

**N3466. ANS/UMRUG Meeting on Robotics**

With the overall theme of "remote handling for the next century," the American Nuclear Society's seventh topical meeting on Robotics and Remote Systems was held from April 27 to May 1, 1997 in Augusta, GA, USA.

The Utilities/Manufacturers Robotic Users Group conference, held for the first time in conjunction with the ANS event, took place over two afternoons. Some nine papers were presented, addressing: cost justification for robotics; nuclear facility experience with solid state video cameras, spent fuel pool inspection, nozzle scanning; wall walker technology; robotics and dose reduction in a centralized interim storage facility; network communication for robotics; and remote dismantling systems in the CP-5 decommissioning and decontamination project. Presenting organizations included: VIT; North East Utilities; Framatome; ConEd; Pentek; Duke Engineering Services; EDF; and Argonne. There was also a panel discussion on the theme of utilities and robotics issues, with J. Gay and R. Brooks Associates, P. Kruse of SPAR Aerospace and R. Schilling of Schilling Robotic Systems. Next year UMRUG plans to revert to its usual formula and will hold its annual meeting in late May at a member utility's plant.

*Taken from Nuclear Engineering International, September 1997.*

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