A Nordic seminar for users of gamma spectrometry will take place in Norway 16-17 Sept. 2009. The seminar will provide a forum for discussions and sharing of information on practical issues concerning gamma spectrometry and strengthen the Nordic collaboration through networking of scientists and gamma spectrometry users. Funding for arranging the seminar has been granted by the NKS (Nordic Nuclear Safety Research).

Topics of the seminar will be the participants' own experience in gamma spectrometry with emphasis on common problems/challenges often encountered. A list of such relevant topics might include:

- Uncertainties
- Detection limits
- Coincidence summing
- Libraries
- Monte Carlo methods for calibrations and corrections
- Density correction, self-absorption
- Experience with different software
- Different need for different users of gamma spectrometry
- Common geometries
- Experience with different detectors
- Quality assurance and accreditation, intercomparisons
- Training
- Experience with unusual samples and/or spectra
- Electric vs N₂ cooling

During the seminar, key issues for follow-up will be identified, and working groups established for addressing the identified problems. Some funds will be made available for participants committing to work in these groups. A follow-up seminar will be arranged in 2010 where each working group will present the results from the work done between the two seminars.

At the seminar Dr. Gordon Gilmore will give a presentation with the preliminary title “Does our software tell us the truth (or should we burn the Black Box)?”. The presentation will aim at encouraging users not to trust their spectrum analysis programs uncritically, i.e. to stop regarding their software as the perfect Black Box: spectrum in, perfect results out.

The language of oral presentations can be any Scandinavian language as well as English. All written material should be in English.
Who can participate:
All users of gamma spectrometry in the five Nordic countries, but also gamma spectrometry users from the Baltic countries are invited. Students and young scientists are encouraged to participate. The NKS offers travel assistance for young scientists wishing to attend NKS events that are held within the Nordic countries. See www.nks.org for more information.

Where and when:
Institute for Energy Technology (IFE), Norway, 16-17 September 2009

Fee:
Free for all participants.

Hotel (must be paid by the participants):
Hotel Fagerborg (www.fagerborghotel.no) has a preliminary reservation for a limited number of rooms (reduced costs, NOK 895,- per night) for seminar participants. Reservations to be sent directly to booking@fagerborghotel.no. State IFE and 112805 as a reference for the reservation.

Social events:
There will be a joint dinner on the first day of the seminar.

Registration before 1 June:
Fill out this form and send to paulan@ife.no.

Second announcement:
To be distributed in late July / early August. Will include a time schedule and a tentative programme with presentations and discussions for the seminar, and more information about the working groups.

Abstract to be submitted before 21 August:
Title and max. 500 words to be sent to paulan@ife.no.

How to get to IFE: