



CONSULTANTS
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December 16, 2015



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-001

SUBJECT: "REPLY TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION"
NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-18180/2015-001 (DATED 11/19/2015);
NOTICE OF VIOLATION; AND EXERCISE OF ENFORCEMENT
DISCRETION

Document Control Desk:

You are receiving this letter as a response to an unannounced inspection conducted June 18, 2015 at American Engineering Testing located at 601 E. 48th St. N. in Sioux Falls, SD. Based on this inspection the NRC determined that one Severity Level IV violation was identified. This violation concerned the failure to use two independent physical controls that formed two tangible barriers to secure a portable gauge.

At the time of the inspection we had been using a chain and a locked ratcheting strap as tangible barriers to secure the gauge. During the inspection the NRC inspector was able to remove the "S" hook on the ratcheting strap even though the ratchet strap was locked. The ratchet strap was not considered a tangible barrier because it was not fastened tight enough to allow the "S" hook to be removed. We implemented the use of a second chain as a second tangible barrier upon receipt of the notice of violation. The second chain will provide the two independent tangible barriers that are necessary to be in compliance with NRC regulations and will prevent this violation from happening in the future. The ratchet strap will only be used to secure the gauge from moving in the truck.

The violation and corrective action was discussed during a December 3, 2015 and December 8, 2015 conference call, which included the office RSO's from each of our AET offices that possess portable gauges (See RSO Memorandum). Pat Rattenborg (Sioux Falls office RSO) immediately discussed the violation and corrective action with each gauge operator in the Sioux Falls office to discuss the use of two chains for tangible barriers and the use of the ratchet strap to secure the gauge from moving, not as a tangible barrier (See attached training log). The violation and corrective action will be discussed again in AET's annual refresher training on February 23, 2016.



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If you have any additional questions concerning this matter, please contact either Pat Rattenberg at (605)332-5371 or Paul Michlig at (715)359-3534.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Michlig', is written over the printed name and title.

Paul Michlig,
Corporate Radiation Safety Officer

Attachments: Training Log
RSO Memorandum

PM/PR/prz
N:\RSO\PORTABLE GAUGES\Misc Correspondence\NRC\RSO Response to NRC. Sioux Falls Violation. 12.09.15.doc

cc: USNRC, Region IV, Attn: Regional Administrator
1600 E. Lamar Blvd, Arlington TX, 76011-4511

American Engineering Testing, Attn: Daniel Larson, President
550 Cleveland Avenue North, Saint Paul, MN 55114-1804
dlarson@amengtest.com

American Engineering Testing, Attn: Bruce Card, Office Manager/Pat Rattenborg, Office RSO
601 E. 48th Street North, Sioux Falls, SD 57104
bcard@amengtest.com prattenborg@amengtest.com



**AMERICAN
ENGINEERING
TESTING, INC.**

Training Log

Date 12-11-15

Department: Sioux Falls - 32

SUBJECT: NRC SEVERITY IV VIOLATION FAILURE TO USE TWO TANGIBLE BARRIERS

Trainer: Pat Rattenborg

Signing below documents that I attended a safety meeting presented by AET on the date and subject indicated above. I understand this is part of an ongoing training effort and I was given the opportunity to ask questions to ensure my full understanding of the information presented.

No.	Print Name	Signature
1	CARD, BRUCE	
2	DUMDEI, SCOTT	
3	JANKE, ERIK	
4	JOHNSON, ADAM	
5	LETCHER, BRAD	
6	MCNARY, MITCH	
7	RATTENBORG, PATRICK	
8	SIMON, VICTOR	
9	SUNDEVOLD, WILLIAM	
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Memorandum

To: Dave Wirth – Saint Paul, MN
Eric Edlund, Jonathan Gabriel, Nicole Heggem – Duluth, MN
Joe Kendzora – International Falls, MN
Greg Guyer, Lisa Hoehn - Mankato, MN
Tom James, Stephanie Bethke-Dejaeghere – Marshall, MN
Kyle Shubert, Steve Mullen, Amy League – Rochester, MN
Jim Miller, Gene Erzar – Albertville, MN
Al Hovick, Casey Simmons– Dickinson, ND
Walter Slack, Jeff Crow, Kesley Bannister - Williston, ND
Robert Temme, Michael Brown, Kathy Pease – Rapid City, SD
Bruce Card, Pat Rattenborg – Sioux Falls, SD
Joel Guanella – Chippewa Falls, WI
Jon Humphrey – Green Bay, WI
Ray Martinson – Menomonie, WI
Eric Dobbe – Schofield, WI

CC: Tracey Lee

From: Paul Michlig, RSO

Date: 11/18/15

RE: RSO Conference Call - December 3, 2015 or December 8, 2015

I would like to have a call with all the office RSO's (or someone familiar with the radiation safety program in your office) to discuss the following subjects:

- Changes to the nuclear gauge manual (red book)
- Leak test schedule (December 7, 2015 to December 11, 2015)
- Changes to annual refresher
- Review of recent audits
 - ▲ Saint Paul
 - ▲ Sioux Falls
 - ▲ Properly securing gauges – secondary containment
- Review of paperwork submittal to Schofield
 - ▲ Dosimetry
 - ▲ Leak Tests
 - ▲ Audits
 - ▲ Training Records
 - ▲ Inventories
- Record Retention
 - ▲ Leak tests maintain for 3 years / recommend 5 years
 - ▲ Training records maintain for 3 years / recommend 5 years
 - ▲ Audit records maintain for 3 years / recommend 5 years
 - ▲ Inventory records maintain 5 years / recommend 7 years
 - ▲ Dosimetry records maintain forever
- Coming in 2016 – RSO Program will have an access site
- Questions

We have set up two dates: **December 3, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.** OR **December 8, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.**
You only need to attend one session. If someone from your office cannot make either of these times, I will set up another time. If you do not attend the December 3, 2015 meeting, an invite will be sent to you for the December 8, 2015 meeting.