

N206. 1992 Radiation Exposure Management Seminar Highlights

The 1992 REM Seminar took place in Pittsburgh from October 4-7. This seminar is organized every year by Westinghouse. It is well attended by both PWR and BWR plant participants. There are generally many foreign attendees as well. This year Westinghouse invited a member of the ALARA Center to host a workshop at the seminar. The topic of the workshop was "What should be the ingredients of an ALARA Handbook?" Since we are working on such a handbook, this was an excellent opportunity to get some feedback from the seminar attendees on its contents. There were many excellent presentations and some other very good workshops. Gil Wrights was the principal person on the Westinghouse team that organized the seminar. Persons interested in any paper presented can probably obtain a copy from Gil or the authors. Among the papers and workshops that were found particularly interesting:

- A paper presented by Bob Cahn of Diablo Canyon on how ALARA planning may be incorporated in design modifications of nuclear power plants. There are important shifts in nuance in incorporating ALARA in the design of plants that are being designed as opposed to ALARA considerations in the design changes that are sometimes necessary in operating nuclear power plants. Bob pointed out some of these nuances. (Bob Cahn, Pacific Gas & Electric, Diablo Canyon, 333 Market Street, Room A-7006, San Francisco, CA 94106)
- A workshop on how to reduce the source term at nuclear power plants hosted by Tony Banks of Virginia Power and Joseph Sears of Niagara Mohawk. They outlined step-by-step how this may be carried out. They pointed out that although the gains from some of the steps may be realized only over the course of time, these gains are certainly there and worth pursuing. (Tony Banks, Virginia Power, Innsbrook Technical Center, 5000 Dominion Boulevard, Glen Allen, VA 23060; Joseph Sears, Niagara Mohawk Power corp., Nine Mile Point Station, 301 Plainfield Road, Syracuse, NY 13212)
- Charleen Raddatz of the NRC presented the latest dose data for U.S. nuclear power plants. The data showed that although a number of our plants are old and did not have the benefit of good chemistry and still have a large amount of cobalt in the primary system, the collective and individual doses are now beginning to be comparable with the best in the world. (Charleen Raddatz, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop NLS-139, Washington, DC 20555)
- Jon Newman of Crystal River described a very low cost and effective approach to creating a plant image data base. (Jon Newman, Florida Power Corp., Crystal River 3, P.O. Box 219 (MAC-NA2H), Crystall River, FL 32623-0219)
- David Miller of Clinton Nuclear Power Station discussed new approaches in developing ALARA incentives. (David Miller, Illinois Power, Clinton Power Station, P.O. Box 678, Clinton, IL 61727)
- Alan Willcocks of Britain's Nuclear Electric gave a description of the measures being undertaken to provide radiological protection for workers at the Sizewell-B nuclear plant. During subsequent discussion he emphasized that PWR plants designed subsequent to Sizewell-B will utilize the recent experience gained to try to eliminate all in-core and ex-core cobalt sources. Two alloys have been qualified which will replace all stellite. He described some new German plants that have used this approach and have annual collective dose as low as 20 person-rem. (Alan Willcock, Nuclear Electric plc, Booths Hall, Chelford Road, Knutsford, Cheshire WA156 8QG, United Kingdom)
- Kathleen Work presented a paper on the shot peening project carried out at the South Texas Unit 2. A step-by-step account of the steps taken to keep collective doses low was given. The result was that the total dose for the project was significantly below average when compared with similar projects in the industry. (Kathleen Work, Houston Lighting and Power, South Texas Project, P.O. Box 289, Wadsworth, TX 77483)

- Dennis Owen of ENCORE gave a fine presentation in which he described how disposable cameras may be used to aid in reducing occupational exposure. (Dennis Owen, ENCORE Technical Resources, Inc. 141 N. Spring Street, Middletown, PA 17057)
- Larry Aldrich of Commonwealth Edison hosted a workshop where the topic of discussion was how to simplify the Radiation Work Permit format and process while still retaining the key information. (Larry Aldrich, Commonwealth Edison Co., 125 S. Clark Street, Room 1327E, Chicago, IL 60603)

For more information on a presentation, contact the author indicated or Gil Wrights, Radiation Engineering and Analysis, Nuclear and Advanced Technology Division, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, P.O. Box 355, Pittsburgh, PA 15230. Telephone: 412/374-5678