David Telles wins NNSA Security Professional of the Year award

May 7, 2009

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, May 7, 2009 – David M. Telles, who leads Los Alamos National Laboratory's Vulnerability Analysis Office, received a 2008 National Nuclear Security Administration Security Professional of the Year award.

NNSA administrator Tom D'Agostino said, "Our security professionals dedicate themselves to protecting some of the nation's most vital strategic assets, and in so doing, help advance broader U.S. national security goals."

"I am pleased to be named the 2008 Security Professional of the Year," Telles said, adding, "Receiving this award is truly an honor." He could not have won it without his Vulnerability Analysis Office team and members of the Lab's Safeguards and Security Directorate, he said.

Telles leads a group of seven security professionals who conduct vulnerability analyses, authored the LANL Site Safeguards and Security Plan, and administered the Lab's

Performance Assurance Program. Under his leadership, the LANL Site Safeguards and Security Plan and the Vulnerability Analysis teams were recognized among the most talented in the NNSA enterprise.

“My goal at the Laboratory has been to create the most comprehensive vulnerability analysis program possible and to work with NNSA to develop process consistency across all sites,” he said. To that end, Telles shared his program with other NNSA sites and supported them with their vulnerability analyses.

Telles’ background is in engineering and law enforcement. Before joining the Laboratory in 1997, Telles worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. It was during this period that he became increasingly interested in vulnerability assessment, he said. “I saw the need for improvement in the process across the NNSA complex,” Telles said.

The NNSA award recognizes one federal employee and one contractor employee whose contributions to the security programs within the NNSA enterprise exemplify the highest ideals of public service.

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