

SNM Mobile Detection System by TSA Systems supports DNDO Global Nuclear Detection Architecture responsibility

LONGMONT, Colorado (February 18, 2011) - TSA Systems has developed a highly sensitive mobile detection system, MDS-134A, capable of detecting Special Nuclear Materials (SNM) in variable background environments and exceeding the requirements of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO). It is designed to automatically scan vehicles, rail cars, air cargo bins and seaport shipping containers without the need for frequent calibration. The MDS system can perform both stationary and drive-by applications. Check-points can be quickly established in the event that the threat of potential radioactive material movement has been identified. The MDS-134A can also be modified for special monitoring requirements.

The MDS-134A van is fitted with shielded plastic scintillator detectors and helium3 detectors for detecting both gamma and neutron radiation. It can detect relatively low energy emissions from plutonium and highly enriched uranium as well as emissions from potential dirty bombs and isotopes used in medicine or industry. The detection area ranges from ground level to several meters in the air without a gap in detector coverage. Alarm notifications are displayed on a laptop PC located within the MDS van but can also be displayed on a remote alarm panel placed somewhere outside the van. The system will detect radiation but is totally passive and does not emit any radiation itself.

To complement the superior detection capabilities of the MDS-134A the laptop PC comes with the TSA Systems software RAVEN (Radiation Alarm and Video Event Notification). The MDS-134A supports the DNDO's Global Nuclear Detection Architecture by incorporating RAVEN software with comprehensive communication and reporting for monitoring devices. The Global Nuclear Detection Architecture is based on this premise of seamless communication. The RAVEN software not only alerts the monitoring personnel to an alarm condition but also will display and archive graphs, data, and video images to assist in determining the specific location of the radioactive item. Analysis of select images and data can subsequently be relayed to response personnel in the field for possible secondary inspection or other interdiction. These images and data can be shared between 3rd. party agencies and/or systems for their records and analysis.

In addition to the MDS-134A, RAVEN software is featured in TSA's extensive line of radiation portal monitors (RPM). Pedestrian, train, vehicle and conveyor portal monitors along with the MDS-134A mobile detection system provide an extremely comprehensive network of SNM detection monitors by TSA Systems.

For 50 years, TSA Systems, Ltd. of Longmont, CO has specialized in the design and manufacture of nuclear radiation monitors. TSA's MDS-134A, a mobile detection system with RAVEN software, provides a quality measurable baseline to the DNDO's Global Nuclear Detection Architecture responsibility. It is an engineered solution to the need for coordinated efforts for preemptive national security and for effective communication between multiple federal and local agencies which play a role in defending the global supply chain against a nuclear threat. The MDS-134A provides high sensitivity, reliable operation, mobility and networking to areas in need of radioactive materials detection.