Annual Report for the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training

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2006 Fiscal Year End Report

Introduction

Annually, MDB, Inc. highlights its exemplary work providing an extensive range of communication and technical assistance services to the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences Worker Education and Training Program (NIEHS WETP) in the NIEHS WETP Fiscal year-end report. The 2006 Fiscal Year-End Report covers NIEHS WETP Clearinghouse activities beginning August 16, 2005 to September 15, 2006. The 2006 fiscal year was a challenging and exciting year for the National Clearinghouse. This fiscal year’s focus was largely a continuation in the program’s dedication to the response and recovery efforts for Hurricane Katrina.

Overview

MDB Inc. has completed its 1st year in providing technical and research support for the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program and ensuring the smooth operation of the NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse. There were a few staff departures and new additions to the Clearinghouse staff during this fiscal year. First, Clearinghouse Director, Bruce Lippy departed early in the contract year. The new Director, Deborah Weinstock joined MDB, Inc. and the Clearinghouse officially on October 25, 2005, after attending the WETP fall meeting in North Carolina. Maria Polis, our three-year Research Associate bid farewell to the clearinghouse staff. Our new Research Associate, Xanthia James, joined the clearinghouse staff. Ms. James received her Masters in Public Health with a focus on emergency preparedness communication from Morgan State University School of Public Health and Policy. In addition, the Clearinghouse staff said farewell to Paul Bisceglia, our longtime Office Manager.

Production and distribution of the “Protecting Yourself While Helping Others” booklet was also very notable during the 2005-2006 fiscal year. Overall, more than 53,000 copies of the training material were ordered on-line, and over 8,000 downloads were procured from the WETP.org website.

This fiscal year was a very productive and innovative year for the National Clearinghouse. For the first time, the NIEHS WETP received formal activation on October 11, 2005 by OSHA and FEMA under the Worker Safety and Health Annex of the National Response Plan. In an effort to assist in the nationwide Hurricane Katrina response and recovery efforts in the gulf region, the Clearinghouse established the Katrina Field Office located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This temporary expansion of the Clearinghouse provided information related to post-Katrina cleanup to NIEHS awardees, other federal agencies, contractors, workers, and the public. The field office also served as a liaison between NIEHS awardees working in the gulf coast region devastated by Hurricane Katrina and these entities. In response to the training and guidance needs of workers, the Clearinghouse also developed and distributed over 53,000 copies of the “Protect Yourself While Protecting Others” pocket booklet. The pocket booklet became the most widely utilized guide by workers in the gulf region and was a huge success.

The NIEHS WETP Clearinghouse is also taking a leading role in the development of avian influenza preparedness
materials for workers. In November 2006, the Clearinghouse will participate in the NIEHS Avian/Pandemic Influenza Briefing, which will bring together professionals from a variety of fields in an effort to discuss and develop guidelines for training and developing avian influenza training materials.

The following sections will discuss the major activities and deliverables conducted during this fiscal year.

2006 Activities and Deliverables

Prime Task One

Establish, manage and operate an information clearinghouse for the distribution of technical information produced by the Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Monthly Summaries

Ms. Weinstock made monthly trips to Research Triangle Park, NC to meet with Worker Education and Training Branch (WETB) staff to discuss the previous month’s contract activities and upcoming activities as well as examine remaining budget allocations. A monthly report summarized by contract task and a budget spreadsheet, are disseminated to WETB staff each month. This form of reporting maintains accountability for the project, while introducing a necessary degree of flexibility when faced with changing priorities. Other Clearinghouse team members either accompany Ms. Weinstock or join via teleconference as needed.

HASL and the Curricula Catalog

The MDB Inc. IT team, spearheaded by Manfred Stanfield, made some much needed changes to the uploading system by streamlining the document uploading process. Visitors to the WETP website will notice that the curricula catalog public display and ordering systems have been modified, making it less cumbersome for the user. Currently the website displays a more concise description of curricula orders and provides a link to a web page that allows users to download all associated course material files. The HASL file upload system was also integrated into the WETP.org web site. This change substantially reduced the steps in the uploading process, thereby making the website more efficient for uploading documents into the Health and Safety Library, uploading weekly news briefs, and website maintenance.

Clearinghouse staff have also begun developing a new structure for HASL that is more intuitive for the user. We expect to have a new operational structure during the coming contract year.

This year, MDB, Inc. was able to develop a report to display the date which curricula have been uploaded to the curricula catalogue through WETCIS. This way, rather than looking at and reviewing all courses uploaded by an awardee, NIEHS staff may see what has recently been uploaded. The Clearinghouse will provide WETP staff with quarterly curricula catalogue report of new uploads by awardee.
**Advisory Board**

The Clearinghouse Advisory Board met on March 7, 2006 in Birmingham, Alabama prior to the Spring Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshop. The board heard about the new materials produced by the Clearinghouse related to Hurricane Katrina and other documents that had been finalized since the last board meeting in February 2005. Board members were given the opportunity to provide input to a draft Katrina Field Office Brochure. The board also heard about the February 2006 Strategic Planning meeting that took place with the Clearinghouse and WETP staffs. Of the issues from the Strategic Planning summary, quality assurance of the awardee programs generated a lot of discussion from the advisory board. It was suggested that information should be collected from the grantee community on how they conduct quality assurance within each of their organizations. Board members also discussed upcoming and future workshops, with the suggestion being made that future workshops be held in locations where awardees could host them.

**National Clearinghouse Advisory Board**

| Membership List |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Pat Berntsen    | Kirkwood        | Beverly Wright  |
| LaMont Byrd     | Teamsters       | Tom McQuiston   |
| Don Ellenberger | CPWR            | Glenn Paulson   |
| Doug Feil       | Kirkwood        | Paul Renner     |
| Mike Gill       | USW             | Craig Slatin    |
| Mike Glassic    | Y-Stress        | Dave Treanor    |
| Gary Gustafson  | Laborers-AGC    | Kizetta Vaughn  |
| Eric Lamar      | IAFF            | Ebony Turner    |
|                 | Dillard University | USW          |
|                 |                 | UMDNJ          |
|                 |                 | Labor Institute/USW |
|                 |                 | The New England Consortium |

**Strategic Planning**

On February 2, 2006 the Clearinghouse held a strategic planning meeting with WETB. Issues discussed included:

- What NIEHS should be doing with regard to lessons learned from Katrina;
- What NIEHS’s role is in the current DOE structure;
- Does NIEHS still have a core activity rooted in hazardous waste removal;
- Special needs of the BMWT and MWT programs; and
- The status of and need for continued quality assurance within each of the awardee programs and NIEHS oversight of that.

Strategic planning activities will continue in the next contract year with the review of the current NIEHS WETP strategic plan.
Prime Task Two

Arrange and manage technical meetings and workshops related to scientific, administrative, and regulatory issues associated with training for hazardous waste workers and emergency responders. A minimum of three such meetings or workshops shall be held during the contract year.

Each year, the NIEHS Worker Safety and Training Program host several workshops and meetings. These workshops serve as a platform for Awardees and other professionals interested in worker safety and training to learn about various training programs of awardees and outside organizations, share the accomplishments of their programs, increase access to resources that can be implemented in their own programs, and collaboratively determine the needs and future direction of the WETP.

For the past year, MDB, Inc. has provided support in the planning and facilitation of NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse workshops. Subsequently, the NIEHS WETP Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshops have consistently received exceptional reviews from attendees. The satisfaction of conference attendees is always top priority to MDB Inc., which is why each conference attendee is encouraged to complete a post conference survey. The survey results are carefully reviewed and participant suggestions and comments are incorporated into the planning of future meetings. The following are highlights of the NIEHS WETP conferences for the 2005-2006 year.

“Protecting the Protectors” Medical, Psychological, and Environmental Surveillance Needs for Workers Involved in Incident Response Under the National Response Plan

September 27-28, 2005
East Brunswick, New Jersey

The MDB Staff assisted the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Public Health and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in preparing and convening the “Protecting the Protectors” two-day conference. The purpose of the conference was to develop surveillance recommendations to protect workers who may be involved in a national emergency response. The National Clearinghouse former Director, Dr. Bruce Lippy participated as a guest panelist. Topics covered include:

- Post-Disaster surveillance: industrial accidents, exposures and CBRNE weapons.
- Identification and definition of at-risk populations: first responders/ receivers
- Critical factors in implementing surveillance programs.

Released January 2006

The National Technical Workshop sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) was conducted on March 30-April 1, 2005 in Los Angeles, CA. This was the last of three workshops facilitated to address minimum health and safety training requirements for workers. The 2005 workshop was facilitated by NIEHS WETP to update the minimum health and safety training criteria document by including advances in adult education in the hazardous waste operations and emergency. More than 110 participants from the WETP, the WETP grantees, and outside organizations from the public and private sectors attended the conference. The following are the major changes made to the Minimum Health and Safety Training Criteria document:

- Advanced training technologies application and integration.
- Requirements for additional training programs to support HAZWOPER work.
- Post-9/11 all-hazards preparedness training, including that for skilled support personnel as identified in HSPD#8.

NIEHS WETP Fall 2005 Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshop

Katrina Response: Flexible, Focused Training for Disasters
October 19–21, 2005
Durham, North Carolina

The NIEHS WETP successfully convened its Fall Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) conference. This conference was divided into a half-day business meeting followed by a one and a half day Technical Workshop entitled “Katrina Response: Flexible, Focused Training for Disasters.” The conference fostered a collaborative effort between the new and existing awardees, NIEHS WETP, other individuals from both the public and private sectors to strategically address current and future activities of WETP related to the Hurricane Katrina Response initiative.

The Technical Workshop highlighted the response to Hurricane Katrina and ways to enhance and continue focused training for disasters. Panelists discussed topics including Hurricane Katrina updates, effective environmental job training of displaced residents affected by Katrina, training responders in the Gulf Coast, and new tools for disaster response training. Attendees also participated in one of four breakout sessions related to safety and health hazards in the Katrina site orientation, adapting NIEHS training programs to train non-federally funded workers for cleanup and rebuilding in the Gulf Coast, revising the OSHA Disaster Site Worker Course, and fleshing out a WETP training deployment plan for the Gulf.
In February 2006, the NIEHS WETP prepared a briefing for awardees that received supplemental grants to train in the Gulf Coast region. The briefing was provided to orient grantees to the training environment and to outline WETP Standard Operating Procedures for the Katrina response. Also distributed to participants was the NIEHS WETP Clearinghouse Katrina Field Office Concept of operations and a CD-Rom with relevant materials. The briefing also sought to increase awareness of overarching objectives of the WETP and its training activities in response to Katrina.

The February 22, 2006 meeting pulled together the awardees that had been doing work in the Gulf since the initial NIEHS WETP activation to share what they had learned with those grantees just beginning work in the Gulf Coast. Representatives from the federal government, community and support organizations were also present. The meeting facilitated the process of partnership building among awardees who had an opportunity to learn and discuss what challenges they face, the resources that exist internally and externally, and how they can best work together to provide workers the safety and health training they need as the Gulf Coast tries to clean up and rebuild.

The major accomplishment of the Spring 2006 NIEHS WETP Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshop was that it facilitated discussion of barriers to providing effective safety and health training to emergency response workers and identified solutions and future objectives for disaster response training development and facilitation. The report generated by the workshop is called “Learning from Disasters: Katrina Response Safety and Health Training.” The report found that the National Response Plan’s worker protection measures – the Worker Safety and Health Annex - needs to be strengthened and that when the National Response Plan is activated, the worker safety and health annex should also be activated. The report found three general areas on which to focus improvement: Barriers to effective Katrina response safety and health training; Training issues for disaster responders; and Training issues for NIEHS WETP. The report provides suggestions for improvements in each of the areas.
NIEHS WETP Fall 2006 Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshop

Disaster Response Training: From WTC to Katrina- Five Years of Lessons Learned
September 13-15, 2006
New York, New York

The 2006 Fall Awardee Meeting and Technical Workshop was all about lessons learned from events of national significance, hence the theme, Disaster Response Training: From WTC to Katrina- Five Years of Lessons Learned. The unique character of this conference was that it provided attendees with a combined focus on the experiences from both the World Trade Center terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina, as opposed to focusing solely on either event as other non-NIEHS agencies have done. The attendees were able to learn and participate in discussions about the real-life experiences of professionals from a broad spectrum within the emergency response realm, from both events. Attendees were able to compare and contrasts the response measures taken by agencies during a terrorist attack and a natural disaster. Currently, the National Clearinghouse is collecting post-conference evaluation surveys from participants. Overall, the conference highlighted the successes, shortcomings, and lessons learned by federal agencies, grantee training programs involved in the deployment as a part of the NIEHS WETP response effort, and academic institutions with grantee programs involved in the Katrina response and recovery efforts. The breakout sessions during the workshop helped show how to best move forward to prepare for the next disaster, so as to eliminate to the extent possible, the problems encountered during both the World Trade Center and Hurricane Katrina responses.
Preparation for NIEHS 2007 Trainers Exchange

Las Vegas, Nevada
March 27-30, 2007

MDB, Inc. is currently preparing for the 2007 NIEHS National Trainers' Exchange. Every three years, the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program hosts a Trainers' Exchange, a unique opportunity for trainers to receive substantial training and network with other trainers. The 2007 National Trainers' Exchange will be in Las Vegas at the Flamingo hotel and we are looking forward to a great program. The National Clearinghouse has facilitated several planning meetings thus far and has taken on the responsibility of managing planning document uploads to the Project Center webpage. The planning committee has carefully reviewed the evaluations from the last Trainers’ Exchange and considerations for training topics were based on suggestions made in participant evaluations and new surveys that went to trainers this year. The 2007 Trainers’ Exchange attendees should expect to see many of their responses addressed in the 2007 meeting.

For all of the meetings mentioned above, the National Clearinghouse, by way of MDB, Inc. played a major role in the planning and facilitation. Each conference was meticulously planned, requiring the convening of multiple meetings and conference calls to ensure that conference logistics and venues were appropriate and adequate. The Clearinghouse was also predominantly responsible for designing and developing the documents, signs, flyers and registration. Registration and lodging assistance was provided through the Clearinghouse Help Desk, designed to answer questions and concerns of participants interested in attending any of the conferences. During each conference, the MDB staff worked diligently to ensure that all attendees' and presenters' needs were met and the conference venues were operated with as few issues as possible. The MDB staff also arranged for note taking during each session. Following each conference, the National Clearinghouse prepared a report to highlight the themes and accomplishments of the workshops.
Prime Task Three

Facilitate the transmission of technical information related to the development of safety and health training programs for hazardous waste workers and emergency responders.

Web Site Development and Web Site Maintenance

During the 2005-2006 contract year the Clearinghouse developed a seven-point plan to improve more efficient content management and growth of the WETP Clearinghouse web site. This involved: 1) Newsbrief publishing improvements; 2) content maintenance improvements; 3) improvements to the WYSIWYG editor functionality; 4) streamlining the curricula catalog public display and ordering systems; 5) improving the ability to add new or enhance existing features; 6) redoing the site’s design and navigation systems; and 7) incorporating the many FuseAction style pages into the HASL library menu system. To date, tasks 2, 7, and the bulk of 3 are complete. In addition, much of task 4 is also complete. A joint decision was made to hold off on task 6, as NIEHS is making its own organization-wide web improvements, which will impact task 6. The coming contract year will see the Newsbrief publishing improvements, and the ability to associate one object to multiple HASL categories and locations.

Weekly Digital Newsbrief

Since its inception, the National Clearinghouse weekly Newsbrief has served as a unique resource for keeping abreast on issues surrounding worker safety, health, and training. The weekly Newsbrief features current news articles, research studies, government reports, upcoming events, and employment opportunities within the topic areas of emergency preparedness and response, homeland security, environmental cleanup, and chemical safety as they relate to worker training and worker safety. The National Clearinghouse weekly Newsbrief is unique for two reasons: it is the only newsbrief distributed by a federal government agency solely devoted to worker training and safety in the areas mentioned, and rather than feature frontliners, its purpose is to feature articles and documents that don’t normally make front page news. This year, the weekly Newsbrief received some minor modifications in order to improve its organization and broaden its topic coverage. Subscribers to the Clearinghouse weekly Newsbrief may have noticed the recent inclusion of news articles and studies with an international focus. The inclusion of news articles and studies from other countries provides subscribers with the opportunity to learn about recent developments and strategies used in other countries related to worker training and safety, such as avian influenza, terrorist attack responses, and chemical safety training.
**NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse Compendium**

The NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse Compendium is an opportunity for the Clearinghouse to highlight its recent achievements, as well as the successes of the NIEHS, the Worker Safety and Health Training Program, and NIEHS WETP Awardees as they relate to worker training, health, and safety in the areas of hazardous waste, emergency preparedness and response, homeland security, environmental cleanup, and chemical safety. The 2005-2006 Compendium focused more on the products and success stories as they relate to Hurricane Katrina. This year's compendium also received a makeover that included the reorganization of topics featured, as well as the addition of new subtopics under each of the main topic areas in effort to better organize the documents featured. The Clearinghouse sought to highlight the achievements of NIEHS awardees in the 2005-2006 compendium by adding the New Awardee Initiative subtopic.

**Activities and New Initiatives in Response to Hurricane Katrina**

Fiscal year 2006 was marked by the impact of Hurricane Katrina, a hurricane that devastated the gulf coast region, both temporarily and permanently displacing thousands of residents. The National Clearinghouse was activated in the nation’s response through the National Response Plan for the first time in history, and rose to the occasion, providing outstanding assistance to training.

In compliance with the National Response Plan, OSHA and FEMA allocated funds to the NIEHS in October 2005 to provide disaster site worker training to federal employees and federally deployed contractors responding to Hurricane Katrina. NIEHS deployed trainers to the gulf region to conduct training needs assessments, develop site-specific training programs, and establish relationships with other federal agencies actively involved in the gulf coast response effort. The training effort resulted in the training of 10,000 workers, including staff from FEMA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, United States Coast Guard, and Federal Contractors.

The National Clearinghouse was instrumental in the NIEHS WETP response and recovery efforts for Hurricane Katrina, developing and distributing the palm-sized “Protecting Yourself While Helping Others” awareness booklet. The booklet serves as a guide for emergency response workers operating in the Katrina devastated gulf region. The booklet provides emergency response workers with essential safety knowledge on 28 common hazards workers may encounter during the gulf coast cleanup. The “Protecting Yourself While Helping Others” booklet has become the most widely utilized worker health and safety guide. Instructors also use the booklet as a guide for developing curricula. For training purposes, the booklet is also accompanied by a power point presentation designed for briefing workers.
The Clearinghouse has distributed more than 53,000 copies of the awareness booklet “Protecting Yourself While Helping Others,” through an on-line ordering system in conjunction with the International Union of Operating Engineers. In addition, more than 8,000 “Protecting Yourself While Helping Others” booklets or power points were downloaded in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Another major initiative of the Clearinghouse to support the response efforts of the NIEHS WETP program involved the establishment of a Katrina Field Office, a temporary extension of the National Clearinghouse designed to provide on-site support for NIEHS awardees and foster WETP collaboration with other agencies involved in the federal gulf coast response effort. The Clearinghouse-coordinated training classes resulted in the training of 805 workers, generating a total of 65,170 hours for the fiscal year. The OSHA 10-hour Construction course accounted for 600 of the 805 workers that received training, and also accounted for the majority of 27,397 contact hours generated for this fiscal year.

In September 2006 the National Clearinghouse closed the doors of its Katrina Field Office located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, following the deactivation of the mission assignment by FEMA.

The NIEHS WETP Website Update: Training Modules Specifically Designed for Gulf Coast Workers

In December 2005, NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse developed the new Hurricane Katrina training module webpage, http://www.wetp.org/wetp/index.cfm?Current=414. This site is targeted to provide safety and health information to frontline workers deployed to impacted communities in the gulf coast region. More than 11 training modules were developed by NIEHS grantees while they were on the ground in the Gulf Coast including Work Zone Safety, General Awareness Briefing, and Q&A and Inspector Safety and Health Awareness Training. Also accessible through this web site are podcasts, produced by MetaMedia under a contract with the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program, which cover the following topics:

- Mold Awareness
- Hazards Not Found in Construction
- Dealing with Debris
- Electrical Hazards
- Respiratory Protection
- Operating Equipment Safely
- Responsibilities and Training
Prime Task Four

Develop, analyze, and compile program research products to support new training initiatives and the continuation of program efficacy measures.

Hazardous Waste Worker Labor Market Study

January 2006

In 2004, the National Clearinghouse, through a subcontract with Dr. David Cormier, a labor economist from West Virginia University, undertook an evaluation of the size and scope of the hazardous waste and Brownfields market for the next five years, using primarily electronic economic data available publicly from the EPA, BLS, DOE, NIEHS, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Laborers International Union, among others. The Hazardous Waste Workers Labor Market Study was completed in January 2006 and is now available online for review.

The study sought to update the Ruttenberg estimation of number of workers that will be needed by the year 2010 and determine other, less resource-intensive, approaches for gathering this information. An effort was made to collect data from the sources involved to update the Ruttenberg model with more accurate total cost values. Throughout the course of the study, collecting data was found to be an extremely difficult task, stemming primarily from the hard to come by total clean-up cost data from the agencies involved and from the state and private sector. Findings from the study concluded that the total cost assumptions from 1994-96 used in the RRA model was too high. For political and other reasons, expenditures since then fell well below the assumed levels. Consequently, the projected employment levels are too high since employment depends directly on total cost in the RRA model.

The study was able to identify three alternatives for collecting data. One method is to contact hazardous waste contractors and/or contractor associations to obtain either labor cost information or actual labor demand estimates. Another method identified is to conduct a work sampling approach to obtain information that could be used to determine labor demand for hazardous waste workers. Lastly, the study suggested an examination of the labor demand from labor productivity data, using projected output data.

Overall, the research study stressed the need for collecting realistic projections of hazardous waste workers and found that the major problem with gathering this data is the unavailability of data, thus hampering the collection of this type of data. Recommendations made from the findings include the development of a labor demand-technology matrix, a work sampling system to obtain labor demand information from actual projects, and a strategy to contact cooperative contractors to obtain labor demand estimates.
### Issues and Trend Identification

Don Elisburg continued to spearhead the “scouting efforts” of this task, effectively monitoring Congressional and other relevant federal agency activities (DHS, DOL, DOE, and EPA), providing feedback and recommendations to WETB staff and the Clearinghouse Director on how legislation and outside agency initiatives could affect WETP, and how WETP might consider responding to such issues, trends, and initiatives. In fact, many of these issues were raised and discussed during the February 2006 Strategic Planning Meeting in Research Triangle Park.

### Expert Editorial Review

Documents reviewed included a CDC document “Mold: Prevention Strategies and Possible Health Effects in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita” and the OSHA Worker Protection Matrix for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

### DOE

During this contract year, the Clearinghouse designed a questionnaire to give to DOE awardees in an effort to better understand the training occurring across the DOE complex. The questionnaire was piloted and will be given to each of the DOE awardee PIs or program contacts prior to the end of calendar year 2006. Responses will be analyzed and recommendations will be made according to the analysis.

### Partnerships and Representation

Members of the Clearinghouse staff represented the Clearinghouse and the WETP throughout the year in the following:

- Dr. Lippy’s participation in the “Protecting the Protectors” conference;
- Deborah Weinstock’s participation in the National Response Team meetings and calls;
- Deborah Weinstock’s participation in the NRT Target Capabilities List meetings;
- Deborah Weinstock’s participation in the 2005 APHA meeting;
- Deborah Weinstock’s attendance at the 2005 SBP meeting;
- Don Elisburg’s participation in the APA/NIOSH Work, Stress and Health 2006 Conference;
- Deborah Weinstock’s attendance at the Spring 2006 DOE HAMMER Steering Committee Meeting;
- Deborah Weinstock’s participation in the EPA/Labor Superfund Task Force meeting;
- Maria Polis’s attendance at the Brownfields Leadership Summit, Public Session;
- Manfred Stanfield’s participation on the NIEHS Web Coordinating Committee;
- Deborah Weinstock’s attendance at the HHS WTC Programs Coordination Meeting
Conclusion

The 2006 NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse Report is designed to highlight all of the program’s achievements from August 2005 to September 2006. For the past year MDB Incorporated has delivered exceptional operational and research assistance and will continue to enhance the capabilities of the NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse in the years to come.