



**SFST Regulatory Conference, September 12-13, 2012
Storage and Transportation Operating Experience (OpE)**

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Presentation Outline

- Current NAC OpE efforts
- NAC OpE enhancements
- Industry challenges and opportunities

Current NAC OpE Efforts

- Majority of OpE efforts include:
 - Daily document reviews
 - Monthly user group teleconferences
 - Industry conferences

Current NAC OpE Efforts (cont'd)

- Daily document reviews
 - ADAMS daily postings
 - Industry publications (as published)
 - Fuel Cycle Week, Nucleonics Week, StoreFuel, Inside NRC, Spent Fuel, NuclearFuel, NEI News Letter, etc.
 - Summary report of information related to NAC activities is generated
 - Distributed to engineering, operations and projects
 - Appropriate actions taken to address any concerns (i.e. SIRs, DCRs, etc.)

Current NAC OpE Efforts (cont'd)

- Monthly user group teleconferences
 - Led by NAC Licensing with support from engineering, operations, fabrication, projects and QA
 - Status update of NAC licensing and engineering efforts for storage systems
 - Status update from NAC storage cask users
 - Cask loading and maintenance activities
- Opportunity to address and resolve issues as a group, along with feedback
- Semi-annual user group face-to-face meetings
- Periodic NRC visits (NAC offices, conferences, etc.)

Current NAC OpE Efforts (cont'd)

- Industry conferences
 - NEI
 - EPRI
 - NRC
 - ASME
 - IAEA
 - ANS
 - ASTM
 - ENS (European Nuclear Society)
- Representatives from NAC actively attend and participate in various industry forums and committees

NAC OpE Enhancements

- Initiator for OpE enhancements
 - Productive discussions between NAC and the NRC
 - Questioning attitude of how lessons from recent events are being captured and efficiently / effectively implemented
 - Interaction with personnel who have a strong background in Part 50 that are used to seeing a formal OpE program

NAC OpE Enhancements (cont'd)

- Transition from an informal process to one in alignment with NUREG-0737 “Clarification of TMI Action Plan Requirements”
 - I.C.5, Procedures for Feedback of Operating Experience to Plant Staff
- While NUREG-0737 is specific for operating power reactors, it can be considered for NAC activities

NAC OpE Enhancements (cont'd)

- Formal program being implemented includes:
 - Data gathering from various defined sources on a set frequency
 - Recording of data gathered into NAC's OpE database
 - Perform a screening process to determine its applicability to defined NAC activities, along with concurrence
 - Index record to storage and/or transport
 - Urgency review performed
 - Items deemed urgent receive an expedited technical and/or operational review
 - Screen-in items are forwarded to affected organizations to be technically and/or operationally dispositioned

NAC OpE Enhancements (cont'd)

- Affected organizations disposition the item
 - Items requiring further action are assigned a closure date and concurred on
 - Dispositions are recorded in the OpE database and concurred on
- OpE item closed out upon completion of further actions, if any
- Items that required further action are then shared with NAC staff and user's group on a set frequency
 - Includes items with generic implications
 - Urgent items are shared subsequent to completion of further actions

NAC OpE Enhancements (cont'd)

- Formalization of OpE screening and review process results in several benefits:
 - Repeatable
 - Trending capabilities
 - Increased awareness to industry activities
 - Enhanced engineering and design features
 - Proactive safety culture
 - Searchable
 - Practice has been proven by operating reactors for over 30 years

Industry Challenges and Opportunities

- Extremely competitive business landscape
 - Reluctant to disclose any information that may reflect poorly on a system design and/or operation or may result in a competitor's advantage
- Availability of industry generated information
 - No centralized location for OpE items that allows all vendors and users access
 - Locating NRC inspection reports related to spent fuel storage and transportation is very difficult

Industry Challenges and Opportunities (cont'd)

- Can these challenges be overcome?
 - Yes, operating reactors did it.
- Formation of a spent fuel specific centralized OpE storage location or partnership with an existing OpE system
- Creation of an ROP-like inspection reports webpage

Storage and Transportation Operating Experience (OpE)

NAC International