

PANTEXAN

FALL 2026



**SECURING
THE FUTURE**

*Modernizing Pantex
efficiently and wisely*

AMARILLO, TEXAS

PANTEX PLANT

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The growth at Pantex, including the under construction Environmental Sampling Facility, is a sign of commitment to securing the future of the United States of America.

Photo by Michael Schumacher.

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LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

In early June, Pantex kicked off a program called the Pantex Speaker Series, which will offer additional opportunities for leadership, motivation, and engagement to Pantex employees. For the first event, we were honored to welcome former U.S. Navy SEAL officer Andrew Paul, who discussed the principles outlined in the book “Extreme Ownership.”

I hope you had the opportunity to hear his message, whether in person or through the video recording that was available after the event. The book was written by his fellow SEALs, Jocko Willink and Leif Babin, with whom he served during deployments including the Battle of Ramadi. They describe principles they learned to improve leadership and business/life outcomes by taking ownership and accountability for everything within a true leader's domain of influence — no matter what level of the organization they support.

Paul described how their team captured the four laws of combat and how making an operation successful requires work and leadership from everyone — not just the commanders.

“Leadership is the most important thing on the battlefield, in business, and in life,” Paul said. “When I’m talking about leadership, I’m not just talking about the brigade commanders or the officers or the guys at the top. I’m actually talking about leadership at every single level all the way down to the frontline troopers, to the guys who weren’t in charge of anything except for their part of the mission and who took ownership of their part of the mission and led.”

At Pantex, I see this happening at every level, every day. Pantexans are stepping forward and taking responsibility for their tasks and ensuring their plant succeeds in the mission we all have been given. It is why our fiscal-year deliverables have been over 100%; it is why we pushed the W76 Mk4B first production unit over the finish line months early; it is why our major construction projects are advancing on time and under budget; and it is why our safety rates are world class.

New construction projects at Pantex have hit a rate that is unprecedented in recent memory, and it is a testament to the trust we are being given to ensure that Pantex exceeds expectations today, tomorrow, and decades into the future. As you see the skyline change each day on your way into and out of work, and as you see improvements in your work processes, know that none of this would be possible without each of you. It requires extraordinary people to deliver extraordinary results and Pantex is a living demonstration of that.

None of this incredible work underway at Pantex can happen smoothly without the knowledge, skill, leadership, and passion all of you Pantexans provide. I want to give a special thanks to the family and friends of Pantexans and to the proud communities in which we live and play. That support structure is priceless to our nation and the world.

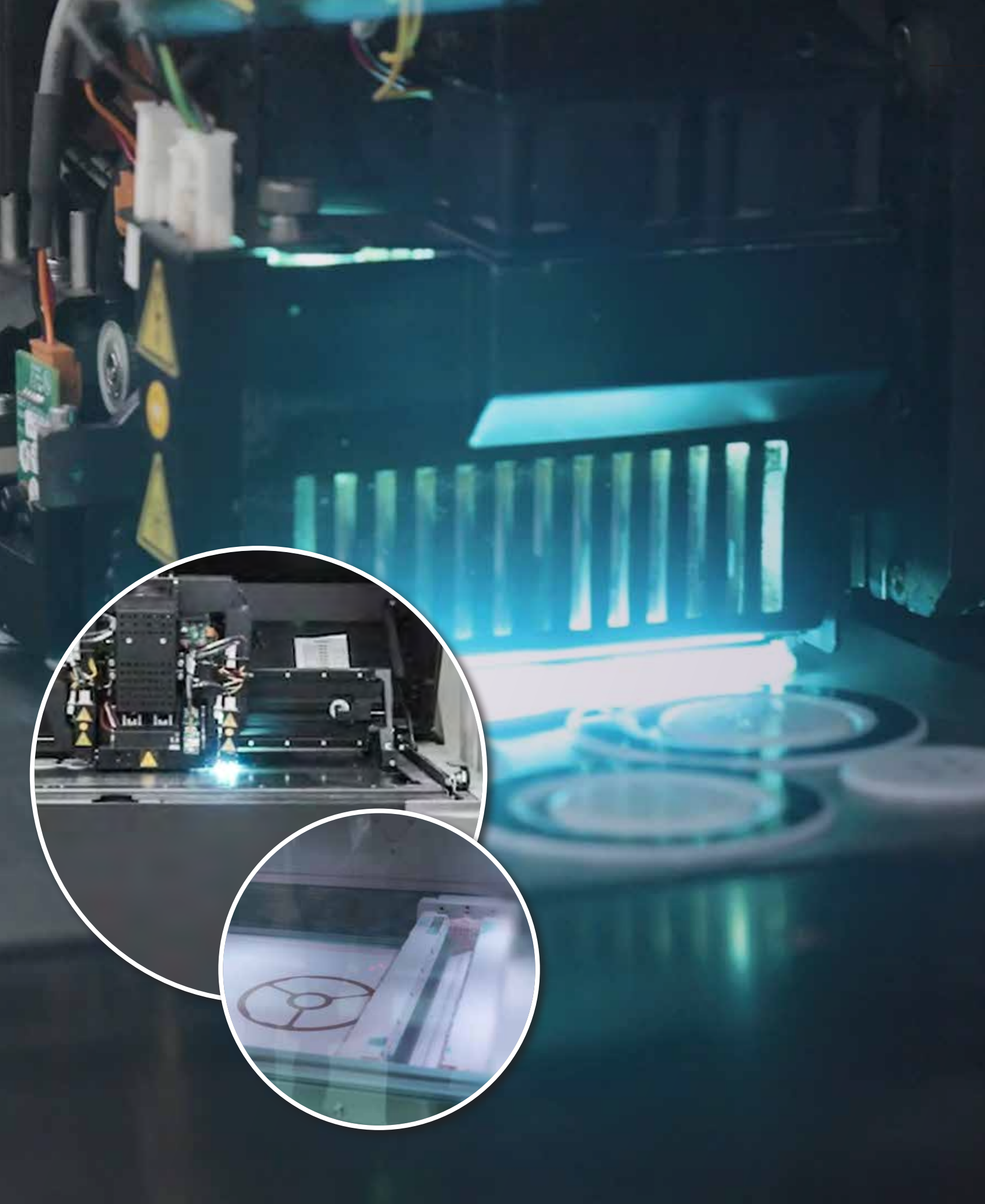


Kelly Beierschmitt
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LEADERSHIP

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LAYERING UP

Additive manufacturing is adding layers of assistance to many aspects at Pantex.

By Steve Myers

According to *Forbes*, additive manufacturing, more commonly referred to as 3D printing, is showing an annual industrial growth of 20% with an expected \$41 billion in market size globally in the past 7 years. Sites within the NSE, including Pantex, have incorporated additive manufacturing into industrial applications. But what is it, really, and how are the items created?

Additive manufacturing uses computer-aided design to create exact blueprints, and then uses different materials to build an item one fine layer at a time. The items support high explosive manufacturing and enable prototype and new concept development, as well as things like tools, fixtures, and more.

“Engineers can get a rapid turnaround on a design,” said Advanced Manufacturing Manager Tek Ferguson. “We can produce it overnight and they can get something in their hands and make rapid iteration changes and make sure that it’s going to fit or it’s going to work for their design.”

Pantex uses a variety of additive manufacturing technologies with the four main methods being vat photopolymerization, powder bed fusion, material jetting, and material extrusion.

Vat photopolymerization uses a vat of liquid photopolymer resin to produce a highly detailed model, down to sub-micron scales, cured by ultraviolet (UV) light, while a downward directional platform moves as each new layer is cured. The most common method within this category is stereolithography, which uses a single point UV laser directed by mirrors to “draw” the part layer by layer. Also in this category is digital light processing, which uses a digital light projector screen to flash a single image of the entire layer at once. Faster than stereolithography, each layer cures swiftly rather than being drawn point-by-point.

Powder bed fusion is one of the most advanced forms of additive manufacturing; within this category, Pantex uses selective laser melting and selective laser sintering. A high-energy laser or electron beam scans across each layer of powder and fully melts selected regions. As the molten pool solidifies, it fuses particles together into a dense, solid structure.

Selective laser melting slices the 3D computer-aided design file data into layers, each between 20 to 120 microns thick. The micro-thin layers of atomized metal powder are evenly distributed using a recoating mechanism onto a substrate plate on a moving platform inside an airtight chamber containing inert gas. Once each layer is complete, each 2D slice of the

geometry is fused by selectively melting the powder with a high-power laser directed in two directions with two high-frequency scanning mirrors. The laser energy melts or fuses the particles layer by layer to form a solid structure.

It uses high-power lasers to fuse small particles of plastic powders into a final three-dimensional shape. The laser selectively fuses powdered material by scanning slices. After each layer, the powder bed is lowered by one layer of thickness with a new layer applied on top until completion.

The third method, material jetting, uses microscopic droplets of liquid material layered onto a build platform and immediately cures them with UV light to form a solid object with a high degree of precision and fine detail. It uses photopolymers, waxes, elastomeric resins, and thermoplastics for materials.

The fourth method, material extrusion, uses the traditional process where material is forced through a die to produce a continuous product using plastics, metals, and other materials, including filament-based 3D printers for hobbyists. Fused-deposition modeling is a material-extrusion process where molten plastic or filament is layered through a nozzle heated to more than 200 degrees Celsius onto a heated bed to ensure adhesion. Each sliced layer is added in various micrometer levels until the final item is created. Direct ink writing is another extrusion-based method depositing liquid “ink” through a fine nozzle along a digitally defined path to build by layers. It is widely used in meso- and micro-scale fabrication as well as custom materials for research, prototyping, and specialized applications. It uses a variety of materials such as polymers, nanocomposites, ceramics, alloys, and pure metals, hydrogels, waxes, glass, graphene, and even food-based and conductive inks. Direct ink writing produces highly conductive layers with ultra-fine resolution, but is limited to low-viscosity, low-metal loading inks, and thinner layers.

There are other types of additive manufacturing printers in use worldwide and Pantexans are constantly investigating different options and processes to meet mission needs.

“Additive manufacturing is a rapidly advancing technology,” Ferguson said. “We started in 2012 and I can see advancements that we can’t really imagine right now. Multi-material metal printers, changing polymers, and high-temp machines. There are going to be a lot of advancements in additive manufacturing.”

“Rather than waiting for something to go wrong, actively look for potential issues or inefficiencies in your daily work. Think of process improvement as a continuous journey, not just a response to problems. This proactive approach helps strengthen workflow stability and improves the overall climate.”



UNDER THE SURFACE

Fixing problems means finding the root causes and solving them.

By Candice Copelin

The old adage that promises “the only things guaranteed in life are death and taxes” often feels incomplete. Another universal experience is that we all make mistakes; they are how we learn as children, how we grow as teens, and what (hopefully) makes us wiser adults.

When it comes to the work done at Pantex, though, perfection is the expectation. We must deliver our products in perfect form every time. So how do Pantexans work with such high expectations — knowing that humans are inherently flawed? Issues Management Specialist Marisela Bice is here to ease the worry about repeated mistakes.

“A key function of my position involves providing support for issue resolution in Infrastructure,” Bice said. “This includes assisting issue owners with the initial stages of addressing identified problems. I facilitate causal determination meetings for issue owners, guiding them through the process of identifying root causes and developing comprehensive action plans.”

Bice describes her work in issues management as similar to investigative work — sorting through material to see how processes should be followed to remain safe and what questions can be asked to ensure certain issues don’t come up again. She starts her investigations by documenting all information she can find about a specific issue. Bice will follow this up with a fact-finding discussion with those involved, setting a timeline and formulating questions she might have

along the way. She then brings participants together for a causal analysis — going beyond the surface level and uncovering the root causes so repeat mistakes can be avoided in the future. Finally, an action plan is developed to address all identified causes. Bice uses the tools she has to problem solve and surrounds herself with people whose positive attitudes help her reach the best possible outcome.

“It is best to view every problem not just as an obstacle but as an opportunity to learn, develop new skills, and demonstrate your capabilities,” Bice said. “Good teams bring together individuals with different backgrounds, experiences, knowledge, and problem-solving approaches. This diversity can lead to more comprehensive solutions, innovative ideas, and a deeper understanding of challenges than any one person might achieve alone.”

Meetings with Bice are not a blame game; they focus on the reasons mistakes were made. They explore multiple viewpoints so other employees can be trained to avoid similar mistakes. Once lessons are learned, employees share information and go on with a new tool added to their belt. This not only will make them better Pantexans, but it also makes Pantex better.

“I am very passionate about helping our department be successful in their jobs. I take pride in my work, and when others need assistance I want to be there to help them. I try to create a positive type of environment so that we can all be successful together.”

JUST THE BEGINNING

The new High Explosives Science and Engineering facility is a sign of an unwavering commitment.

By David Lewis

It's an amazing feeling to wind up at the cash register, scan all of your items, and realize you spent less than what you originally budgeted. But wait, there's more ... you load up your groceries in the trunk and hop in the driver's seat prepared to speed off only to realize there's still plenty of time to pick up the kids from practice and get dinner prepared before settling in for the night.

Completing anything under budget and ahead of schedule is not the most common of experiences. Even achieving one or the other might be considered a big victory.

Pantex is currently on track to accomplish both of those things having recently opened the doors to the new High Explosives Science and Engineering (HESE) facility.

"Completing CD-4 [project completion] ahead of schedule and on budget for the HESE demonstrates Pantex's commitment to delivering large infrastructure projects as promised," Explosives Technology Operations Manager Monty Cates said. "It builds confidence in our stewardship of taxpayer dollars and our reliability for future investments."

Officials broke ground for the HESE facility in November 2020 and held its ribbon cutting ceremony this past May, well ahead of schedule. It allows some Pantexans to begin to take advantage of the new state-of-the-art facility and all of the updated equipment and technology it provides.

"This new facility provides employees with a cutting-edge environment, a place where they can operate with even greater confidence, knowing that their workspace truly reflects the criticality and precision of the mission they carry out," Cates said.

The building will house dozens of employees in just under 73,000 square feet of versatile working space. This square footage includes the Technology Development and Deployment Laboratory. The facility will also include a much-needed parking lot for government and personal vehicles.

Other amenities include office space, change rooms for employees, and various conference rooms with the potential to support up to 150 personnel.

The new structure will also consolidate several teams under one roof that were historically spread across the plant. This key advantage will help Pantexans to further maximize their capabilities by increasing and simplifying collaboration while also promoting even more efficient systems and processes.

"There are many benefits the HESE brings to the global security mission we all support at Pantex," Cates said. "The biggest benefit of HESE is sustaining the ability to qualify and surveil high explosives for the next 70-plus years in a modern facility, benefiting the nation's global security mission."

Completion of the project marks a huge milestone in sustaining and modernizing Pantex's capability to support the High Explosives Center of Excellence for Manufacturing. What began as merely a dream of what high explosives work at Pantex could look like has become a reality.

"It began on a simple piece of graph paper over 15 years ago, driven by the critical need to sustain and advance the qualification and core surveillance of high explosives fundamental to our nuclear deterrent," Cates said. "My original vision for the HESE was to replace outdated facilities with modern, flexible, and sustainable laboratory space for all high explosives testing. This vision is now a reality."

Completion of the facility represents the value of the unified vision of Pantex and its partnership with the National Nuclear Security Administration. The ribbon cutting illustrates the tremendous achievement of getting such a large and complex project across the finish line.

"This facility is a symbol of our unwavering commitment to global security and a safer future for our nation," Cates said.





FINDING NEW ADVANCEMENTS

Evolving the Pantex mission through site and digital transformation.

By Dane Glenn

Modern-day demands need modern-day solutions. As the nation’s assembly, disassembly, and surveillance center for nuclear weapons, Pantex needs to be the site of tomorrow, and to get there, change and adaptation are necessary. Pantex must transform the site and operations by using modern processes and introducing practical and tangible technology-driven improvements.

Pantex continues to literally build for tomorrow, changing the site’s skyline and shaping the future of what’s possible. The Environmental Sampling Facility, Analytical Gas Lab, and High Explosives Science and Engineering Facility will provide state-of-the-art working environments and drive innovation across the site. But Pantex is not stopping there. Ground was broken and construction started on the Flexible Support II and South Maintenance facilities, allowing space for workforce optimization.

“The majority of our facilities were built somewhere between World War II and the Cold War,” Executive Officer of Infrastructure and Modernization Allen Stansbury said. “Our maintenance team has done a great job keeping the existing facilities up and running, but it is critical to modernize so we can continue to successfully accomplish the Pantex mission into the future.”

Some other Pantex projects are small but mighty. While they don’t change the site’s skyline or receive as much fanfare, they are nonetheless vital to mission success, and more importantly, to the people who make that possible.

“Just as each member of our workforce contributes to accomplishing the Pantex mission, the same can be said about projects, whether large or small,” Stansbury said. “The repair and maintenance of a steam line or the completion of an HVAC upgrade can be as critical as the ribbon cutting of a new major facility on any given day. Projects works together in regard to meeting our commitments.”

As modernized infrastructure preparation, construction, and installation continues across the site, a change on the technology side is also enhancing how Pantex does business. This is digital transformation (DT).

“The overall vision of DT is to accelerate Pantex’s adoption of new, advanced ways of performing our mission work,” Mission Assurance Officer and Senior Steering Group Lead Colby Yearly said. “It is intended to make the work more efficient, higher quality, and most importantly — more user friendly for our workforce.”

So far, Pantex has harnessed Windchill, a product data management system designed to provide a central place for teams to store, manage, and control product information so that everything stays organized and accessible for efficient collaborative engineering. Pantex also completed work this last year on a new visitor access process for a more streamlined badging workflow, and Pantex started using drones to manage and monitor simulated emergency situations. Additionally, Pantex made its data center stronger by expanding storage and capacity and brought in AI tools like the Department of Energy AI chatbot Joulux to boost abilities.

“The implementation of DT at Pantex is in its early stages, but we are already seeing positive adjustments and receiving encouraging feedback,” Integrated Project Team Lead Mark Shadix said. “We are actively developing capabilities that will transform core processes, from how engineers design tools and plan processes to enabling secure, large-scale data transmission.”

Viewing DT as a whole is an amazing way to realize the scale and scope of what’s happening across the site. Listing wins is important, but knowing how those wins impact the day-to-day of employees is just as significant.

“A prime example is the shift from a paper-based visitor access system to a streamlined digital process,”

Shadix said. “It has been a complete gamechanger for getting site visitor access, especially for larger visits. Additionally, Joulux has made a significant impact on our workforce. Pantex is the third-largest user of Joulux across the entire NSE. Between troubleshooting, formatting, and editing, it has personally saved me hundreds of hours this year alone. What we have seen from the plant is a sense of excitement about what this program is doing and what is on the horizon.”

Change is inevitable; it’s never easy, but Pantexans take challenges head on. Transforming the site digitally and physically is a crucial step in maintaining the Pantex legacy established over 80 years ago. Pantexans will adapt and succeed because that is what they do. Together, they’re building the Pantex of tomorrow, and each team member is a key to making it happen.

“It’s an exciting time to be a Pantexan,” Yearly said. “In my two-plus decades of experience here, I can say with confidence that our strategic stewardship of the site is as strong as it has ever been. There is a resilience and ‘can do’ spirit in Pantexans that you don’t find often. I’ve witnessed it countless times personally and routinely hear testimonies from external stakeholders regarding how they admire our workforce’s dedication. We are willing to do what it takes to ensure our part of the nuclear deterrent remains strong.”

COIN COLLECTION

Challenge coins are a unique way to celebrate the mission.

By Candice Copelin

Just like the high-five, Stonehenge, or brunch, the origins of the challenge coin are unclear. What we do know is coins were dispersed at several points in military history to show camaraderie or as a token of identification. Today, the coin exchange is an honored tradition that has made its way into the National Nuclear Security Administration, and in turn, Pantex.

“My passion for challenge coins is a family legacy, sparked by the fascinating pieces my father brought home from his time in the Navy,” Nuclear Engineering Safety Advisor Marissa Follette said. “That lifelong interest came full circle at Pantex when I received the 75th Anniversary coin, officially launching my own collection and journey.”

The lore around Pantex challenge coins is just as elusive as those in the military. Long-serving Pantexans don’t remember exactly when coins started circulating around the site but estimate it to be in the early 2000s. Whether minted for a weapons program or as an award for a job well done, coins at Pantex are a big deal.

“My coin collection is a storyboard of how proud I am to be a Pantexan and the work we do here,” Multi-Functional Sr. Specialist Marlo Escamilla said. “Some were given as a token of appreciation for the work

I’ve done or to commemorate an event participated in. Some were traded and some were purchased, but they all tell a story.”

Though coins are received in many different ways, Pantexans consistently appreciate one way of receiving them more than others.

“The coins I’m most proud of were given in the honored tradition of a goodbye handshake, exchanged between the grip while farewell words were expressed,” Escamilla said. “I felt an elevated sense of honor and value by that simple exchange, deepening my respect for the person and a willingness to volunteer for the next event.”

The basis of the emotions tied to challenge coins across the board seems to be pride — pride in the mission, pride in specific projects, and pride in being tied to something bigger than ourselves. Each coin is associated with a different memory and feeling, and Pantexans continue this American tradition passed down through many generations of people.

“The challenge coins commemorate special achievements that Pantex has accomplished,” Safety Analysis Engineering Manager Jared Spence said. “Coins are a tangible symbol paying tribute to the impact that everyone makes. I would like to look at these coins 10, 20 years from now to reminisce about these unique times or being a part of projects or programs that helped deliver the mission.”



MONTHS EARLY

Latest first production unit marks major milestone delivered months early.

By David Lewis

On May 20, Pantexans and partners across the Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE) celebrated the milestone of completing the W76 Mk4B first production unit (FPU), which will maintain the nation's nuclear deterrent and take another massive step in meeting warfighter requirements.

Representatives from the National Nuclear Security Administration, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Kansas City National Security Campus, Sandia National Laboratories, Lockheed Martin, and the United States Navy were all present with Pantexans to recognize a job well done.

The Mk4B FPU completion was accomplished nearly three months ahead of schedule, which is yet another example of Pantex and its NSE partners working together to maximize time and resources. Strong teamwork and collaboration helped successfully navigate through multiple challenges to set the standard on what can be accomplished when everyone is in lockstep with each other.

"As Pantex began working with the other sites on the program, we identified the opportunity to complete the FPU early, which benefits the nation by delivering the NNSA's national security mission ahead of schedule," said Pantex W76 program manager Norbert Chmura. "Recently, Pantex successfully completed a number of production responsibilities early, which meant our facilities were available for an earlier start time on the W76 Mk4B. While that sounds easy, pulling a program forward requires additional effort from all of the NSE sites working on the program. The accelerated timeline is indicative of the great teamwork by all involved."

A crucial part of the sea leg of the nuclear triad, the original W76 was introduced into the stockpile in 1978 and deployed on submarines, which are notably much more difficult for an enemy to locate because of their mobility capabilities. This latest FPU reinforces the nation's commitment to protecting the nation and its allies and marks the continued legacy of United States defense systems.

This accomplishment, which comes just over five years since the Mk4B initiative began, is a testament to the

NSE and NNSA's commitment to facilitating more efficient processes and expedited schedules.

Despite facility scheduling and other limitations, Pantexans worked diligently to ensure the site's ability to deliver. Key representatives from several departments at the Pantex Plant collaborated and found ways to ensure that everything remained on track. Pantex now begins production ahead of schedule and further solidifies its role within the NSE.

"Pantex will be the production facility that will support the Mk4B turnaround, which plays an important role in providing a reliable deterrent," Chmura said. "A challenge that we've run into is that Pantex is a busy site. We're just coming off the heels of other successful production runs. So, the fact that we were able to smoothly transition into this production run just says a lot about the NSE and Pantex's ability to step up when we need to."

The effort could not have been accomplished without the diligence and tireless work of other partners and sites. The National Nuclear Security Administration, Kansas City Nuclear Security Campus, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, and Lockheed Martin each played an integral role in accomplishing FPU. They helped successfully navigate various challenges such as component producibility, testing-hardware availability, and facility capacity concerns. Communication and collaboration across the sites were key in overcoming challenges and ultimately reaching the goal.

"Just building those interpersonal relationships and the fact that we were able to work together on these problems and solve them is just an incredible feeling," Chmura said. "And it's good knowing that we have good people in the right places going forward."

With the accomplishment of W76 Mk4B FPU now in the rearview mirror, the real work of production is only just beginning. Pantex and the rest of its NSE partners now turn their focus to full-rate production as they prepare to navigate the next set of challenges while continuing to work together to further strengthen our nation's defense.

THERE'S A SNAKE IN MY B...UILDING

Use caution (but don't panic) when you encounter a snake.

By Hali Rowland

Given the rugged Texas terrain at Pantex, it's common to find snakes in buildings on site — but snakes are just a sliver of the safari outside. In 2025, plant wildlife experts handled 157 nuisance animal calls and spent nearly 500 hours responding to situations involving a variety of different wildlife species.

"Response last year included over 38 species of wildlife," Wildlife Biologist Kevin Baird said. "Of the 157 calls, 49 were snake related, but our team also responded to help with small mammals like domestic dogs, coyotes, feral cats, and opossums."

Members of the Nuisance Animal Response Team (NART) have the training, equipment, permits, and authorizations to handle, trap, and transport nuisance animals.

"Most members of the Environmental Compliance department are trained and participate in the NART," Baird said. "Currently, we have 13 fully qualified team members who can handle everything from birds to mammals to snakes. We have seven more people trained to help with snake removal, for a total of 20 plant employees. To facilitate rapid response, I have trained and authorized a few select individuals in both security and safety to handle snakes as well."

Pantex employees are the eyes and ears of the plant and often are the first to come into contact with wildlife. This is evidenced by an incident that happened earlier this year when two Personnel Security employees saw a snake in a building. Luckily, they knew just what to do. They notified all people in the area and made the notification to the NART so the snake could be safely collected.

"I like snakes — I grew up with them as pets," Personnel Security Manager Paul Mendez said. "So, in this instance, I was concerned for the people who are frightened of snakes and worried about keeping the snake safe, also."

NART's Tracy Griffith and Paige Miller arrived prepared with appropriate personal protective equipment including safety shoes, safety glasses, gloves, and snake chaps. Miller used snake tongs to secure the bull snake and transfer it to a safe and secure enclosure before releasing it in a nearby field.

The quick-thinking action by Personnel Security and the rapid response by the NART team make it look easy, but dealing with nuisance animals is anything but. Management of nuisance animal species is an integral component of wildlife management in coordination with plant operations because it may affect any area of plant operations at any given time. The NART has



a general philosophy of natural resource stewardship and works to reduce animal-human conflict within operational areas.

"Our wildlife on-site is native to the area and provides a whole range of ecosystem benefits to us," Baird said. "Snakes are prolific hunters of small prey such as mice, rats, birds, and even the occasional prairie dog. They help control and regulate local populations of rodents on-site. Some of our snake species feed primarily on insects, frogs, and other amphibians, controlling those populations as well."

The native wildlife offers immense benefits, but that doesn't mean it doesn't come without risk to the workforce.

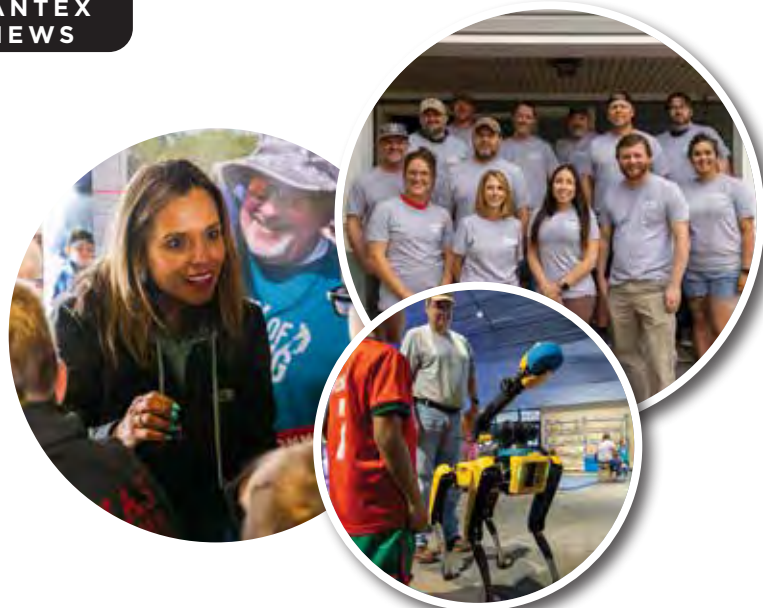
"There is the obvious, of course, the potential for a bite or scratch," Baird said. "With rattlesnakes that can be especially serious due to their venom; however, even bites from a non-venomous animal can be serious. While very uncommon in the area, there is the potential for rabies if you were to be bitten by a mammal. With skunks there is a chance of getting sprayed. This can cause extreme nausea, discomfort, and, if in the eyes, it can cause damage as well. Not to mention you won't be your coworkers' favorite person for the next couple of days."

Pantexans should remember that under no circumstance should they handle, trap, or transport a nuisance animal and should instead leave the task to members of the NART. If you come across an animal where it shouldn't be, alert people in the area to stay away, deputize someone to keep the animal in sight, and then call the Operations Center or NART hotline.

Members of the Nuisance Animal Response Team are qualified to safely transport animals from buildings on site.

VOLUNTEERING

Pantexans are popping up across the Texas Panhandle to serve the community through volunteer work. The Servant Leadership Employee Resource Group provided home improvement at Martha's Home and the United Way Day of Caring had a group build a new ramp to help a person gain better access to their home. Pantexans also gathered to educate students about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics during the annual STEAM Day at Hodgetown, and volunteered at the Don Harrington Discovery Center alongside the Pantex robot dog named Cupcake for the End of School Bash.



PANTEX PICNIC

More than 1,800 people, including Pantexans and their families, gathered at Hodgetown for the Pantex Picnic. The family-fun event included a variety of activities, including face painting, a petting zoo, batting cages, bounce houses, and much more.



PLAY BALL!

Pantexans gathered on a warm summer's evening in June to watch America's favorite pastime as the Amarillo Sod Poodles took the field during the Pantex Night at Hodgetown.



SAVING LIVES

For the second year in a row, Pantex has been recognized by the Coffee Memorial Blood Center as the top entity for blood donations across the entire High Plains region with 920 units of blood collected in 2025. The city of Dumas came in second, registering 635 units through their united drive efforts.

Pantex Administrative Support Assistant Sandra Lightfoot said, "This is the second year with Coffee Memorial doing awards that Pantex has been recognized as the No. 1 overall within our area for producing blood donations; Pantex was also No. 1 in the Business Category that Coffee Memorial recognized."

The Coffee Memorial Blood Center is an integral part in blood donations across the area and provides blood and blood products to all major hospitals in the High Plains region.

"The team at Pantex went above and beyond, hosting over 30 blood drives and collecting 920 units. This isn't just a number on a spreadsheet — it represents over 2,760 lives touched right here in our local communities," said Austin Frausto, senior account manager at Coffee Memorial Blood Center.



PAW PATROL

Pantex is home to a large, well-trained team of security police officers, otherwise known as the ProForce. But there are five members of this dedicated team that stand out from the rest. They don't swipe badges or carry radios, but they do love a good treat. With noses trained sharper than any sensor and loyalty that can't be taught, these team members are a powerful reminder that sometimes the best security comes with a fur coat and a wagging tail. Enter the good boys and girls of Pantex: Chief, Hazel, Alo, Stryker, and Hunter.

Canine units offer unique capabilities that greatly augment human efforts in various missions. Their senses are significantly more sensitive than those of people, enabling them to detect subtle scents associated with a variety of substances, even in challenging conditions or when items are concealed. Their specialized sensory input allows for rapid and precise detection that is unattainable through human observation or technological means alone. They possess super agility, endurance, and a natural ability to navigate complex terrains, making them incredibly valuable to rescue operations, tracking, and perimeter security.

"The dogs are an incredible asset to Pantex and our protection strategy," K-9 Operation Manager Captain Bobby Ovalle said. "They work in tandem with our current protective posture and make for excellent partners to our security police officers."



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