



## **Bechtel Nevada and the Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site**

A unique national resource, the Nevada Test Site (NTS) is a massive outdoor laboratory and national experimental center that cannot be duplicated. Larger than the state of Rhode Island, approximately 1,375 square miles, the Nevada Test Site is one of the largest restricted access areas in the United States. Established as the Atomic Energy Commission's on-continent proving ground, the Nevada Test Site has seen more than four decades of nuclear weapons testing. Since the nuclear weapons testing moratorium in 1992 and under the direction of the Department of Energy (DOE), test site use has diversified into many other programs such as hazardous chemical spill testing, emergency response training, conventional weapons testing, and waste management and environmental technology studies.

Bechtel Nevada performs management and operational activities at the NTS and offsite locations; providing engineering, construction, and diagnostics development and fielding for experimental work. One of the many services Bechtel performs at NTS is to scan, index, archive, and disseminate test result documentation and facility engineering drawings. The difficulty of this task is in the variety of media types and document sizes to be digitized - everything from older nuclear test results on microfilm and microfiche to large format facility drawings, aperture cards, modern desktop documents, and paper documents relating to current testing projects. The user community is likewise diverse, encompassing 250 internal NTS users and remote users at sites such as Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, and Los Alamos Laboratories.

One of the challenges facing Bechtel is that the user community is cross-platform, employing both Windows and Macintosh PCs. Optix was the perfect choice for Bechtel, combining industry-unique native support for the Macintosh platform, easy-to-use application design tools, support for a wide range of scanners, and web-based retrieval for remote users.

"Mindwrap's unique support of Fujitsu and other scanners on the Macintosh enhances our ability to input documents from a variety of media and make them available to cross-platform and web users here in Nevada and remotely at research labs such as Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, and Los Alamos", according to Randy Wood, System Administrator for Bechtel Nevada's Optix system.

Bechtel's Optix system runs on a Sun Enterprise 450 running Solaris with the Oracle RDBMS, with networked Macintosh and Windows workstations. Macintosh workstations support scanning from Fujitsu 4750 paper scanners as well as Vidar large format and aperture scanners, and Mekel microfilm scanners. Using the Optix Screen Generator, Bechtel is able to quickly design and deploy repositories for the wide range of incoming documents - all without any programming. As documents are input and indexed, they are immediately available to both Mac and Windows users. Infrequent users access and view documents via web browsers while frequent users employ the native cross-platform Optix Workstation for Mac or Windows. Bechtel's Optix system includes the Imaging, Web, Text Search, and Workflow options.

To date, Bechtel has input over 850,000 documents consisting of 40,000 engineering drawings on aperture cards, 50,000 large format facility drawings, and 750,000 paper documents related to correspondence and testing.



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***"Optix is the first system I ever purchased that did everything it said it could - and more"***

***Joe St. Marie, Supervisor, Archives and Records Center, Bechtel Nevada***