A REUSABLE TOOL POUCH FOR ENHANCING SAFETY AND RADIATION PROTECTION AT OYSTER CREEK

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Objectives: To provide a safe, effective way for workers dressed in protective clothing to carry hand tools, while at the same time reducing the volume of low-level radioactive waste.

Comments: Oyster Creek has developed a reusable tool pouch designed to be worn on the waist of workers dressed in protective clothing. The product is a 12"x12" pouch made of strong nylon fabric, with a "see-through" window for easy viewing of tools. The idea evolved from a suggestion by labor and management representatives on Oyster Creek's Radiation Performance Committee after observing makeshift tool sacks workers were constructing from plastic bags and tape. Pouches come in magenta for radiological personnel and in yellow for the other workers and also provide the inexpensive services for other workers, and have proved to be inexpensive.

Potential for dose limitation: The idea addressed the safe worker practice issue that workers have both hands free for safe climbing on ladders and scaffolding. Hand sacks cost valuable job time to make, and when no longer wanted, add to low-level radioactive waste volume. The new developed designed. The new designed pouch is washable and durable for repeated use, and can be incinerated for volume reduction when worn out.

References: "Radiation Protection," The Nuclear professional, pg.33.

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