

PRESS RELEASE

PAGE 1 OF 2

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOTA Completes the Mechanical Segmentation of the Rancho Seco PWR Reactor Internals

West Columbia, SC, May, 2006 – MOTA Corporation (MOTA), working with Transnuclear Inc., safely and successfully completed the ‘first-of-a-kind’ mechanical segmentation and packaging of the reactor internals at SMUD’s Rancho Seco Nuclear Generating Station near Sacramento, California. The 14-month project commenced in March 2005 using custom-designed equipment that incorporated mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic technologies in unique applications to mill, cut, and shear the large reactor internals.

Bob Grubb, Senior VP of Engineering, Transnuclear, said:

“The very successful mechanical segmentation and packaging of the entire Reactor Vessel Internals at the Rancho Seco Power Plant was a very successful demonstration of the ability of experience and teamwork on the part of SMUD, Transnuclear Inc, and MOTA Corporation to creatively overcome all emergent obstacles to achieve a common goal.”

Transnuclear, Inc. contracted MOTA in April 2004 to remotely segment and package the entire Reactor Vessel Internals (RVI) assembly in the overall decommissioning of the 2,772 MWt Babcock and Wilcox pressurized water reactor (PWR). The RVI assembly consisted of stainless steel plenum assembly, core support shield, thermal shield, baffle assembly, and lower assembly. The complete RVI assembly had a nominal outer diameter of 14 feet, stood over 50 feet high, and had a total activity of 99,500 Curies.

Wayne Hawley, Dismantlement Superintendent, Rancho Seco said:

“MOTA quickly demonstrated their commitment to perform as a team member. Their safety record has been good with no reportable injuries through the whole duration of the project.”

After the final segmentation plan was approved in August 2004, fabrication of six specialized tools began. Full scale mock-ups were built to thoroughly test the equipment before deployment to the field. The mock-ups incorporated the same type and size material that was used in the construction of the RVI to

PRESS RELEASE

PAGE 2 OF 2

Completion of Rancho Seco Project (continued)

June 2, 2006

duplicate the forces required to remove and size reduce the components. Full scale testing is one way MOTA ensures continued success in applying our segmentation technology in the decommissioning of nuclear facilities such as at our current project at the Parr reactor in South Carolina.

The equipment was comprised of:

- The Circumferential Hydraulically Operated Rotating Cutting Equipment (C-HORCE) used the internal core barrel and thermal shield walls to secure the equipment, and segmented the 14 foot diameter assembly with radial cuts.
- The Bolt Milling Tool (BMT) milled the heads from the bolts that fastened the baffle plates to the baffle former plates. Underwater cameras guided the milling bit to ensure correct indexing and positive engagement.
- The Bolt Shearing Tool (BeaST) removed the former plates from the core barrel using hydraulic force to shear the attachment bolts.
- The Reciprocating Machine Tool (RMT) cut the upper grid and the plenum assembly.
- The 38i, single blade, and 38iII, double bladed, cold metal cutting systems were used to cut the thermal shield, core barrel, and lower internals, allowing stainless steel sections of up to 24” thick to be cut in one pass.

The use of MOTA’s underwater and remotely operated mechanical segmentation equipment allowed for the optimization in the cutting of the components to maximize the production of Class A Waste which resulted in nearly 180,000 lb (over 52% by weight) of internal components available for immediate disposal. MOTA’s mechanical segmentation approach also minimized the cavity cleanup and the spread of contamination compared to other techniques.

Ron Mencarelli, President of MOTA Corporation, said:

“I am very grateful for the opportunity to demonstrate the commitment and capabilities of MOTA Corporation on this project. This team never quit or gave up on each other. I welcome future project opportunities where this type of teamwork exists because failure is never an option.”

MOTA is an environmental remediation services company based in West Columbia, South Carolina, with extensive experience in the cleanup of reactors, hot cells, experimental laboratories, and similar facilities with radiological contamination. MOTA offers turnkey decommissioning services to academic, government, and commercial customers. Visit MOTA Corporation online at www.motacorp.com.

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