April 26, 2011
For Immediate Release

Media Contact:
Deanna Smith, 509-373-0857, Deanna_l_smith@rl.gov

Mission Support Alliance Helps Hanford
Go Green with "Thin Client"

Slimmed down computers reduce energy usage by 90%

RICHLAND, Wash.— Mission Support Alliance (MSA) is rolling out new energy efficient desktop technology to lessen the environmental impact on the Hanford Site.

"We are excited to be rolling out this next generation hardware at the Hanford Site," said Terry Wentz, vice president of information technology for MSA. "In addition to reducing energy usage by 90 percent compared to traditional central processing units (CPU), thin clients also boot-up in as little as 30 seconds, increase cyber security by housing data in a central location, increase desktop space and automatically update software. It is really a win-win for the environment and for Hanford computer users."

The term "thin client" refers to a small computer desktop component that communicates with a centralized server. Instead of housing documents and data on a physical computer hard-drive, thin client devices save and consolidate information onto one centralized data center. It's from this centralized location that the thin client device accesses and retrieves requested data. The centralized server is equipped to store all operating systems., documents, applications photos, and other files allowing MSA to enable Hanford Site workers to work from virtually anywhere, anytime, and on any device—kind of like having a one computer hard drive in the sky. MSA expects thin client components to reduce considerably the carbon footprint of the Hanford Site. The increased energy efficiency is equivalent to planting 2,000 trees on the

-more-

Hanford Site or taking approximately 90 cars off the Hanford roads. Moreover, the thin client components also will help avoid approximately one and a half million pounds of CO_2 emissions in five years.

Aside from saving energy, the thin client devices don't need to be replaced as often as traditional CPU's that need to be changed out every four years. Thin client devices only need updating every eight years. Maintenance costs also are less for thin client devices. If a traditional CPU system malfunctions, typically the entire system needs replacing whereas if a thin client should fail, only that component would require replacement.

The MSA is in the beginning stages of rolling out the thin client components for the Hanford Site and will be fully implementing the program in the near future.

Dell FX100

Samsung NC240

###

About the MSA
The Mission Support Alliance (MSA) is a team led by Lockheed Martin, Jacobs Engineering and WSI, and has responsibility for the Mission Support Contract at the Hanford Site. A clean-up mission as large and complex as Hanford's requires an infrastructure powerful and reliable enough to support it. The MSA is responsible for safely and effectively managing and operating that infrastructure from it's modernization and re-use to, where possible, its elimination. MSA does what it does best, strategic partnership and long-term planning…so Hanford workers can focus on what they do best—clean up. MSA: Partnering to move the mission forward. http://msa.hanford.gov/msa