CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

NERDC to Upgrade Fire-Suppression System

UF Information Technology

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During the summer, NERDC Operations will see the installation of a new system they hope never to use: the FM-200 fire suppression system. The system will replace the old Halon 1301 system that has been in place since the 1970s. FM-200 is a fast-acting fire-fighting compound that is non-toxic and causes no respiration problems since it does not reduce the amount of oxygen available in the atmosphere.

"The current system is a series of cylinders under the floors and in the walls and ceiling that are filled with Halon 1301. The FM-200 installation by Borrell Fire Systems Inc., will replace the current tanks that hold Halon 1301 and provide a new control panel," said Penny Latta, senior computer operations supervisor.

The installation will take place during the next few weeks and is tentatively scheduled to be completed by the end of the summer.

Both the upstairs and downstairs machine rooms will have their fire suppression systems replaced.

"We did investigate two other systems, but we chose the FM-200 because it's the most widely used system and we can use it with our existing conduit," Latta said.

"These kinds of systems protect our equipment in the event of a fire because a traditional water-sprinkler system would be dangerous with all the electrical current used to power the computers."

This replacement will continue NERDC's protection of equipment and personnel.

"We're committed to protecting equipment and personnel and the data that's on those computers," Latta said.

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all UFIT documentation. Please send your comments to:

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