

# Pantex NEWS

MAINTAINING THE SAFETY, SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF AMERICA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS STOCKPILE

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## ***B&W Pantex to Celebrate Voluntary Protection Program Achievement***

B&W Pantex will raise its new Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) flag during a special ceremony to celebrate its achievement in the Department of Energy (DOE) program. B&W Pantex earned STAR status – the program's highest designation.

The ceremony is Tuesday, June 8, at 9:30 a.m. at the site's Administration Building located on Farm-to-Market Road 2373. A reception and tour of the site's new historical display will immediately follow. National, state and local guests have been invited to attend.

"Earning the STAR is just the beginning of the VPP process," said John D. Woolery, B&W Pantex President and General Manager. "We must maintain our already high standards and continue to demonstrate our commitment to improvement."

VPP is an employee driven program. B&W Pantex formed an employee committee in May 2008 to guide the 18-month application process. The committee members represented employees from across the plant. As a special thank you, B&W Pantex is also hosting a catered barbecue lunch for all employees on Tuesday.

"VPP required employees and management to work closely to improve our safety efforts and to document our performance," said Woolery. "This celebration acknowledges the hard work our employees put into this program, especially our VPP committee, and thanks them for continuing to work safely."

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**Note:** Media wishing to attend the event should contact Laura Bailey by noon, Monday, June 7, to make access arrangements. Media representatives must be U.S. citizens and bring a photo ID.

\* Cell phones are not allowed in the building. Please leave your phone in your vehicle.

**Directions to Pantex:** From Amarillo, take Highway 60 east toward Panhandle. Turn north on Farm-to-Market Road 2373, go north approximately three miles. Building 16-12 will be on the left. The Visitors Center is in Building 16-12.

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B&W Pantex manages and operates the Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration. B&W Pantex is a proud recipient of the DOE's Voluntary Protection Program STAR status for safety excellence. The company was also named one of America's safest companies by Occupational Hazards magazine and has received numerous awards from the National Safety Council.

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