

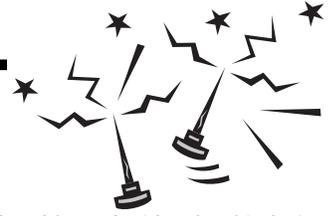
Synergy's Electronic Evolution

In our quest to provide the environment, safety, and health (ES&H) community with current, reliable news and information, we are pleased to announce that the *Synergy* newsletter will evolve into a different format as part of the Environment, Safety and Health Information Portal. In a July 7 press release, the Department of Energy emphasized how the new Portal provides the DOE Community with a single point of access to comprehensive and diverse information resources critical to the success of ISM [Integrated Safety Management]. This information includes the Department's lessons learned, occurrence and performance reports, safety and health bulletins, standards, policy and guidance documents, oversight and accident investigation reports and site evaluations.

This approach to sharing information is very exciting and addresses your requests for more timely, efficient, and reliable news. The Information Portal will offer an "ES&H Feature Story" that will be changed frequently as significant events occur. This feature story will provide the DOE community with in-depth reports on initiatives, developmental activities, personalities, and profiles. You also will have immediate access to announcements, breaking news, and updates on ISM issues. Meeting summaries, conference proceedings, and other information of interest also will be posted as soon as it is available. Program Offices, Field Offices, facilities, sites, special interest groups, and other interested individuals are all invited to electronically submit news and feature articles to us via the "electronic reporter tool."

This is a major change in the way relevant information about the Department as a whole, and ES&H information in particular, will be

transmitted to the community. Registered users will be able to configure "My ES&H Page." This component uses leading edge "push" technology that allows you to build your own customized home page. You will be able to decide what kind of ES&H information you will receive on a regular basis. The process will be similar to that for "My Yahoo," "My Netscape," and similar pages that many of you probably use on your home computers.



Clearly this new vehicle will be a valuable improvement over the current *Synergy* in terms of providing timely information. And, because you will be able to choose most of the information that comes to your desktop on a regular basis, the information portal will offer each and every user items of specific interest. So, the *Synergy* staff is very excited about the Information Portal approach. We are particularly enthusiastic about its capabilities for disseminating current information across the complex quickly and keeping everyone abreast of ES&H activities with the click of a mouse. We hope that you will find this new technology as exciting as we do. We also expect and hope that you will continue reading *Synergy* news and that you will become a "news partner" by contributing articles and information to our online "virtual news desk."

With this final issue, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed articles and worked so hard to make the ES&H *Synergy* successful over the past few years. We thank you all and look forward to seeing you "at the portal."