

Region I
NMSS Licensee Event Report

Licensee AGERE Systems
Event Description loss of 2 generally-licensed
General site signs
License # 37-30617-00 Docket # 03036068 MLER-RI 2004-042
Event Date Dec 2003 Report Date 6/23/04 9999.000/

1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

☒ 10 CFR 20.2201 Theft or Loss
☐ 10 CFR 20.2203 30 Day Report
☐ 10 CFR 30.50 Report
☒ Other 21.5
☐ 10 CFR 35.33 Misadministration
☐ License Condition

2. REGION I RESPONSE

☐ Immediate Site Inspection
☐ Special Inspection
☐ Telephone Inquiry
☐ Preliminary Report
☒ Information Entered in RI Log
☐ Report referred to: _____
Inspector/Date _____
Inspector/Date _____
Inspector/Date _____
☐ Daily Report
☒ Review at next inspection

3. REPORT EVALUATION

☒ Description of Event
☒ Levels of RAM Involved
☒ Cause of Event
☒ Corrective Actions
☐ Calculations Adequate
☐ Additional Information Requested from Licensee

4. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMENTS

File in LN 37-30617-02/03036068
Accident file. This material is
under a general license.

Public

☒

Non-Public

Initials/Date

Initials/Date

Completed by:

RLH Ullrich

Date

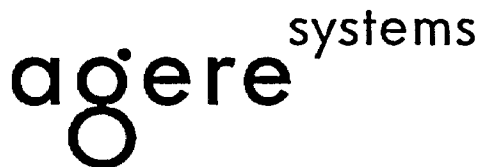
RLH 1/10/05

Reviewed by:

[Signature]

Date

1/11/05



RECEIVED
REGION 1

'04
Marianne Santarelli
EH&S Assurance

AUG -5 11:17
1110 American Parkway NE
Room 12K303
Allentown, PA 18103

Tel: 610 712 1636
Fax: 610 712 1452
msantarelli@agere.com

August 3, 2004

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Region I Administrator:

This letter is the written follow-up to the phone call of June 23rd, 2004 to the NRC telephone report line ((301) 816-5100) from Marianne Santarelli of Agere Systems regarding the loss of two generally licensed exit signs containing Tritium from our factory facility at 2525 N. 12th Street in Reading, Pennsylvania. This letter is submitted as directed in 10CFR 20.2201(b). The signs are described as follows.

#	Manufacturer	Model	Serial Number	Agere Inventory Number	Original Tritium Activity	Acquisition Date	Current Tritium Activity
1	Safety Light Corp	SLX-60	039741	34-0033	7.5 Ci	9/3/02	6.8 Ci
2	Safety Light Corp	SLX-60	090633	34-0034	7.5 Ci	9/3/02	6.8 Ci

Circumstances of the Loss

The entire Agere Reading facility, approximately 1,000,000 square feet, is currently closed and undergoing decommissioning with the disposal of a large amount of manufacturing equipment and material. At present, there are 79 Agere employees and 34 contract employees on the Decommissioning Team working at the site. Pending a decision to dispose or reuse, onsite Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) personnel had been proactive and retrieved the exit signs for safekeeping. The signs were removed from service and secured in the Industrial Hygiene Lab (Room 30-148) in December of 2003. The room is normally kept locked with access limited to EH&S and Building Operations personnel.

The loss of the exit signs was discovered during a routine inventory. Following the last inventory of these sources in December, the loss of the signs could have occurred with three possible scenarios:

1. Decommissioning Team employees/contractors, not realizing the significance of the signs, could have removed them from the Lab and placed them in a staging trailer with other items of value.
2. The signs could have been moved to another location inside the building.
3. The signs were stolen and are no longer on the property.

As a part of this investigation, the following actions have been taken:

1. An exhaustive search of the entire facility was conducted by EH&S; the lab where they were stored and all possible alternate locations were thoroughly examined.
2. Agere facility personnel and contractors were alerted by EH&S on the assumption that the signs were inadvertently collected from the lab as part of the overall cleanup.
3. Agere Security personnel have participated in the search and will continue to monitor materials leaving the building as well as maintain vigilance inside the building.
4. The Agere Treasury Asset Disposal Team and our warehouse materials handlers have searched for the exit signs as they cull through the 25 plus trailers of equipment/materials that have been removed from the site. The EH&S staff also surveyed the warehouse materials for an entire day in search of the exit signs.
5. Photos of the exit signs have been included in the facility postings regarding the missing signs for review by all workers to make them aware of the search and the need to recover the signs. The notification includes a "no questions asked" clause. In addition, under the Agere Systems Code of Conduct, anyone aware of, or suspicious of, a theft may make an anonymous report to Security and all such reports must be investigated.

To date the signs have not been located and no person has reported handling or seeing them.

Possible Disposition

Unless the signs were stored in the trailers for sale or were stolen, the most probable scenario was disposal with industrial trash in a Reading industrial landfill.

Evaluation of Radiation Exposure to Individuals

The greatest danger to the integrity of the signs would be compaction of trash. The Reading factory trash is not compacted; therefore there is no reason to believe that the signs were crushed (with a potential release of the tritium). Thus, no radiation exposure is expected.

Further Actions to Be Taken

After executing the comprehensive actions described above, no additional actions will be initiated to locate the devices. All facilities, security, decommissioning employees/contractors are aware of the missing signs and the need to intercept and safeguard them should they be encountered.

Actions to Prevent Recurrence

In that the facility is undergoing decommissioning, no further acquisition of tritium exit signs is anticipated. The facility contains no additional radioactive sources and there is no possibility of recurrence of the loss.

If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 610 712 1646.



Marianne Santarelli
Radiological Protection Officer
Global EH&S Director
Agere Systems

Cc
NRC Correspondence File
Richard Bleicher
Jocelyn De Grande Pre
Douglas Reigle
John O'Sullivan
Robert Ashton