



**Nexus:** How can an employer know the reporting company is qualified?

**Mr. Z:** In many ways. The leading companies have proved to be very reliable. Their employees are highly trained. Their reporting systems are incredibly thorough and geared to report important findings very quickly. And they're extremely careful. For example, they package a control badge in every batch of badges they ship. This measures any radiation that might occur in transit and prevents distorted readings later on. And now, companies can be tested and

accredited by the National Institute of Standards and Technology through NVLAP. Also, any company or institution subscribing to such a service is free to visit and check out the operation for itself.

**Nexus:** Is it possible for one employee to be incorrectly credited with the radiation findings of another employee because of a badge mix-up?

**Mr. Z:** At Landauer, the badge of each employee is pre-coded with a specific binary number which is later identified in the lab by a computer system.

**Nexus:** How should I, as an employee, take care of my badge to assure the proper monitoring?

**Mr. Z:** First of all, you should

wear your badge throughout the work shift every day - and wear it in the designated location on your clothing. Don't separate it from yourself by putting it on a jacket you're going to take off and leave in a work area while you go somewhere else. You don't want it to indicate radiation you haven't been exposed to. Turn it in whenever and wherever you're supposed to. Normal handling during the work period shouldn't have any adverse effect.

**Nexus:** Mr. Zimmerman, who has the responsibility for supplying monitoring devices to the employee?

**Mr. Z:** The employer does, and with the cooperation of everyone involved, personnel monitoring programs are quite successful - to the benefit of everyone concerned!

**Robert L. Zimmerman** carries exceptional credentials in the field of health physics. Holding an advanced degree from Georgia Institute of Technology, he was initially trained at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in 1951-52. His over 30 years of in-depth experience include important positions in health physics safety services with E.I. duPont, Republic Aviation and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Mr. Zimmerman headed the Phoenix Technology Corporation which provides radiological health and safety consultation programs for industrial and medical users of ionizing radiation. Mr. Zimmerman has been certified by the American Board of Health Physics and cited in *Who's Who in Technology Today*.

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