



LABORATORY TESTING INC.

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LTI Inspects Replacement Pipe for Reactor

The Hope Creek nuclear reactor, located in Lower Alloways Creek in south New Jersey, was shut down on March 27, 2005 to investigate a radioactive steam leak. Hope Creek is one of three reactors owned by Public Service Enterprise Group Inc. (PSEG) at the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, which provides electricity to over a million New Jersey customers.

According to PSEG, the leak occurred in the facility's innermost containment area and posed no threat to plant employees. The shutdown allowed workers to look in the dry well and under the reactor core for the source of the small but growing amount of radioactive steam since February.

The workers found steam escaping from a broken weld in a pipe that is about a foot long and about 4 inches in diameter. This pipe is connected to a 28-inch diameter pipe that is part of the plant's cooling system and connects several feet away to a 20-foot-high recirculating cooling-water pump. The pipes were installed at least 20 years ago, before the plant began operating in 1986.



The recirculating cooling-water pumps have a shaft that vibrates when the plant is running at full capacity. PSEG attributed the cracked weld to vibrations from normal plant operations.

Plant workers have replaced the 4-inch diameter cracked pipe with a shorter piece of seamless pipe to eliminate the weld. The same change was made on an identical pipe for a second recirculation pump to eliminate the weld as a precaution.

The replacement pipe was air freighted to Laboratory Testing Inc. from the manufacturer as a rush order for ultrasonic inspection. When testing was completed, the pipe was shipped directly to the Hope Creek plant. The testing looked for internal flaws and discontinuities in the wall of the pipe.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission gave approval to restart the Hope Creek plant 12 days after shutdown, upon reviewing PSEG's report on the cause of the leak and the company's repairs made in response to the problem.

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LAB NEWS

Level III Certification

The American Society for Nondestructive Testing, Inc. (ASNT) has awarded Mark Tierney a certificate for NDT Level III in Radiography. Mark is manager of NDT Services at LTI, and is also NDT Level III certified in Visual & Optical, Magnetic Particle, Liquid Penetrant and Ultrasonic Testing.



Mark Tierney
ASNT NDT Level III

400K Tensile Machine



We recently added a top-of-the-line 400,000 lb. tensile machine. This latest technology provides additional capabilities and increased capacity over our original 400K machine. It tests larger specimens and higher strength materials. Our turnaround is even faster with the two machines.

A2LA & PRI/Nadcap Accreditation

Laboratory Testing Inc. is accredited in accordance with the International Standard ISO/IEC 17025, stating "general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories". Previously we obtained this accreditation for our testing services from both A2LA (American Association for Laboratory Accreditation) and PRI/Nadcap (The Performance Review Institute). This was a duplication of our accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025, so we now are accredited for mechanical, chemical and nondestructive testing services by PRI/Nadcap only. Our A2LA accreditation continues to cover dimensional inspection and calibration services.

Our accreditations to ISO/IEC 17025 through both PRI/Nadcap and A2LA enhance LTI's Quality Program by ensuring customers that we can meet or exceed their needs and expectations. In addition, these accreditations allow LTI to meet the requirements of automotive and other industry standards stating that vendor laboratories shall be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025 by a recognized accreditation body (e.g. PRI/Nadcap, A2LA, NAVLAP or LAB).

Accreditation certificates are available on our website's *Literature & Quote* page at www.labtesting.com, or by fax, e-mail or mail. Please contact Don DiFilippo, Q. A. Manager, at 800-219-9095, ext. 124 or Frank Peszka, Q. A. Specialist, ext. 105 for certificates or more information.

Calibration Reminders by E-mail

Our calibration services include reminder notices when items come due for recalibration. In the past, the reminders were mailed to our customers. We recently began to send the reminders by e-mail to any customers with an e-mail address in our database.

Our Customer Service and Marketing Departments will be contacting calibration customers for the name of the main contact to

receive notices and the appropriate e-mail address, if we do not have this information on file. If you do not have e-mail, we will continue to send your notices by mail.

We hope you enjoy the convenience of e-mail calibration reminders. If you would like to update your company information at any time, please contact Sharon Bentzley at sbentzley@labtesting.com or 800-219-9095, ext. 112.

E-mail Privacy Policy

Like most companies, LTI is using e-mail more frequently as an important way to communicate with customers and contacts. Certifications, calibration reminder notices, literature, accreditations, the quality manual, announcements and more can be sent to you by e-mail. If you prefer paper documents, they are still available too.

We want to assure you that LTI values the privacy of our customers and contacts. It is our policy that your company information, including e-mail address, is for our internal use only and will not be sold or traded to other companies.

Continuing to Grow to Meet Your Needs

Our goal is to offer a "one-stop" hassle-free relationship to customers requiring metals testing, calibration, specimen machining and failure analysis services. In addition to this convenience, we are committed to providing accurate, timely and cost-effective services. LTI is able to meet these requirements with talented, experienced employees and the latest technology.

We have added a number of new positions in the past few months to keep up with the quality and turnaround needs of our customers. Additional technicians have been hired in Calibration, Machining and Mechanical Testing to increase the capacity of these departments. The

position of NDT Technologies Coordinator was recently created to develop and integrate new technology for maximizing the capabilities, reliability and efficiencies of NDT services. Our Chemical Lab expanded with an additional technician responsible for sample analysis, using both wet chemical and instrumental methods. The Metallography Department added an Engineer with responsibilities for testing and failure analysis of metals.

LTI continues to invest in the latest computer-controlled equipment to replace older machines and to provide new services. This state-of-the-art equipment offers more efficient processing, automated recording and detailed reporting.



Phil Trach
NDT Technologies Coordinator
B.S. Mechanical Engineering



Lauren Shuck
Chemistry Technician
B.S. Environmental Geology



Rob Taraborelli
Metallurgical Engineer
B.S. Material Science & Engineering

Still to Come in 2005

We have enjoyed seeing many of our customers already this year at the Waste Management Show, NACEpo and Design2Part Show. LTI is scheduled to attend two more tradeshow in 2005.

Please stop by and visit our booths. This is a perfect opportunity to discuss our complete package of services, and to learn how you can get more from your relationship with LTI.

If you would like a complimentary show pass, e-mail Sharon Bentzley at sbentzley@labtesting.com or call 800-219-9095, ext. 112.

Machine Tool Show (Mid-Atlantic)
October 18 - 20, 2005
Fort Washington Expo Center
Fort Washington, PA
Booth: #630

Power-Gen International
December 6 - 8, 2005
Sands Expo & Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Booth: #3661

LAB NEWS

Article on Weld Inspection in *TPJ*

TPJ (*The Tube & Pipe Journal*) is publishing our article, "Detecting discontinuities through weld inspection", in their June 2005 issue. The article discusses the types of testing used to locate and identify flaws that occur in the longitudinal welds used to make welded tubular products.

Please send a request to sbentzley@labtesting.com, if you would like a copy of the article by e-mail.



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