

OSART Good Practices

OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE FEEDBACK

Screening of operating experience information

Blayais, France

Mission Date; 2-19 May, 2005

The fast-track analysis sheet (FRA) is used by Blayais NPP to consolidate the event-reporting process: it is created prior to the faxed significant event report. This helps to improve the safety-significant event reporting process and to extend it to the areas of radiation protection, the environment and transportation.

As soon as a deviation from DI100 is suspected in any event involving the areas of nuclear safety, radiation protection, the environment and transportation, a fast-track analysis sheet is created. Its purpose is to:

- Establish and validate facts between the safety/quality department or environment department and the craft concerned,
- Conduct two comparative and independent analyses, one by the safety/quality department or environment department, and the other by the craft concerned,
- Convene an extraordinary meeting chaired by senior management in the event of disagreement between the safety/quality department or environment department and the craft concerned.
- Manage the delay of event declaration to the safety authority.

FRA conclusions may give rise to an OE report, a SAPHIR report, a local event report or a significant operating event report. All fast-track analysis sheets are stored in a Lotus Notes database, where all staff members can read them.

In addition, a 2nd-level analysis is conducted every six months in order to check:

- the effectiveness of the reporting process for deviations or situations which could affect safety.
- the effectiveness of the lines of defense (shift manager, safety engineer) and associated processes related to reporting of deviations in terms of requirements.
- staff understanding of safety goals.

The review by the plant safety review committee (the plants highest nuclear safety decision making body) of this analysis every six months helps guarantee deviation reporting compliance, as well as developing a safety culture.

Advantages:

- Comparative, documented and independent analyses conducted by the safety quality/environment departments and the relevant craft,
- Same process for the areas of nuclear safety, radiation protection, environment and transportation.
- Senior management decisions documented and expounded upon in the event of disagreement; distribution to all members of extended senior management committee.
- Second-level analysis conducted every six months in order to ascertain the relevance of decisions, with possible amendments after validation by technical safety committee (GTS).

Supporting qualitative and quantitative information:

- The FRA process is an original practice of Blayais NPP. It is recognized as an effective safety management tool at corporate level and has been put forward to other French NPPs.
- The process has been used for several months in the areas of nuclear safety, radiation protection, the environment and transportation. The indicators show an improvement in the delay of declaration of safety events.

Borssele, Netherland

Mission Date; 8 Nov.-7 Dec., 2005

A risk quantification matrix is used to perform risk evaluation and to rank the low level and near-miss events that are reported.

The use of a risk evaluation matrix permits the calculation of risk in respect of the potential consequences of a near miss event. The areas that are considered in this evaluation are: nuclear safety, industrial safety, public acceptance, environment and financial consequences. This is done using a clear and visual aid (coloured matrix).

The tool has proved to be useful to determine the degree of analysis that is required. It can also be useful to find precursors and to measure the performance of near miss reporting: more events of a lower risk level indicates improvement.