

Battelle World

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Battelle hosts President George W. Bush



LEFT: President George W. Bush and Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman visited Battelle March 9.

ABOVE RIGHT: The Bradley Fuel Cell Team briefs President Bush and Secretary Bodman on Battelle's role in developing the fuel cell for the U.S. Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle. (From left) Bill Madia, President Bush, Secretary Bodman, Greg Whyatt, Julie Swick and Henry Cialone. Team member Ross Fasolino also was present, but not pictured.



was 'outstanding' and 'flawless.' The media coverage we received from coast to coast was enormous.

Hats off to the many staff who helped make the visit a huge success," says Carl.

The planning team for the visit was led by Bill Madia, Executive VP, Lab Ops; Henry Cialone, VP, Lab Ops; and Tom McClain, VP, Corporate Communications.

News of the President's visit came one week before he was due to arrive, setting off seven straight days of tireless preparation that ranged from escorting Secret Service agents through every nook and cranny of the King Avenue facility, to stripping, scrubbing and waxing floors.

About 175 staff contributed to the effort. Though President Bush met with only 25 staff, a good portion of the 2,300 staff at King Avenue facility felt the impact of his arrival.

Armed officers were posted at each entrance, verifying every face with every badge, and a glance at the *Daily Bulletin* hinted at the heightened security with headlines like No Pedestrians, No Parking, No Cameras and No Deliveries.

One-third of the staff parking spaces were forfeited for security reasons, flushing 200 cars to a reserved lot on The Ohio State University's campus. Shuttle buses chugged a continuous loop from OSU to Battelle and back from

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

When the President's motorcade rolled out around 2 p.m., a group of about 75 staff braved the blustery March afternoon to see him off.

And anyone near a window facing the departure route had a cheek pressed against it, hoping to catch a glimpse of the President.

Whether you shook the President's hand, or noticed the hush in the hallways around 1:30 p.m. March 9, everyone had a front-row seat to history that day.

By Wendy M. Hankle, Columbus

The President of the United States visited Battelle Columbus on March 9, making George W. Bush the first to do so in Battelle Columbus' 75-year history.

The President was in town touting his energy initiative, giving an afternoon speech at Columbus' Veterans Memorial. He stopped at Battelle prior to his engagement, and got the skinny on energy innovations for the 21st century and beyond.

It was a visit he would later weave into his afternoon appearance—he mentioned Battelle no fewer than nine times during his 35-minute speech at Veterans Memorial.

"Today I visited a fascinating company called Battelle," the President said in his address. "The workers there have a motto. They call it 'the business of innovation.' Pretty interesting, isn't it? The business of innovation, to me, it defines the entrepreneurial spirit which exists in that building.

"There are important problems to solve in America," the President continued, "and why don't we put our minds to it, to use our skills and our talents to come up with innovative ways to deal with the energy challenges of today and

tomorrow. That's what I saw at Battelle.

"One of the reasons I went to Battelle was I wanted to see what innovative ideas they had about energy conservation," President Bush said. "What were some of the true brains of America thinking about when it comes to encourage energy conservation?"

Six presentations answered that question. The White House hand-picked the topics: clean coal technology, grid reliability, next-generation nuclear energy, pipeline safety, energy-efficient housing and fuel cells. Each presentation was intended to last only two minutes, but conversations between presenters and the President doubled or tripled that allotment.

"This was a tremendous day for Battelle," says President and CEO Carl Kohrt. "The President, Secretary of Energy Sam Bodman and the White House team were very impressed with Battelle's innovations, people and facilities.

"White House staff commented that the visit

"The President was very impressed with Battelle's innovations, people and facilities."

—Carl Kohrt
Battelle President and CEO





(From left) Jeff Colwell, BCO; Jim Lake, INL; Jeff Dagle, PNNL; Ken Humphreys, PNNL; Jeff Christian, ORNL; and Bob Hawsey, ORNL, presented their research to President Bush.

Presenters make most of time with President

By Wendy M. Hankle, Columbus

They've done it a thousand times before. They've lugged around countless displays, data and PowerPoint presentations. They've talked to students, colleagues and peers. It's all in a day's work.

On March 9, that day's work turned into a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—the President of the United States as their audience.

Fuel Cell Technology

It could be next week—or it could be two months away. That's all Battelle Columbus' **Henry Cialone** had to work with. The VP, Commercial Energy Business, Lab Ops Sector, was charged with making sure every presentation was ready for President Bush's visit whenever it happened... including his own.

"Since I was the guy beating everybody else up on the time limits for their briefs, I had to make sure I had my own comments well put together," he says, laughing. "I'd had a lot of practice running people through (the fuel cell presentation) quickly. I hadn't had a lot of practice doing it in front of 15 photographers, the President of the United States and the Secretary of Energy."

Henry spoke to the President about a fuel cell developed at BCO and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The cell is engineered to provide auxiliary power for the U.S. Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The system is so efficient it uses only 1 quart of fuel an hour to power all of the vehicle's electronics and communications without running the main engine. That makes a big difference when 70 percent of the weight that the Army moves to position itself into battle is fuel.

"It was clear (the President) knew what I was talking about," Henry says of his quick sell of the fuel cell. "He knew his stuff."

Henry later learned that relatives in Europe saw his presentation on Italian TV.

Ross Fasolino, Julie Swick and **Greg Whyatt** joined Henry during the presentation.

Grid Reliability

Jeff Dagle knows his field. A Chief Electrical Engineer for PNNL, his grid expertise earned him a spot on an international task force investigating the causes of the Aug. 14, 2003, blackout that shut the lights off on the Eastern seaboard, the Midwest and parts of Canada.

When Jeff talked with President Bush about his niche, he covered monitoring and control technologies that will enable electrical grid operators to detect problems and reduce loads.

"(The presenters) had a lot of fun with it," he says of his experience. "We knew it was really something. I don't know if it's an experience I'll ever be able to top."

ORNL's **Bob Hawsey** also spoke to the President about grid reliability.

Clean Coal

Though **Ken Humphreys'** conversation was with the man holding the highest political office in the nation, he knew he was talking to a businessman.

"The kinds of questions the President asked were 'How's it going to work?' 'When's it going to be commercially available?' and 'How much is it going to cost?'" Ken says. "Those are the kinds of questions a CEO would ask."

Ken described clean coal technologies to George W. Bush, techniques to reduce emissions from existing plants and the prospects of future generation zero-emission coal plants.

Ken, Director of Carbon Management Solutions at PNNL, said the opportunity to speak with the President was a welcome one and an incredible experience.

Pipeline Safety and Security

Jeff Colwell described the President as "down-to-earth" and "engaging" during the five-minute chat the two had about the nation's pipeline safety and security.

Battelle Columbus' VP of Applied Energy Systems provided an explanation of how the pipeline infrastructure is aging and the steps that need to be taken to make it last as long as possible—and inspect and detect problems in "real time" not after an accident has occurred.

Jeff says the President asked good questions about his group's work, and his visit to Battelle made a lasting impression.

"The number of mentions we got Downtown at his (March 9 speech at Veterans Memorial) were numerous and I think that's invaluable," Jeff says. "(The President's visit is) something you'll remember for the rest of your life. I know I will."

Nuclear Energy

Jim Lake describes his experience as nothing short of delightful. The Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear Programs has been working at INL or its predecessor agencies for 20 years.

"It was really nice to find he was such an engaging person and so interested in what we were doing," Jim says. "He was well-informed about nuclear energy. You don't realize how much the President really gets into the details of what's going on."

And Jim put an even finer point on the details for the President. During his presentation, he talked about next-generation nuclear power plants that can make both hydrogen and electricity—and the technology's potential to have a significant impact on energy security and environmental quality.

Energy-Efficient Housing

Two minutes is all the time presenters were allotted to wow President Bush with their work. Imagine **Jeff Christian's** reaction when the President left "wow" in the dust and went straight for "This work is awesome."

"People say that all the time," Jeff says. "But not presidents."

Jeff's the director of the Buildings Technology Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. His presentation detailed the work ORNL researchers are doing to develop a zero-energy house that will actually produce as much energy as it uses.

The homes, complete with high-efficiency appliances and solar panels, can be constructed for less than \$100,000. They are built to use less than \$1 a day in grid power.

By the Numbers

The President's visit March 9 yielded some interesting statistics

20 number of journalists in press pool

number of times Bush mentioned Battelle in speech following visit 9

7 number of days to prepare for visit

number of minutes Bush stayed 40

0 number of times a president had visited Battelle Columbus before Bush

number of staff lined up on Tisdale Street in 30-degree weather to watch the motorcade pull away 73

2,808 number of parking spots for staff

number of parking spots closed on the day of Bush's arrival 909

254 number of shuttle riders who parked on Ohio State University's campus that day

number of boxes of donuts provided for shuttle bus commuters 41

Behind the Numbers

Seven days of preparation isn't much when you're playing host to the President of the United States, but it's all Battelle needed.

More than 175 staff pulled together to pull it off, but a list of 16 deserve special recognition: Bill Madia, Executive VP, Lab Ops; Henry Cialone, VP, Commercial Energy Business, Lab Ops; Tom McClain, VP, Corporate Communications; Dave Petrozzi, Manager, Network Telecommunications; Steve Powell, Senior Communications Equipment Specialist; Brian Ogle, Director, Facility Support Operations; Scott Campbell, Manager, Staff Communications and Marketing Communications; Nancy Jamboski, Manager, Marketing Services; Mark Berry, Manager, Media Relations; Stacey Durst, Events Coordinator; Dan Sahr, Craftsman, Maintenance Leader; Dee Dee Woltz, Manager, Security Operations; Randy McWilliams, Manager, BSTI Security and Emergency Operations; Brian Soppelsa, Manager, Publications Management and Production; Jennifer Eddy, Lead Graphics Designer; and Dave Tipple, Graphic Design Specialist.