

# Building Administration Report

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NSLS BUILDING MANAGER

The new mini-gap undulator, sextupole repair, the installation of the x-ray radio-frequency circulator, the continuing construction of cutting-edge beamlines, and the announcement that one of our users received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his NSLS research – It has been more than twenty years since the first operational beamlines were commissioned here, and, due to the efforts of many individuals and multiple service and support groups, the future of the NSLS is as bright as ever.

Safety and security issues remain at the forefront of daily operations, and facility improvements range from the physical plant infrastructure to a new user network outside of the current BNL firewall. Various beamline and ring upgrades have been fully commissioned and additions to the NSLS scientific staff have made for a very productive and interesting year.

## Safety:

NSLS staff and users are reminded that working safely is a top priority at BNL. In accordance with this basic principal, the past year saw the introduction of new work planning elements for scientists and technicians. Work planning and control procedures require that work being performed at the NSLS above the “skill of the craft” level be reviewed by the appropriate subject matter experts and scheduled accordingly through available resources. Meetings are held weekly, or as needed in emergency cases, to review, approve, and authorize work that does not fall within this “skill of the craft” category. Using a graduated approach for hazard determinations, formal work permits will be issued for work deemed hazardous. Users and staff should contact the building manager with any questions pertaining to whether a formal work permit is required.

In October, the entire laboratory underwent a full OSHA walk-through inspection. Teams of OSHA personnel, from all areas of expertise and backgrounds in industrial safety, toured virtually every building at BNL. The NSLS fared reasonably well, receiving 61 citations, compared with some several thousand lab-wide. Many of the NSLS citations were corrected prior to this article, and we are tracking the few remaining open items. Our target goal remains set at zero citations in the future. The NSLS safety teams, paired with Tier 1 inspections, experimental reviews, and the work planning and control process, manage one of the busiest user facilities in the world and have the resources to achieve this objective. Accordingly, everyone must continue to intervene and act appropriately if observing any unsafe conditions.

## Security:

This year, America has cycled between the Code Yellow (elevated) and Code Orange (high) terrorism awareness levels. We therefore ask everyone to be constantly vigilant when performing common, everyday tasks



at the NSLS. For example, lock your parked vehicle and do not leave it in the parking lot for long periods of time when you are absent from the NSLS. Do not leave your packages unattended, even for a few moments. There have been several instances of items found unattended and unidentified in the following areas: the main lobby, the entrance vestibule, and the drop-off zone inside the circular driveway of building 725. We urge all personnel to follow security measures when entering both BNL and the NSLS. Vehicle inspections at all gates leading off-site have increased, and the Department of Energy requires that all non-expendable property at BNL have bar codes or property tags affixed to indicate ownership. These tags are available free of charge from the NSLS stockroom.

While transparent to the casual observer, behind-the-scene work by many employees continues to provide our staff and users with a very safe and secure workplace. Again, we extend our gratitude to everyone for their patience and cooperation in conforming to the newly-implemented rules and regulations.

#### Facility Upgrades:

New furniture, complimented by matching NSLS logo rugs, has been installed in the main lobby. Additionally, a satellite dish network was installed to feed the LCD projection monitor video wall and second floor conference rooms with a commercial signal that can provide live feeds to the NSLS community. The NSLS building manager will be the point of contact for submitting requests to activate the signal for viewing during evening and weekend hours. For special occasions or events, requests for viewing sporting events and educational, cultural, and informative programming can be sent to the chairman through the building manager for review and approval.

The RF penthouse air conditioning upgrade increased output cooling, reducing the heat load onto working power supplies and virtually eliminating power supply trips on hot summer days. All experimental floor steam re-heat coils located within the AC duct works were cleaned and serviced, providing better flow through ventilation. Due to the cleaning process, heat and air conditioning delivery is expected to become more stable.

Special maintenance funding from Plant Engineering provided the necessary resources to install replacement wall-to-wall carpeting in the seminar room, directorate wing hallway, and conference room A. Maintenance crews refurbished the restroom in building 726 and applied fresh coats of paint to many areas of building 725. The roof over MER 2, as well as the pitch pockets and galvanized trays surrounding the power feeders near the RF penthouse, were sealed and subjected to various proof tests during the summer downpours. The remaining areas of suspected roof leaks are now marked for repair once the winter freeze/thaw cycles have ended.

As requested by users utilizing very sensitive detector equipment, the two-ton stock room overhead crane was modified with an infinitely-



Some of the many talented members of the NSLS Plant Engineering Support Staff, Work Control Coordinators, and Facility Support/Work Planning Team, who work together to keep the facility safe and sound.

variable speed controller. This allows for extremely smooth vertical lifts, making the positioning of delicate equipment more precise and operator-friendly.

The nslsusers.org network is up and fully operational. This network provides users with an option to route connections to the World Wide Web without passing through the BNL firewall. Wireless access points (WAP's) are activated in conference and seminar rooms located on the second floor of 725.

#### **Office Space/Storage:**

Available NSLS user office space in building 535 has been completely allocated. Occupants previously located in buildings 510E, 129, 728, and the NSLS trailer park are now settled into nicely-appointed areas of the instrumentation facility. A notable occurrence is the relocation of the NSLS Controls and Detector Group, headed by Peter Siddons. The close proximity of this group to the specialists located within the Instrumentation Division makes for excellent idea-sharing while developing prototype devices and designing layouts for PC boards.

An all-inclusive undertaking to visually account for items being stored by both staff and users took place during the first quarter of the new fiscal year. A very good response ratio from the user community was compiled, along with a 100% physical inventory account rate from targeted NSLS sections.

#### **Conclusion:**

The NSLS continues to thrive in today's environment by relying on talented and dedicated individuals from within the department and across the laboratory, providing our Users with high quality, reliable beam time. The NSLS remains a world-class research center, often referred to as a jewel amongst DOE facilities. In closing, I wish to extend my thanks to everyone who assists in the daily operations and maintenance of all the facilities within the NSLS complex.

## **Stockroom Upgrade**

DONNA BUCKLEY

BUDGET/ADMINISTRATION

The NSLS Stockroom database has recently been upgraded from a dated "Rbase" system into one using a Visual Basic and Oracle database. New barcode scanners have also been incorporated, allowing customers to easily scan their BNL ID badge for their life/guest number and their default project/activity number. The new system is user friendly and makes withdrawals faster and easier.

The number of NSLS stock items has increased over the past few years and continues to do so, due to changes in the BNL main stockroom and the reduction in the number of credit cards issued at BNL. Please remember to fill out the "Request For Additional NSLS Stockroom Inventory" forms located in the stockroom, with any suggestions for items to be stocked. All suggestions are presented to and considered by the NSLS Stockroom Committee.