



AFRIMS-BSL-3 Cutting Ribbon Ceremony

16 September 2009



On September 16, 2009, the U.S. Ambassador Eric G. John; MG Krisada Duangurai, the Director General, AFRIMS; together with COL James W. Boles, Commander, USAMC-AFRIMS officiated the ribbon cutting ceremony opening the AFRIMS Biosafety Level-3 (BSL-3) Laboratory. RTA-AFRIMS and USAMC-AFRIMS have worked shoulder to shoulder for over 48 years and have played a significant role in the development of vaccines and drugs currently in use worldwide such as Hepatitis A, Japanese Encephalitis, and Malaria. This BSL-3 Lab is a significant contribution to AFRIMS, it is the first and only one in SE Asia which meets strict US Department of Army safety standards. The BSL-3 Lab is very important as it expands AFRIMS capacity to conduct research and assist with outbreaks of BSL-3 level agents such as Chikungunya and other biological agents located throughout SE Asia. The ceremony ended with a brief tour and a celebratory cake, dessert and refreshments reception attended by many AFRIMS employees.