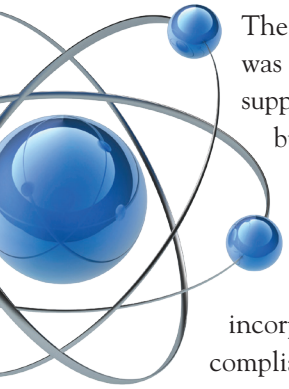
CIS Providing Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) Supplier Development Training

THE UT CENTER FOR INDUSTRIAL SERVICES is offering training in January and February for suppliers interested in conducting business with the Y12 National Security Complex's new Uranium Processing Facility (UPF).



The UPF training program was created to help potential suppliers evaluate possible business opportunities with the facility and within the nuclear field; to understand the impact of incorporating nuclear compliant operations; and to prepare companies to be a successful supply chain partner with the Uranium Processing Facility.

The first course on making the decision to become a supplier will be Jan. 16 at the New Hope Center in Oak Ridge. Subsequent courses such as government contract basics and nuclear quality systems introduction will be held in February. To learn more or to register visit: https://cis.tennessee.edu/train/programtraining/Nuclear/Pages/Nuclear.aspx *x*

MTAS Benchmarking Project Meets With 127 City Officials

By Joy West, TMBP Student Assistant

REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITIES participating in the Tennessee Municipal Benchmarking Project (TMBP) recently convened in Murfreesboro for the project's annual data cleansing and review meeting. The city of Murfreesboro graciously hosted the two-day meeting – the largest in the project's 11-year history – at the Patterson Park Community Center. There were 127 city officials present, representing 18 of the 21 participating cities from across the state. MTAS also had 13 staff members attend.

TMBP Steering Committee Chair Mitch Moore from the city of Athens, highlighted the purpose and importance of the data cleansing meeting.

"The data cleansing meeting is important in the benchmarking process to ensure the integrity of the data, and to allow a better understanding of the program by all participants," Moore said.

Mike Keith, city of Athens, and Jim Smith, city of Spring Hill, present the finance service area report.

(continued from cover)

City representatives met in individual service area groups to compare data, discuss measurement techniques, and to share their experiences. MTAS consultants facilitated the discussion on performance and costs data, measure definitions, and the value of calculated benchmarks. Groups also focused on identifying possible best practices using this year's data—building upon TMBP staff efforts to better capture performance success stories in codes enforcement and other service areas. The meeting concluded each day with report-backs from the service areas, which allowed all city participants to share and learn from one another. One of the greatest benefits of the data cleansing meeting each year is that through a face-to-face meeting cities gain the opportunity to share their experiences and to discuss best practices with other specialists in the field from across the state.

Jim Smith, steering committee member for the city of Spring Hill, shared his experience at the data cleansing meeting as a new city to the project.

"The city of Spring Hill sees the benchmarking project as an integral part of analyzing trends in various departments and comparing our results with our sister cities to glean new ways to become a high performing city," Smith said. *x*

Honna Rogers (center), MTAS Management Consultant, leads the service area discussion for Planning & Zoning.

TREEDC Partners with Pew Charitable Trusts at Kingsport Forum

THE TENNESSEE RENEWABLE Energy & Economic Development Council partnered with Founding Member Pew Charitable Trusts and the city of Kingsport to showcase area renewable energy initiatives to area stakeholders during a forum at the Kingsport Higher Education Center.

Representatives from the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Eastman, Erwin, Johnson City, Bristol Congressman Phil Roe's staff and area local officials attended the first TREEDC- Tri-Cities forum. Emily Bryan, Martin Penny and MTAS Management Consultant/ TREEDC Director Warren Nevad crafted the agenda. Max Shilstone, director of business development for TREEDC Gold Member Clean Line Energy Partners was the keynote speaker.

Kingsport Vice Mayor Tom Parham welcomed the audience and expressed his appreciation to TREEDC's 92 mayors for helping to advance renewable energy awareness to the Tri-Cities. Emily Bryan with Cooley Public Strategies urged the audience to look into Combined Heating and Power because it captures waste heat and puts it to efficient use while providing significant economic and energy security benefits. She added that job growth in the clean energy economy outperformed overall job growth in 38 states and the District of Columbia between 1998 and 2007. Jobs include engineers, plumbers, construction workers, machine setters, teachers and others with annual incomes ranging from $21,000 to $110,000

Nevad gave an overview of the PHG Energy Covington project. This downdraft gasification system was designed to convert wood trimmings and sewer sludge to electricity to offset energy use by Covington's waste water treatment plant. Construction began in April 2013 and the plant's grand opening was in October. The system uses PHGE's proprietary 12 ton-per-day capacity downdraft gasifier to supply some six million btu's of producer gas per hour as the central technology. The gasifier allows the city to dispose of approximately 10 tons of urban wood waste each day, along with two tons of sewer sludge. Both of these waste streams were previously landfilled, costing the city about $30 per ton in both tipping fees and transportation expense. Covington has earmarked these savings for development of its parks. *x*

CIS Provides Export Program for East Tennessee Businesses

THE UT CENTER FOR INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and U.S. Commercial Services partnered to provide training for companies interested in expanding to global markets.

ExporTech™ provides companies with a systematic process for entering or expanding global markets and connects them with international business experts in their region. The program assists participants in developing a peer-reviewed export growth plan in 12 weeks, moving them from planning to closing export sales. ExporTech™ is a hands-on, three-month course designed for business decision makers to build a proactive export plan to expand their international sales.

The companies that completed the course in Knoxville were L.C. King, Miller Recycling, Nanomechanics, Beaty Fertilizer and eSpin. *x*

The Law Enforcement Innovation Center recently celebrated 22 graduates from Session 34 of the National Forensic Academy. The graduates represented 18 different agencies from 11 states. Mark Wojnarek with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office in Clarksville was selected as the class leader from this session and Daryl Clark with the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office in Canton, Ga. was given the Dr. William Bass award.

To: Jennifer Benson, LEIC

I just wanted to send a quick thank you to you and everyone at the NFA for the training you provided. As soon as I returned, I put these new skills to the test. Monday, I had to process a vehicle trunk for signs of a murder, and Tuesday, I had to work the scene of a dead female UGA student found in a ravine/creek. Had I not attended NFA, I would have not nearly been as prepared to process these types of scenes.

Special Agent Jeremy C. Howell
Georgia Bureau of Investigation

To: Rex Barton, MTAS

I just wanted to thank you again for speaking to the Public Management seminar. The student feedback has been enthusiastically positive! I really appreciate your teaching gifts! Thanks for helping to train the next generation of public managers to understand the challenges related to municipal public safety.

David H. Folz
Professor & MPPA Director
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

To: Jim Thomas, MTAS

I'd like to commend Kurt (Frederick) for his work with the Municipal Management Academy program. In my opinion, for the last three years, the level of service and professionalism that Mr. Frederick extended to the city was far beyond our expectations. He was an educator, a facilitator, mediator, and sometimes peace-maker in our classes. All of the employees who made up the two groups we had here at the city were very impressed with his easy-going style and knowledge of the intricate parts of the municipality. What particularly impressed me about the service level provided by Mr. Frederick was that he was always available to answer questions. It is obvious that his commitment to excellence in customer service served as his motivation to go the extra mile. Kurt Frederick and his team truly deserve to be congratulated for providing an excellent program through the MMA program.

Tommy Dunavant
Commissioner
Tipton County

kudos

announcements

RECRUITMENTS

CIS - Consultant (Solutions), West Tennessee
Interviewing in January 2014

CIS - Consultant (Solutions), Nashville
Interviewing in January 2014

CTAS - Administrative Intern, Nashville

LEIC - Coordinator, Nashville, Limited Duration Position

NEW HIRES

Matthew Rudder, MTAS Knoxville, Coordinator

Gayle Githens, LEIC Oak Ridge, Admin Support Assistant

Christine Anderson, Jackson Regional Office (IPS CO), Administrative Support Assistant

Cyndy Edmonds, MTAS Knoxville, Specialist, On Line Training

John Crawford, MTAS Nashville, Coordinator, Marketing & Communications

Stefani Mundy, Naifeh Center, Specialist, Training

RETIREMENTS

John Collier, CIS

ANNIVERSARIES

Harding Aslinger, CIS	11 years
Doug Bodary, CTAS	11 years
Sharee Brewer, MTAS	13 years
Patricia Burke, CTAS	21 years
Dana Deem, MTAS	4 years
Scott Gordy, CO	13 years
Rick Hall, CTAS	22 years
Jim Hart, CTAS	6 years
Erin Kettele, CIS	5 years
Susan Robertson, CO	6 years
Jim Slizewski, CIS	19 years
Victoria South, MTAS	8 years
Marty Spears, CTAS	15 years
Patty Wells, CIS	6 years
Linda Winstead, MTAS	29 years
Dale Wolfe, MTAS	6 years

calendar

CIS

Jan. 14	OTI Recordkeeping 300 Log, Knoxville
Jan. 16	Advanced Business Decision Seminar for Entering Nuclear or Energy Industries as a Supplier, Oak Ridge
Jan. 16	Tennessee Environmental Regulatory Overview, Jackson
Jan. 17	Tennessee Environmental Regulatory Overview, Germantown
Jan. 21	OTI501 Trainer Course in OSHA Standards for General Industry, Knoxville
Jan. 22	EPCRA Tier II, Jackson
Jan. 23	EPCRA Tier II, Germantown
Jan. 27	OTI500 Trainer Course in OSHA Standards for Construction, Knoxville
Jan. 28-30	Toyota Kata: A Management System for Sustaining Lean/Continuous Improvement, Knoxville
Jan. 28	40-Hour Site Worker, Knoxville

MTAS

Jan. 8	Employee Performance Evaluations, Franklin
Jan. 8	Municipal Manager Overview, Collegedale
Jan. 10	Ethics and Open Meetings, Monteagle
Jan. 10	Foundations and Structures of Tennessee Municipal Government, Monteagle
Jan. 11	Charter Codes and Open Records, Monteagle
Jan. 11	Finance for Elected Officials, Monteagle
Jan. 11	Council at Work, Monteagle
Jan. 15	Risk Management and Safe Workplace Environment, Sevierville
Jan. 15	Communicating, Coaching and Counseling, Cleveland
Jan. 17	Developing Teamwork, Greeneville
Jan. 17	Foundations and Structures of Tennessee Municipal Government, Waynesboro
Jan. 17	Finance for Elected Officials, Waynesboro
Jan. 18	Council at Work, Waynesboro
Jan. 18	Charter, Codes and Open Records, Waynesboro
Jan. 18	Ethics and Open Meetings, Waynesboro
Jan. 22	Communication Skills and Behavioral Styles, Collegedale
Jan. 22	The Government Environment, Knoxville
Jan. 29	Delegation Skills, Cleveland

The *EXCHANGE* is a newsletter of
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