

NKS - a forum for Nordic cooperation and competence maintenance in nuclear and radiological safety

NKS (Nordic Nuclear Safety Research) builds on a long Nordic tradition of cooperation. Today, for instance exchange of Nordic operational expertise and new ideas can be valuable to tackle common challenges at nuclear installations. The Fukushima accident has highlighted the need for maintaining an effective operational emergency preparedness.

NKS runs joint activities producing seminars, exercises, scientific articles, technical reports and other types of reference material. The activities are divided into two programme areas: NKS-R (thermal hydraulics, severe accidents, reactor physics, risk analysis and probabilistic methods, organisational issues and safety culture, decommissioning, and plant life management and extension) and NKS-B (radiological and nuclear emergency preparedness, measurement strategies, technology and quality assurance, radioecology and environmental assessments, and management of radioactive waste and discharges). Recent detailed descriptions of the programmes, including ongoing activities, were published in four papers in the RPD journal Radiation Regulator in 2013-15 (www.radiationregulator.net).

NKS warmly welcomes proposals for new activities (deadline this year: 15th October; total budget near 1 M€; www.nks.org/en/nksr/call_for_proposals; www.nks.org/en/nksb/call_for_proposals for further information).

A joint NKS-R and NKS-B seminar entitled ‘Nordic perspectives of Fukushima: Where are we now and where do we go?’ will be held in Stockholm on 12-13 January 2016. The aim is to outline the current state of development in Nordic nuclear risk assessment and preparedness and examine implications and needs for the future. The seminar will follow up on the progress since the NKS Fukushima seminar in 2013, and feature the newest results of Nordic research and development. International speakers include Ted Lazo (OECD/NEA) and Chris Clement (ICRP). Also IAEA will participate, presenting the forthcoming comprehensive IAEA report on the Fukushima accident. More detailed information, including possibilities for registration, will follow in September. For free subscription to NKS NewsFlashes and NewsLetters, please refer to www.nks.org.