

WHAT'S INSIDE

Page 2

Y-12 employee teams honored by NNSA

Page 4

Working safely day after day

Page 5

Social networking comes to government
agencies

Page 7

Extra money in your pocket

November 2009

www.y12.doe.gov/news/times.php

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B&W Technical Services Y-12, LLC, a partnership between Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Group Inc. and Bechtel National Inc., operates the Y-12 National Security Complex.

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Productivity improvements SAVED MILLIONS in 2009

The Productivity Improvement Program implemented eight years ago yielded its biggest savings yet in fiscal 2009, producing cost savings and avoidance valued at \$52.8 million, with \$40 million of that savings applied directly to additional mission work.

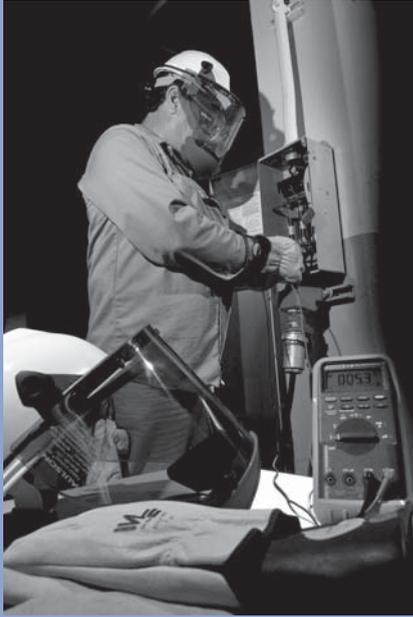
Those productivity increases and cost reductions will allow Y-12 to accomplish additional work scope in fiscal year 2010 for Directed Stockpile Work (\$6.9 million), Readiness in Technical Base and Facilities (\$21.4 million), Nuclear Nonproliferation (\$1.5 million), Safeguards and Security (\$3.5 million) and others.

The effort is important because it allows B&W Y-12 to do more work for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) without requesting additional government funding.

“Y-12 is committed to responsible stewardship of taxpayers’ dollars, and the savings we generate year over year show we are a wise choice for NNSA’s investments,” said Nancy Johnson, vice president, Y-12 Productivity Improvement Program. “We are working to transform the way the work gets done and eliminating the non-value-added aspects of what our folks do.”

The focus of the Productivity Improvement Program is to accomplish work as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible. Y-12 organizations are encouraged to analyze all aspects of their work to find money-saving alternatives. “Every organization works its portfolio of initiatives and coordinates with the Productivity Improvement staff to be sure the improvements are properly accounted for and implemented,” said Abe Mathews, Y-12’s program manager for Productivity Improvement. “Each organization has a productivity lead, a manager to go to with ideas as well as assigned resources from the Productivity staff to assist with expertise and tools to achieve desired results.”

The sitewide goal for 2010 is \$40 million in efficiencies and avoidances. Implementing rapid improvement events (RIEs) is one new way Y-12 will encourage productivity and savings next year. “RIEs allow a small team to make dramatic changes, within one week, to the way work is done,” Mathews said. The teams involve employees from the work area who are empowered to make changes, improving their work environments while making operations more efficient.



Significant cost avoidances have been realized since the Atomic Trades and Labor Council adopted a four-day, ten-hour work schedule last year for bargaining unit employees.

Improvement initiatives were submitted site-wide. Among the past fiscal year's 191 successful initiatives:

- Construction contributed \$285,000 to the savings total by evaluating and changing the escort process. Instead of simply observing uncleared workers in the area, cleared escorts now perform hands-on work while escorting in certain areas. "It used to be that an escort might sit and watch five people. Now, with help from Safeguards, Security, and Emergency Services, the escort is working alongside and being productive. The savings from that initiative allowed the Projects organization to accomplish more work scope," said Mathews.
- The DELMIA software project saved \$4.7 million. The new software package, used by the Uranium Processing Facility project, creates a virtual workplace. It provides an efficient ergonomic evaluation of facilities during design by allowing reviewers to see how employees will move and work within the facilities. Over the next three design phases, DELMIA will save 56,000 hours usually spent manually pouring over drawings.
- Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) is saving \$1 on each respirator cartridge used. "ES&H used to re-test cartridges even though they were tested by the manufacturer, but through analysis, they found that Y-12 could remove the redundant check and save nearly \$400,000 over the next three years without impacting the safety of our employees," said Mathews.
- By accelerating its move out of the Beta 1 building, which it has leased from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and turning the facility back to ORNL, Y-12 chalked up an \$890,000 savings in lease, facility and building management costs.

NNSA Awards of Excellence for 2008 honor 17 employee teams

In 2008, employees from Y-12 and the Y-12 Site Office (YSO) created alternative protection systems for storage areas for classified matter and strategic materials, and their ingenuity helped Y-12 avoid spending more than \$9.6 million in major upgrades. Another Y-12/YSO team improved inventory systems in a key production area that year, generating a projected savings of \$5.5 million through fiscal year 2010. Another group from Y-12 determined that inexpensive, off-the-shelf aluminized Mylar bags could help protect moisture-sensitive parts. The bags will result in fewer rejected parts and save more than \$1 million annually.

Those were among the 17 teams that the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) recently honored with Defense Programs Awards of Excellence for work performed in 2008. The awards recognize achievements that significantly contribute to the nuclear weapons' life-cycle process. Gains in quality, productivity, cost savings, creativity, safety or security are among those celebrated.

Guest speaker and presenter Brig. Gen. Garrett Harencak, principal assistant deputy administrator for military application in NNSA's Office of Defense Programs, spoke on leadership, a quality he believes that successful organizations crave. "Leadership is easy," he said. "It's all about being the boss you always wanted to work for." Additional presenters included YSO Manager Ted Sherry, Y-12 President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst and Vice President of Programs and Quality Bill Reis. The award winners and their projects are listed on YSource.

Harencak mentioned in closing that he would like to hand an award to every person who works at Y-12. "You are making a difference," he said. "I appreciate what you're doing, and America does too."



Brig. Gen. Garrett Harencak looks over the awards to be given to honorees of the Defense Programs Awards of Excellence.

Y-12 readies first responders

Keeping a step ahead of terrorists is no easy task. It requires considerable technical expertise, planning and specialized training—some of Y-12's strong suits.

Y-12 has supported America's national security missions for more than 60 years, and because of that experience and the site's specialized work force, Y-12 is helping secure the globe through the National Nuclear Security Administration's Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI). The program seeks to reduce and protect vulnerable nuclear and radiological material located at civilian sites (such as universities and hospitals) worldwide by providing security upgrades and unique training.

GTRI uses Y-12 expertise as part of its anti-terrorism arsenal, specifically to convert, remove and protect nuclear and radiological materials domestically and internationally. A strategic new part of the program is the delivery of an Alarm Response Force Training—

“I've been to a lot of training over 30 years, and this has been the best from the get-go—from the organization of the first contact to quality instructors, to live scenarios, tabletops, and good building blocks.”

—Roy Guarino, Lieutenant
University of Buffalo Police
Buffalo, N.Y.

with classroom instruction and hands-on, scenario-driven courses provided by Y-12 on-site in Oak Ridge.

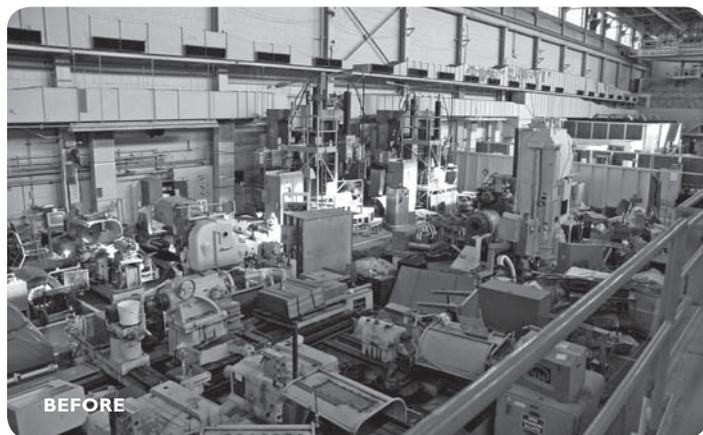
These unique training courses have been extremely successful in the first year. Approximately 175 police, security officers and radiation safety personnel from 18 organizations across the country have been readied and are now better prepared to protect radiological materials from theft or misuse.

By the end of 2010, approximately 500 more officers are scheduled to receive Y-12's one-of-a-kind training that is staged with radioactive sealed-source materials in real-world scenarios.

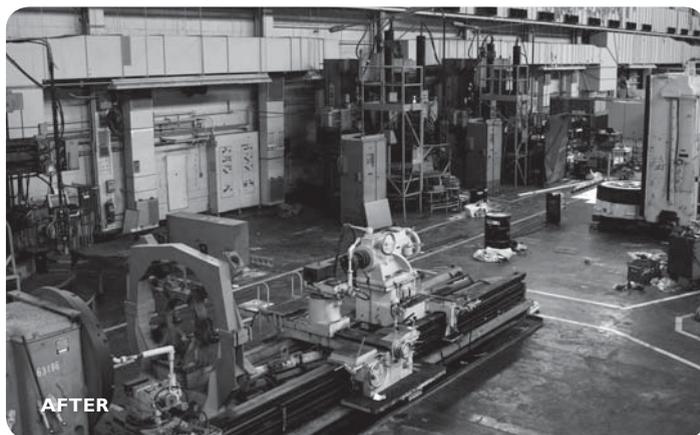
“A well-trained response force ensures that the security upgrades we've provided are fully effective. Y-12's Alarm Response Force training site is essential,” said Ken Sheely, GTRI's associate assistant deputy administrator.

Recovery Act work progress continues

Legacy materials from the second floor of Beta 4 (Building 9204-4) at the Y-12 National Security Complex are being removed with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. Through mid-October, approximately 41 percent of the materials had been removed. The project is ahead of schedule and under budget.



Beta 4 in March 2009 before Recovery Act funding.



Beta 4 in early October.

B&W Y-12 wins NSC Award

B&W Y-12 was awarded a 2009 National Safety Council (NSC) Industry Leader Award for safety performance within its industry. The award recognizes outstanding safety achievements among member companies based on self-reported data.

B&W Y-12 is one of 101 companies honored with the 2009 award. The Industry Leader Award recognizes the top 5 percent of member companies, units and facilities that have qualified for the NSC's 2009 Occupational Excellence Achievement Award (based on 2008 calendar year data). Winners are selected based on National American Industry Classification System code, lowest total injury/illness incidence rate and employee work hours. This is the first time B&W Y-12 has received this award.

"Our goal always is to have a perfect safety record, and Y-12 employees are serious about making sure that they and their co-workers go home safely every day," said President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst.

B&W Y-12 also received the NSC's Occupational Excellence Achievement. Award winners are chosen from those having less than 50 percent of the national industry average. B&W Y-12's average was 1.4 injuries per 100 workers, while the national average is 7.9. The average for the manufacturing industry, the category assigned to Y-12, is 5.6.

B&W Y-12 also received the Significant Improvement Award, which recognizes a 20 percent or greater reduction in the lost workday away rate from the previous year's rate.

Awards of Merit were also received for Y-12 Construction; Emergency Services; and the Chief Financial Officer Division and the Science, Technology and Partnerships organizations.

The NSC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating people to prevent accidental injuries and deaths.

Y-12 NATIONAL SECURITY COMPLEX PROTECTING AMERICA'S FUTURE



Joe Wolfe, president and chairman of Healthcare Technology Partners LLC, and Bill Klemm, Y-12's deputy general manager, sign an agreement that gives Healthcare Technology Partners the license to roll out Y-12's paperless medical records system to the private sector.

Y-12 licenses paperless medical record system

Y-12 signed an agreement with Healthcare Technology Partners LLC to license the system it developed to electronically manage the medical records of Y-12's 4,500-plus employees.

The innovative electronic medical business operations system (EMBOS) is a Web-enabled, comprehensive electronic medical record system that captures patients' current and past medical data, as well as scheduling and workflow data. Y-12 developed EMBOS out of its own need and a requirement by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that all DOE-related medical records be electronically available by 2015.

"In 2005, the federal government came out supporting the use of electronic medical records across its operations. Within a year, DOE issued its requirements," said George Dailey, Y-12's chief information officer. "Y-12 immediately went to work to develop a system that not only met this DOE requirement and our own needs, but is considered a model across the DOE and National Nuclear Security Administration complex. With this licensing, EMBOS will also be available to the private sector."

This system could eliminate the overwhelming volume of paper medical records and the inefficiency of having patients recap their medical histories each time they go to the doctor.

Healthcare Technology Partners is comprised of a small group of investors, educational institutions, and Terremark Worldwide. Wolfe said the partnership will draw from the talents and expertise of the partner universities and Y-12 to further develop the tool.

Facilitating innovation, invention and commercialization through technology transfer is central to DOE and NNSA's mission of advancing the nation's economic and energy security.

ENERGY AWARENESS WEEK shows benefits of conservation

A stationary bike helped shine a light—three lights, actually—on the importance of energy conservation during Energy Awareness Week at Y-12.

Y-12 has taken numerous measures in recent years to reduce energy consumption, and the bike display aimed to capitalize on October's designation as National Energy Awareness Month. Employees, drawn to the experiment devised by Y-12 Applied Technologies researchers, tested their pedaling power to see how much physical energy it took to light three different bulbs of equivalent luminescence. Cyclists quickly realized the overwhelming physical energy it took to light up an incandescent bulb compared with the minimal pedal power needed for the LED (light-emitting diode) or CFL (compact fluorescent light) option.

"We should all try to bring about sustainability—in other words, replace what we consume," said Y-12 Energy Manager Rosanne Smith. She hopes Energy Awareness Week, the first of its kind at the company, becomes an annual event.

Among steps Y-12 has taken to reduce its energy consumption in recent years:

- Through disposition of buildings and, primarily, energy conservation measures, annual electricity consumption sitewide was reduced 22 percent from fiscal years 2003–2008.
- A new natural gas-fired steam plant will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from coal burning and save an estimated \$27 million in annual maintenance costs.
- A potable water upgrade is replacing a World War II-era piping system, saving an estimated \$25 million in maintenance costs.
- Thermostat setbacks were implemented in October at the Jack Case and New Hope centers, adjusting temperatures during off-hours and weekends for a projected 10-percent energy cost savings.



Steve Mead of Production demonstrates the amount of physical energy needed to power different household light bulbs during Y-12's Energy Awareness Week.

Access to government social networking pages available

The Y-12 computing environment has been revised to allow employees limited access to social networking sites such as YouTube and Facebook, providing another avenue for the latest news and information from the White House, U.S. Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration.

The federal government is actively promoting use of such sites in order to reach more audiences with information about their policies and programs. Y-12 is developing sites of its own, but these are not yet publicly available. More information regarding Y-12 sites will be made available as they reach completion.

Due to cyber security risks associated with malicious software (commonly called malware), accessing the sites from a Y-12 computer will be through a terminal server, which will limit downloads. For steps to access the approved social networking sites, see YSource.

Check out these sites

- www.facebook.com/whitehouse
- www.twitter.com/whitehouse
- www.flickr.com/whitehouse
- www.myspace.com/whitehouse
- www.youtube.com/whitehouse
- www.facebook.com/stevenchu
- www.youtube.com/usdepartmentofenergy
- www.flickr.com/departmentofenergy
- www.facebook.com/NNSAnews
- www.twitter.com/NNSAnews
- www.youtube.com/NNSAnews
- www.flickr.com/photos/NNSAnews

EAP—It's no gimmick



Charles Sexton of Facilities, Infrastructure and Services is one of more than 200 employees taking advantage of Y-12's educational assistance program.

"When I first heard about Y-12's educational assistance program, I thought it might be a gimmick," said facility assessor Charles Sexton. "Who, besides your parents, pays for your college education?"

If you're an employee, Y-12 does. While working here, Sexton earned a master's degree in public administration. "Everybody should seize this opportunity. It's so easy to go to school on the computer, and you can go anywhere," he said.

Sexton has worked with Y-12 since 1985 as a contractor; he hired in full-time in December 2004. "I decided to go back to college for my master's degree in the fall of 2005. My supervisor encouraged me to apply for educational assistance [EA], and after applying, I was approved within three or four days."

It was the beginning of a five-year journey, first to finish his bachelor's degree in labor education, and then to get his master's degree. It wasn't easy. "It takes all your free time," Sexton said. "After work, it's your number-one priority."

Since then, Sexton said the degree has opened new doors. "I'm on several committees now, and I'm doing an assessment with the utilities. This degree also gives me the opportunity to bid on another job."

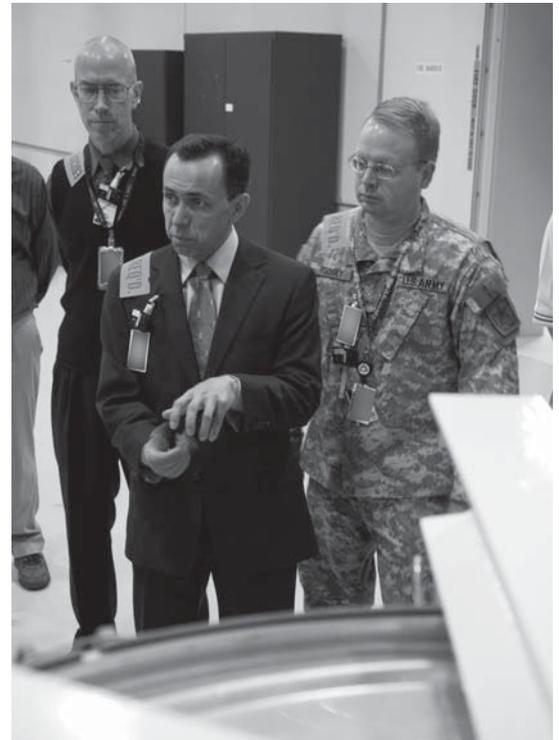
There currently are 224 employees pursuing approved programs of study through the EA program. Typical degrees are in engineering, computer science and human resources. There is no limit on the amount reimbursed, and part-time employees are eligible.

For more about Y-12's EA program, contact Mike Doughty (4xq; 241-4843).

United Way 2009 campaign success

Employees' warm hearts ensured those in need will have warm clothes this winter. More than 1,100 coats and sweatshirts and more than 600 gloves and scarves were collected for the Volunteer Ministry Center during the United Way Coat Drive. In addition to the coat drive, employees donated more than 4,000 supplies for area schools and hundreds of cans of food for Second Harvest. From donations to paycheck deductions to volunteering their time at area charities, employees have made this year's United Way campaign a resounding success.

Joe Oder (center), director of the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA's) Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Division, Dean Illinger (left), an NNSA subcontractor, and Col. Mark Visosky (right), deputy director of NNSA's Science, Engineering and Production Programs, discuss packaging and recontainerization activities while on a tour of the Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility. During his Oct. 7 visit to Y-12, Oder spoke to a group of key production representatives about the importance of Y-12 in the weapons mission and joined a celebration honoring fiscal year 2009 accomplishments.





ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

41 years

Engineering: **Glenn R. Bridges**
Production: **Wayne Gibson**

40 years

Production: **Timothy R. Hill Sr.**

35 years

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services: **Rubin W. Chadwick, Burl W. Duncan** and **David H. Reed**

30 years

Engineering: **Kenneth E. Lowe** and **David W. Lynch**

Environmental Management: **George A. Lee, David A. Ray** and **Timothy L. Tucker**

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services: **Johnny W. Alred Jr., Johnny A. Anderson, Joseph M. Gantt**

General Accounting: **Robert E. Pope**

Information Technology: **Dorothy Y. Kelly**

Material Management: **Deborah F. Walker**

Nuclear Materials Control and Accountability:

Audrey D. Bryan

Production: **Roger D. Beason, Amy L. Caldwell, Thomas N. Duncan, Douglas P. Murray, Glen E. Russell, Donald R. Wagner** and **James R. Wright**

Programs and Quality: **Royce A. Hood** and **Johnny J. Randolph**

25 years

Applied Technologies: **Steven W. Bidinger**

Human Resources: **Lisa J. Toney**

Performance Assurance: **Susan A. Gilliam**

20 years

Information Technology: **Richard M. Fleenor**

Material Management: **Bryan S. Wells**

Production: **Wanda S. Gheen, Glenn E. Griffin** and **Steven G. Sexton**

Radiological Control: **Scott A. Wical**

Waste Management: **Pamela B. Goans**

Weapons Quality Assurance: **Paul J. Allen**

...Around Y-12 ...

- **Visit the Live Wise website on YSource to register for upcoming seminars.** The first seminar, Healthier Homemade Holiday Delights: Create-Your-Own Gift Baskets, will be Dec. 7. Contact Levette Harris-Bethea (241-3968) for more information.
- **The future of Y-12, the Uranium Processing Facility and the Complex Command Center were discussed in meetings at the Y-12 New Hope Center Nov. 17 and 18.** These open meetings offered the public an opportunity to provide input to the Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Y-12 National Security Complex.
- **Engineering's Glenn Bridges was recently named the National Nuclear Security Administration's Defense Programs Employee of the Quarter.** Bridges, who has worked at Y-12 for 41 years, won the award for streamlining procedures and processes.
- **Y-12 celebrated America Recycles Day Nov. 18.** As a reminder and encouragement to be pollution prevention advocates at work and at home, employees received pollution prevention awareness items from the Sustainability and Stewardship group.
- **The White House recognized Y-12 for integrating environmental considerations into daily operations and management decisions.** As part of an Oct. 5 press release announcing President Obama's signing an Executive Order focused on federal leadership in environmental, energy and economic performance, the White House recognized Y-12's pollution prevention efforts.
- **A 32-member B&W Y-12 team recently raised \$2,740 during the 12th Annual Volunteer Ministry Center Walk/Race held in August.** Two Y-12 runners placed in their categories: Kelly Jones and Kathy Meng.
- **An honors chemistry class from Karns High School recently got a firsthand look at Y-12's environmental stewardship.** The students visited the site to prepare for their part in writing a reader-friendly summary of the Oak Ridge Reservation's annual environmental report.

In memoriam

Virgil Bruce Campbell of Applied Technologies, passed away Oct. 15. He had 34 years of company service.

"Bruce was brilliant, innovative and fierce in meeting technical challenges," said co-worker Alan Moore. "He will be remembered for his exhaustive approach to problem resolution and his many contributions to Y-12, including numerous microwave casting experiments. He was a philosopher, a colleague and a supportive friend."

Premiums waived

B&W Y-12 employees won't pay premiums for health insurance for December 2009—a savings of as much as \$452, just in time for the holidays.

The company is required to retain a liability reserve to pay employees' medical claims, but utilization of health care services was lower than expected this year. As a result, the required reserve is greater than the company's liability, and B&W Y-12 doesn't need to collect health, prescription and vision premiums for active employees during December.

Employees do not need to take any action. You will simply see a bigger bottom line in your December paycheck because premiums were not deducted for the month.

There's more good news: While normal premium deductions will resume in January, rates will drop about 10 percent in 2010. Visit the Benefits website (<http://www.y12.doe.gov/jobs/benefits/healthplans/premiums.php>) for more details.

Y-12 Employees' Society Holiday Parties

Dec 10, employees
4 to 7 p.m.
Jack Case Center cafeteria

Dec 12, children
2 to 6 p.m.
New Hope Center

P.O. Box 2009
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8245

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Permit #36
Powell, TN



Bill Klemm (left), Y-12 senior vice president and deputy general manager, and Keith Wilson (far right), Atomic Trades and Labor Council, present a check to Valerie Day, executive director of the East Tennessee region of the March of Dimes, and Keith Goodwin, president and CEO of East Tennessee Children's Hospital.

B&W Y-12 helps fund Butterfly Room

B&W Y-12 contributed \$19,000 to the March of Dimes to help create a Butterfly Room and family library room in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville.

The NICU Butterfly Room will be a private space for families grieving the death of an infant. The family library room will be open to all family members of infants in the NICU.

Keith Wilson, Y-12 electrician and chairman of the Atomic Trades and Labor Council's (ATLC's) March of Dimes campaign, said, "About 12 percent, or one in eight births, are preterm. Think about our plant population and how many people this could affect. We have to help in ways of prevention and education."

When families have to spend time in the NICU, the experience often leaves them feeling very isolated and segregated from the rest of the world. A family library room will give parents, siblings and other family members a place to visit that can keep them connected, but they will also find activities for them during their stay. It also will provide them an opportunity to meet other families who are experiencing similar circumstances. The library room will contain books for all ages, magazines, computers, DVDs, CDs, educational toys, games, crayons, craft activities and other materials.

Each year, Y-12 employees raise money and participate in the annual March for Babies fundraiser walk to help babies born prematurely to survive and become healthy children and adults. The March of Dimes is the primary charity sponsored by the Y-12 ATLC.