



# Washington Group International

Integrated Engineering, Construction, and Management Solutions

## Press Release

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## Area teachers receive educational grants

UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT, Hermiston, Ore. – The company that built and operates the incineration plant on the Umatilla Chemical Depot has given a financial boost to 10 area teachers for math, science and technology instruction.

Washington Group International has awarded \$500 each to 10 teachers from schools in Hermiston, Umatilla, Stanfield and Irrigon, the four communities that border the depot. Washington Group spokesman Hal McCune said the Education Grant Program initiated this year at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) will provide financial support for teachers annually.

“School budgets are tight, but teachers are always looking for ways to excite and motivate their students,” McCune said. “These grants are intended to allow our hard-working teachers to use some innovative techniques and equipment that are out of reach with their normal budgets.”

The grants will be used to enhance math, science and technology instruction in a variety of ways, from using CO-2 race cars to teach Newton’s Laws, aerodynamics and wood-working skills to a computer program that teaches math and engineering concepts through the creation of maps and floor plans. Other uses for the grants include purchasing a color video camera with a microscope attached, an interactive computer program that addresses the earth’s seasons and plate tectonics, electronic balances for lab use and materials to prepare a team of students to compete in the Lego League Robotics competition.

The teachers receiving Washington Group grants are:

- Tim McCreary, Hermiston High School
- J.D. Brazil, Armand Larive Middle School, Hermiston
- Robert Smith and Mike Gaulke, Sandstone Middle School, Hermiston
- Jerry McMichael, Umatilla High School
- Cynthia Townsend, Clara Brownell Middle School, Umatilla
- Amy Kaser, Stanfield Secondary School
- Stephanie Ray and Laurie Harmon (one grant), Stanfield Elementary School
- Gary Hunt, Irrigon High School
- Judy Brown and Tonya Pomeroy (one grant), A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon