



## **Update for June 2005 CUCSA Meeting**

During the spring of 2005, Los Alamos National Laboratory focused on completing the resumption process, meeting programmatic milestones, and instilling a behavior-based safety culture.

Regarding the resumption process, the Operational Efficiency effort has replaced the resumption-focused COMPASS initiative. The Operational Efficiency project integrates lessons learned through the resumption process into the Laboratory's normal course of business. By developing predictable and reliable operations across the institution, the Operational Efficiency initiative will help ensure that properly trained employees can perform their jobs within a risk-assessed safety envelope.

In terms of programmatic milestones, Los Alamos completed hydroshot 3625 on April 1. Using the world's most powerful flash X-ray machine, a team of scientists representing nine different divisions captured a high-resolution radiograph of a mock-up of imploding nuclear weapon components. This hydrodynamic experiment represented a critical commitment to the Laboratory's national security customers, and we are proud to have completed it successfully and safely.

Regarding safety, during April and May the Laboratory presented to managers Modules 1, 2 and 3 of the Safety Training and Observation Program (STOP). STOP stresses that all employees are responsible for their own safety, their own safe behaviors, and the safety of those around them. The program will proceed in a cascading fashion from managers to employees; topics covered in the first three modules include the total observation process and the "mind's eye" approach to seeing safety.

Laboratory Director G. Peter Nanos left Los Alamos on May 15, assuming a new position at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency for the U.S. Department of Defense. The University of California appointed as interim director Robert Kuckuck, a leading nuclear weapons testing expert and former deputy director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Especially in this time of change, Los Alamos appreciates the University of California's support. As outgoing Laboratory Director Nanos told reporters, "While there have been many challenges [during my tenure here], I believe there have been many more successes, ... The Lab's finest hour, with the university's strong leadership, lies before it." Thank you for partnering with us as we scale the challenges and opportunities offered by the year ahead.