

## RRC's New Chemical Warehouse Built for Environmental Safety

By JENNIFER YEH

(April 17, 2003) The Regional Rebuild Center celebrated another step toward safety in the workplace with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, April 4, at its new chemical warehouse.

Commissioned by the Materiel Department, the warehouse is designed to be environmentally safe for storage of hazardous materials, as well as to make handling of materials easier for employees.

The warehouse replaces the old employee lunchroom, which was moved to a new location.

Safety features include an extensive sprinkler system, air conditioning system, adjustable racks, chemical-resistant coated floors, and a raised curb, which acts as the primary containment in case of accidental leaks, spillage or fire.

### Spark hazard reduced

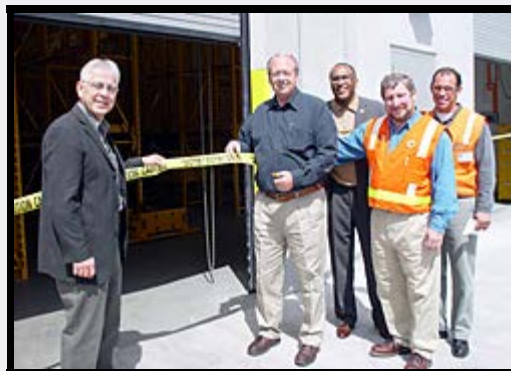
The warehouse operates through a STAK system, a pallet racking system designed to maximize both space and safety. It uses air rather than electricity to operate the STAK system, reducing any potential spark hazards.

"With this system, no vehicles are needed in the warehouse, eliminating the hazards associated with vehicular traffic," says Dieter Hemsing, director of Inventory Management.

The million-dollar project took four years of planning and six to eight months of actual construction by MTA engineers and outside contractors.

"We had to make sure our timelines were met and the

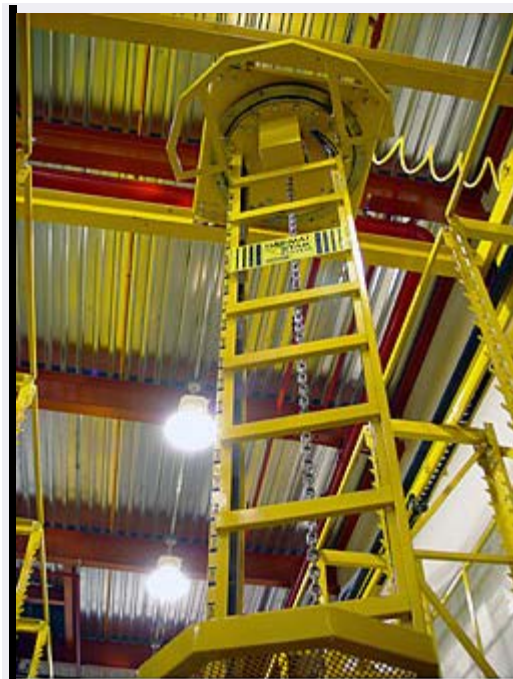
PHOTOS BY JENNIFER YEH



Welcoming new facility are, from left, Ted Montoya, DEO of Procurement; Paul Lewicki, Materiel Manager and Project Manager; Lonnie Mitchell, Executive Officer of Procurement; Dieter Hemsing, Director of Logistics; and Peter Ocampo, Owner AP Construction.



The chemical warehouse provides 4,300 square feet of 15-foot high adjustable storage racks that maximum storage capacity and easy retrieval for hazardous materials.



STAK System, which is air motor driven, reduces the need for vehicles in the warehouse.

funding was right before we went along with it," says Logistic Materiel Manager Paul Lewicki, who managed the project. "All of these features work together to ensure a safe environment for our employees."

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