



DOROTHY JENKINS (left) of New Sarpy presented Orion Refining Corp. with air samples taken on Aug. 30 using a bucket distributed by the Louisiana Bucket Brigade. Remedial Operation Group (REG) Technical Director Ron Jansen (above) demonstrates how to use a summa canister air sampler to Orion workers. Orion brought in ROG to train its staff to take air samples in the community surrounding the plant.

Staff photos by Nicole LaPorte

New Sarpy air brigade

Citizens, industry take closer look at air around them

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In response to air samples containing a high benzene content collected by New Sarpy residents on Aug. 30 and presented to Orion Refining Corp. officials last week, Orion has agreed to take additional air samples over the next few

weeks.

On Thursday, a representative from the Remedial Operation Group, a chemical testing company based in Crosby, Texas, visited Orion to train a group of the refinery's environmental engineers and industrial hygienists in how to use EPA-approved air sampling instruments known as summa canisters. A summa canister tests air quality over a 24-hour period.

ROG Technical Director Ron Jansen called the summa canisters "very versatile" and said they were

capable of "testing a wide range of compounds."

Orion called on ROG to train its staff because although Orion has air monitors located on various stacks, it does not have the appropriate equipment to sample air in the community.

Over the next few weeks, Orion will take three sets of air samples in various locations in and around its property. Each set will include 6 tests.

The location of two tests will be

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