

N394. Robotic Inspection Of Reactor Pressure Vessel By URSULA

B&W Nuclear Technologies (BWNT) successfully completed the inspection of the Reactor Pressure Vessel at Arkansas Nuclear One, by means of a new robot named URSULA. URSULA is a compact, light-weight robotic manipulator. For the inspection, two URSULAs were operated in parallel, reducing critical path time and completing the workscope one full day ahead of the previous best inspection time for a B&W plant reactor.

URSULA is a small manipulator, weighing less than 800 pounds. It stands six feet tall. It was developed by BWNT to minimize the use of critical site resources. The robot performs comprehensive ultrasonic testing on a wide variety of curved surface nozzles and welds within the reactor vessel.

For more, "Robotic Inspection," Nuclear Plant Journal, July-August 1995, p 9.