International ISOE Workshop

The International Workshop on Occupational Radiation Protection in Severe Accident Management (http://www.oecd-nea.org/jointproj/isoe/workshop/), organized by the Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE), co-sponsored by the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD NEA) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and hosted by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), will be held on 17-18 June 2014 in Washington DC, USA.

The objective of the Workshop is to share practices and experiences in approaches to severe accident management. The workshop will:

- provide an international forum for information and experience exchange amongst nuclear electricity utilities and national regulatory authorities on approaches to, and issues in severe accident management, including national and international implications. Focus will be placed on sharing practices and experiences in many countries on approaches to severe accident management;
- identify best occupational radiation protection approaches in strategies, practices, as well as limitations for developing effective management. This will include experiences in various countries; and
- identify national experiences to be incorporated to the final version of ISOE EG-SAM report.

The workshop will include a series of plenary presentations to provide participants with an overview of practices and experiences in severe accident management from various countries. Furthermore, by taking into account the structure of interim report, common themes and issues will be discussed in follow-up breakout sessions. Sessions will be moderated by designated experts, to allow participants to discuss their national experiences, and possible inputs to the report. The outcomes of the breakout sessions will be presented in plenary by the respective moderators followed by open discussion, with a view towards elaborating ways forward to achieve more effective severe accident management.

While there is no registration fee, workshop participation is limited and registration is required. The deadline for registration is 30 May 2014. Registration can be done at the following website: http://www.oecd-nea.org/confdb/confdb/conf?id=142.

North-American ALARA Symposium

The 2014’s first regional symposium, which was supported by the NEA, was organized by the North American Technical Centre (NATC) on 12-15 January 2014 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The purpose of the 2014 ISOE ALARA Symposium was for radiation protection professionals to exchange dose reduction practices and lessons learned globally to assure safe and efficient operation of the operating power reactors. The symposium was attended by more than 100 participants and featured by technical papers and exhibits on the latest approaches in work management (e.g. ALARA achievements and lessons learned), source term reduction methodologies, radiological work management at NPPs with best practices and shutdown chemistry. A special session of radiological work management practices was organized that have achieved shorter refuelling outages and occupational dose reduction. Effective methods of planning, scheduling, training and managing refuelling and service outages were also presented.
**European Regional Symposium**

The 2014 ISOE European Symposium is organised by ETC, in collaboration with Mühleberg NPP (operated by BKW Energie Ag) and the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI). The symposium will take place in Bern, Switzerland from the 9th to the 11th of April 2014. Topics to be addressed refer to occupational RP at the design, operation and decommissioning stages of installations, with special focus on RP management, dosimetry and monitoring, source term management, as well as accident situations.

Prior to the Symposium, on the 8th of April 2014, three meetings devoted to specific audiences will be organised:

- Radiation Protection Managers meeting,
- Regulatory Body Representatives meeting, and
- Meeting on feedback experience on the use of CZT measurements.

Two technical site visits are also organized on the 11th of April 2014;

- Mühleberg NPP, and
- Mont Terri rock laboratory dealing with research on waste disposal.

**ISOE discusses with CPD possible co-operation in the field of decommissioning**

Decommissioning of nuclear facilities is a subject of growing importance for many nuclear countries that will represent significant budgets and industrial activity in the future. Through the joint projects of the NEA, namely the Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE) and the International Co-operative Programme for the Exchange of Scientific and Technical Information Concerning Nuclear Installation Decommissioning Projects (CPD, [http://www.oecd-nea.org/jointproj/decom.html](http://www.oecd-nea.org/jointproj/decom.html)), much experience has been gained in the technical aspects of decommissioning and dismantling, including providing for the safety of workers, the public and the environment. However a number of challenges and uncertainties remain.

With reference to the ISOE Management Board decision, the ISOE and the CPD Bureaux will discuss a proposal on establishing a Joint Working Group on Radiological Protection Aspects of Decommissioning activities in Nuclear Facilities (JWG-RPD) through a joint meeting in April 2014. The main objective of the proposal is to provide a forum for experts to discuss the current state of knowledge, technology, and experience in radiological protection issues directly related to the decommissioning of nuclear facilities with primary focus on practical case studies and expert discussions that would help to identify good practices in the field of occupational radiation protection, such as:

- Collecting information and practical experience available in the nuclear industry on addressing operational aspects of radiation protection during decommissioning of nuclear reactors with special emphasis on procedures to manage occupational exposures, and;
- Identifying factors and aspects which play key roles in achieving good practices in decommissioning (knowledge, experience, technology, regulatory requirements and guidance, worker involvement, information exchange and networking, etc.) and analysing and quantifying, as possible, their impact on worker doses and operational costs.

In addition, a Joint Topical Session in connection with the November 2014 Management Board meeting is under consideration to introduce the joint projects of the NEA with their specific activities in the field of decommissioning, to discuss the proposal for the establishment of a new Joint Working Group, and to discuss trends, areas that need to be studied further by the joint working group.
**International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection Gaps, Challenges and Developments**

The International Conference on Occupational Radiation Protection: Enhancing the Protection of Workers—Gaps, Challenges and Developments, co-organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and co-sponsored by the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (OECD NEA) with other international organisations, will be held on 1 – 5 December 2014 in Vienna, Austria.

The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for occupational radiation protection specialists to review advances, challenges and opportunities in the field since the first IAEA international conference on this topic, held in Geneva, Switzerland, in August 2002, as well as to identify areas for future improvements. The conference will also provide an opportunity for all the stakeholders involved in occupational radiation protection to exchange information and experience. On the basis of the conference, conclusions and recommendations will be formulated for future occupational protection guidelines.


**Schedule of ISOE Meetings / Symposiums 2014**

- 7 April 2014 (morning): 5th EG-SAM meeting (Bern, Switzerland)
- 7 April 2014 (afternoon): ISOE Extended Bureau meeting (Bern, Switzerland)
- 8 April 2014: RPMs and RA representatives meetings (Bern, Switzerland)
- 9-11 April 2014: ISOE European Symposium (Bern, Switzerland)
- 17-18 June 2014: International ISOE Workshop on Occupational Radiation Protection in Severe Accident Management (Washington DC, US)
- End of August 2014: ISOE Asian Symposium (South Korea)
- 3-6 November 2014: ISOE Meetings (OECD, Paris) (including WGDA and MB meetings)

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**For further information, please visit ISOE websites**

ISOE Network: [www.isoe-network.net](http://www.isoe-network.net)
OECD/NEA: [www.oecd-nea.org/jointproj/isoe.html](http://www.oecd-nea.org/jointproj/isoe.html)
NATC: [hps.ne.uiuc.edu/natcisoe/](http://hps.ne.uiuc.edu/natcisoe/)