

October 23, 2003

THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL NOTIFIED BY REGION IV

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-03-046

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV staff on this date.

Facility

Raven Inspection & Testing, Inc.
Humble, Texas
License No.: L05219
Texas Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: STOLEN INDUSTRIAL RADIOGRAPHY CAMERA

DESCRIPTION:

On October 21, 2003, the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control (the Bureau) notified NRC's Operations Center of the reported theft of an industrial radiography camera.

On October 21, 2003, the Bureau received notification of the theft of the radiography camera from Raven Inspection & Testing, Inc., a Texas licensee. The licensee reported that the radiation safety officer (RSO) arrived at the permanent radiographic storage facility located in Humble, Texas on the morning of October 21 and discovered their radiography camera missing. The licensee's permanent storage facility was located in a commercial storage business consisting of 40 - 60 storage sheds surrounded by a 10 foot fence. The radiography camera was stored in the sixth shed from the gate. The RSO discovered the security gate open, the lock on the storage shed cut, the lock on the storage vault cut, and the only radiography camera owned by the licensee missing. No other items were missing from the radiographic storage shed and none of the other sheds were disturbed. The radiography camera is a SPEC Model 150 (Serial No. 0336), containing a 1184.0 gigabequerel (32 curie) iridium-192 source (Serial No. KF1204). The licensee notified other local radiography companies and the Harris County Police Department of the theft. The Bureau is continuing to investigate this event. There has been no media interest at this time.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence from NRC's Operations Center on October 21, 2003. Region IV has informed NMSS, OEDO, STP, IAT and Region IV's PAO and SLO. Region IV plans to inform Mexico.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 4:00 p.m. on October 22, 2003.

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