Reorganization bolsters nuclear nonproliferation capability

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Action provides huge advantages for collaboration and customer service

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, June 27, 2012—Los Alamos National Laboratory has strengthened its capability in a key aspect of nuclear nonproliferation by combining two groups within its Global Security organization.

Scott Gibbs, Associate Director of Threat Identification and Response, recently announced the merger of the former Nuclear Design and Risk Analysis Group (D-5) and the former Safeguards and Security Systems Group (N-4) into a new organization within the Nuclear Engineering and Nonproliferation Division (NEN) called the Systems Design and Analysis Group (NEN-5).

The synergy created by combining these groups greatly enhances the Laboratory's expertise in the nuclear fuel cycle and safeguards arena. Such expertise is vital in understanding whether or how changes to nuclear reactor fuel constituents could create or eliminate nuclear materials that could be diverted or otherwise used to create weapons of mass destruction. This type of work is extremely valuable to myriad internal and external customers.

"Having this very crucial nuclear nonproliferation capability under a single organization is a huge advantage in terms of collaboration, and work and potential work sponsors will be channeled through a single point of contact," Gibbs said. "Our customers will see a benefit as a result."