

JOSEPH E. NIKSTENAS

OBJECTIVE

To utilize skills, knowledge, and talents in the field of radiation and chemical safety.

EXPERIENCE

May 1, 2014 – Present **Case Western Reserve University** **Cleveland, OH**

Radiation Safety Specialist/ Chemical Safety Inspector – Specialist II Pro

- Support Radiation Safety Staff with performing their duties, including compliance reviews and followups, contamination surveys, and waste management.
- Perform chemical safety laboratory inspections ensuring labs work in a safe environment.
- Meet with Facilities personnel and school departments as safety liaison
- Laser safety officer in charge of training personnel for safe use of lasers. Perform audits of labs to assure safe operation.
- Perform Right to Know training for new workers that may come in contact with radioactive material in labs
- Calibrate and maintain sodium iodide multi channel analyzer to check for volatile Iodine emission
- Calibrate low volume air pumps for use in collecting volatile iodine emission samples
- Review lab radioactive isotope use protocols for submission to Radiation Safety Committee
- Interim Fire and Life Safety Officer 2016-2018

March 26, 2007 – May 1, 2014 **Case Western Reserve University** **Cleveland, OH**

Radiation Safety Operations Supervisor – Specialist II Pro

- Plan monthly assignments for radiation safety staff and assist them in their duties
- Meet with Facilities personnel and school departments as safety liaison
- Follow-up on compliance review deficiencies
- Review and sign off on meter calibration reports
- Laser safety officer in charge of training personnel for safe use of lasers. Perform audits of labs to assure safe operation.
- Perform ancillary training for custodial and maintenance workers that may come in contact with radioactive material in labs
- Perform compliance reviews, room surveys, waste collection and processing
- Calibrate and maintain sodium iodide multi channel analyzer to check for volatile Iodine emissions
- Calibrate low volume air pumps for use in collecting volatile iodine emission samples

June 12, 2000 - November 30, 2006 **Fernald Closure Project** **Hamilton, OH**

Gamma Spectrometry Analyst / Senior Lead Radiological Control Technician

- Calibrate and utilize High Purity Germanium (HPGe) and Sodium Iodide (NaI) detectors to obtain real-time in-situ soil characterization data for site contaminants and perform non-destructive assay (NDA) measurements on unknown sealed containers found on-site.
- After data analysis, generate excavation plans in the pursuit of timely cleanup/closure of the DOE Fernald site.
- Field lead over several technicians helping to ensure the efficient collection and analysis of data.
- Interfaced with many levels of site management and field personnel in performance of duties.
- Role as sub-contractor group supervisor keeping track of employee work hours and time sheets.
- Took part in the updating departmental operations manual and procedures and in new hire training.
- Troubleshoot and repair HPGe and NaI detectors/systems.
- Responsible for inventory tracking and computer hardware/software validation, verification and implementation.
- Interfaced with national laboratory (INL) representatives during streamlining of operations software installed on all detector platforms.
- Perform daily instrument checks and contamination surveys.
- Man control point allowing access for personnel into controlled/contamination areas as well as the issuing of respirators and personal air monitors.
- Monitor soil disturbances and up/down post controlled areas when contamination found/removed.
- Assure personnel are working under ALARA while they work with contaminated material prior to final disposal

July 5, 1999 - June 9, 2000

Clean Harbors Environmental Services

Cleveland, OH

Field Service Technician

July 28, 1993 - June 15, 1999

Case Western Reserve University

Cleveland, OH

Radiation Safety Specialist

- Member of team assigned to smooth running of the university Radiation Safety program and part of the on-call emergency response team.
- Electronically calibrated and repaired radiation monitoring equipment including Ludlum model 2&3 (P-GM, NaI, Alpha), Canberra multi-channel analyzer w/ HpGe and NaI detector, Packard LSC and gamma counters.
- Characterized unknown radioactive material on campus.
- Performed compliance reviews and contamination surveys of research labs in accordance with NRC license.
- Maintained radioactive material worker/inventory (Helix) database.
- Involved in rewriting of radiation safety manual.
- Developed information exchange with university community via the World Wide Web including an online radiation retraining program.
- Responsible for design and upkeep of the office web pages and server connections.
- In charge of computer equipment maintenance (Mac and PC) and hardware/software usage.
- Member of committee formed to ensure office system Y2K compliance and other troubleshooting situations.

EDUCATION/CERTIFICATION

1993 Case Western Reserve University Cleveland, OH

- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics
- Designed and built microprocessor based multi-function automobile computer
- Alumnus of Theta Chi Fraternity

1998 40 hr Haz-Mat Technician Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH

2000 DOE RCT Core Exam FCP-Fernald, OH

2001 NRRPT Exam and Registration as RRPT

2004 Ortec General Instrument/Software Training S150 Cert Ametek, Oak Ridge, TN

2007 Laser Safety Officer/Basics of Laser Technology Radiation Safety Academy, Gaithersburg, MD

2009 CIRMS Conference, Gaithersburg, MD

2010 Laser Safety Officer Refresher, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA

2014 Calibration Training Course, Ludlum/Protean Instruments, Knoxville, TN

2014 Irradiator WMD Alarm Response Training, Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge, TN

2014 Laser Safety Officer Course, Rockwell Laser Industries, Inc, Cincinnati, OH

2014 Gamma Spectroscopy Training Course, ORAU, Oak Ridge, TN

2017 Radiation Safety Officer Training w/ DOT Shipping Certification, Las Vegas, NV

2017 FM Global's 2017 SimZone Workshop, Norwood, MA

2018 12th DOE Laser Safety Officer Workshop, Rochester, NY

SYSTEMS/SOFTWARE

PC: Windows 7/8/10, Microsoft Office, Filemaker, Personal Web Server, HTML,, MySQL, Perl

INTERESTS/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Former Member of Crosby Township Fire Department for 5 years

Former Sound and Multimedia Systems Manager for Crossway Community Church, Crosby Township, OH

Involved in repairing and rebuilding computer systems and computer networking.

Enjoy athletic endeavors such as bicycle commuting, running, tennis, weight training, and bowling.