



Sandia National Laboratories Building 1090 Laboratory Modifications

PRESENTED BY

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Radiation Protection Sample Diagnostics (RPSD) Mission Statement

Provide high quality on-site laboratory analysis services to Sandia and external partners in the areas of radiation detection and quantification, radiobioassay, radiochemistry and inorganic analytical chemistry.



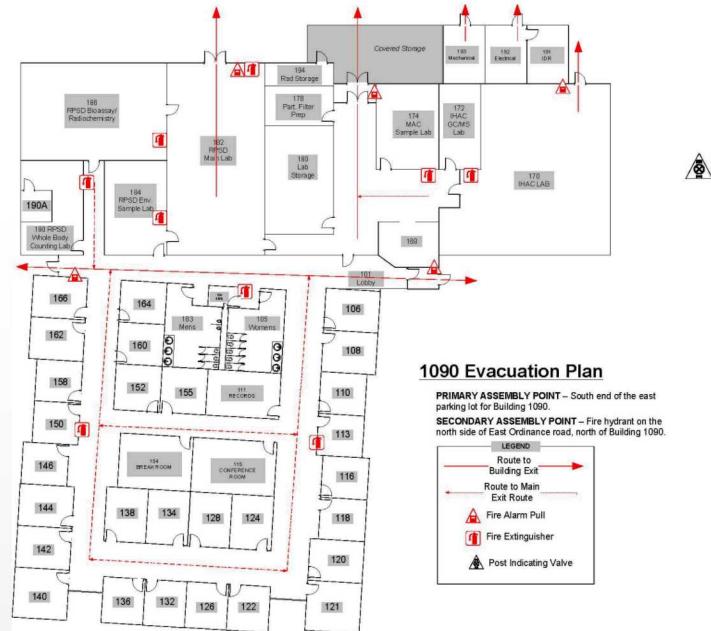
Analytical Capabilities

- Liquid Scintillation Counting
- Gas Proportional Counting
- Gamma spectroscopy
- Whole Body Counting
- Alpha spectroscopy
- ICP-MS, ICP-OES
- Flame Atomic Absorption
- Sample preparation facilities



Building Modifications—Initial Drivers

- ❑ Rush to re-locate to new facility
- ❑ Initial building design budget (2004)—\$5M
 - Undersized, stainless steel ductwork.
 - Positive air pressure differential from lab spaces to office spaces.
 - Emergency evac plan—traffic flow toward the hazard.
- ❑ Energy audit (2009)—High power consumption due to undersized ductwork
 - New variable frequency drive to serve exhaust fans installed.
 - New stainless steel ductwork installed (correct size).
 - Energy use significantly reduced.



Building Modifications—More Drivers

- ❑ Extended power outages (2012)
 - Ventilation shuts down while acid digestions in process.
 - No emergency lighting in lab spaces.
- ❑ Stainless steel ductwork incompatible with acid digestions
 - Condensate collects in hoods.
 - Insufficient air flow.
 - Sub-optimal hood design.
 - Corrosion of control valves—leakage into ceiling spaces.



Laboratory Facility Upgrades

Goals:

- Replace corroded ductwork with PermaShield Pipe (PSP) fluoropolymer coated ductwork.
- Install new acid-compatible hoods.
- Consolidate digestion operations onto a dedicated exhaust fan.
- Provide backup power and lighting.
- Improve lab work flow/traffic patterns and evac routes.
- Re-purpose some under-utilized lab spaces.



Project Cost: \$845K

Construction Timeline: 4 months

Project in Progress



Removing old ducts and HEPA filters



Lab space to be re-purposed

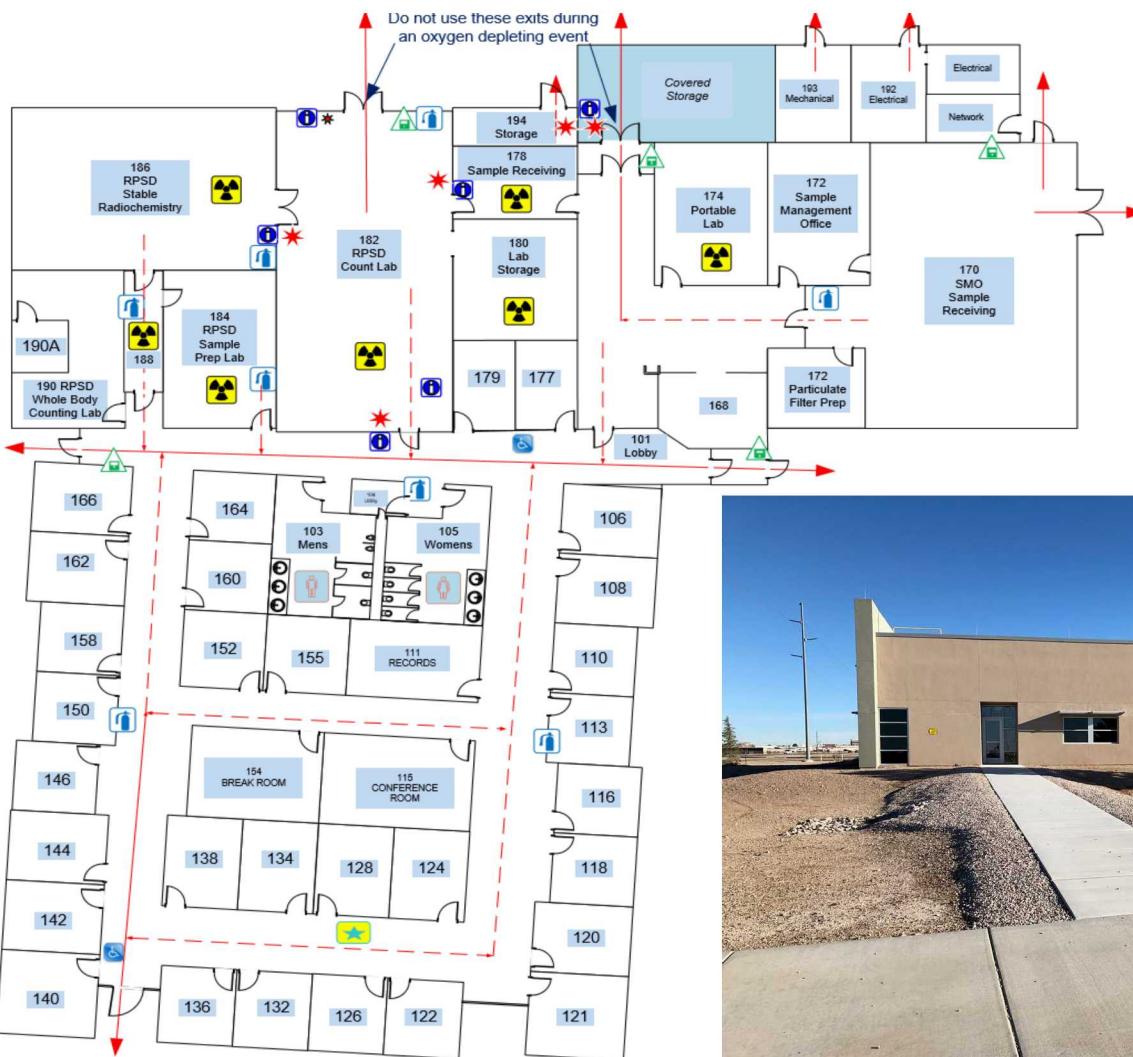


Re-plumbing shower drain



New PSP ductwork

Revised Floorplan



Issues Encountered During Recent Building Mods

- ❑ Vastly underestimated resources needed to support the project
 - One lab POC to interface with designers and construction contractors.
 - Many competing routine and non-routine laboratory operations and projects.
- ❑ Rad and chemical D&D required contractors with Rad Worker-II training
 - Initial subcontractor team did not have training.
- ❑ Unforeseen hazards/issues
 - Mice in the ceilings
 - Removal of flooring—increased background in adjacent lab count room
- ❑ Lots and lots of paperwork (pre- and post-construction)
 - Hazard analyses, safety documents, updates to permits, etc.
- ❑ New firewall design issues identified
 - Identified from newly installed differential pressure monitors.
 - Positive pressure from laboratory space to office space during windy conditions.

Lessons Learned

- ❑ Insist on a design firm with experience in designing analytical lab spaces.
- ❑ Consider independent review of design plans by consultant.
- ❑ Match hoods and ducting materials to be compatible with chemical and radiological needs.
- ❑ Consider emergency lighting & backup power options.
- ❑ Involve Radiation Protection and Industrial Hygiene early in design and work planning process.
- ❑ Need frequent update meetings during construction phase to plan around lab operations.



Lessons Learned

- ❑ Need access control for contractors into radiological areas during construction phase.
- ❑ Consider new traffic routes and how they will impact workflow.
- ❑ Consider emergency evacuation routes and options.
- ❑ Plan for how doorways are going to be used (i.e. if equipment is to be moved through doors, plan for larger than standard openings).
- ❑ Evaluate need for windows on doors and door type (i.e. crash bars, size).
- ❑ Evaluate the need for differential pressure monitors in critical areas.
- ❑ Consider an independent post-construction evaluation.
- ❑ Need plan for storing construction designs, documents, plans, photos for future reference.



Questions?

