N124. Dose Reduction By Outage Planning, Strategy, And Architectural Arrangements

The authors stressed the importance of beginning with a very tight time schedule, since the amount of time spent always seems to fill the available time. Shorter outage times, in general, result in smaller doses. He also suggested that as many jobs as possible be eliminated. After each annual maintenance period, the staff gets a special award that is related directly to the outage duration. Rework is avoided and jobs are planned so that heat exchangers and other pipes are filled with water to aid in shielding during maintenance. Efforts are made to use a small number of people who can get the work finished on time, and to avoid turnovers of workers unless individual dose limits are of concern. The use of a unique chest-high wall between potentially contaminated and uncontaminated workers who must interact, such as certain supervisory staff and workers in the contaminated areas, was presented. Materials are passed over this wall or through holes at certain locations so that both communication and material transfer can take place. Similarly, coffee breaks are arranged so that workers need not take off their work clothes if they have been checked for contamination. All of these efforts are aimed at reducing the time spent in dressing and undressing and from traveling to and from areas such as a cafeteria or coffee-break area.

Taken From: "Saving Doses by Outage Planning Strategy and Architectural Arrangements," B. Wahlstrom (Imatran Voima Oy, Loviisa NPS, SF-07900 Loviisa, Finland). Presented at the Workshop on Work Management and Occupational Dose Control, OECD Nuclear Energy Agency, Paris, France, February 4-6, 1992.