

“Highlights of Global ISOE Programs at Nuclear Plants”

Mr. Wataru Mizumachi, JNES, ISOE Past Chair, Japan

Information System on Occupational Exposure (ISOE) was officially launched in January 1992, under CRPPH, OECD/NEA. Japan has been a member of ISOE since April 1992. Since October 1997, IAEA participated as the joint secretariat to allow participation of non-OECD/NEA member states. As of December 2007, 71 utilities from 29 countries, and authorities from 25 countries, participate in ISOE. ISOE has four regional technical centers, located in IAEA, Europe, North America, and Asia.

The ISOE database contains data for 480 nuclear reactor units (403 are in operation and 77 are either shutdown or decommissioned). The data for Chinese Taipei's six reactors are not included in the ISOE databases (because Chinese Taipei is not an ISOE member); however, the ISOE Asian Technical Center (ATC) obtained data directly from Chinese Taipei on its own, and disclosed them on its website. ATC are now negotiating with Argentina and India over the disclosure of data.

The operational period of reactors has been extending in the United States and South Korea. The operating period is prescribed to be one year in Finland with the shutdown period being remarkably short. In Japan, the operating period has been one year with a relatively long shutdown period; however, NISA recently approved a 24-month operating period for the Hamaoka NPP.

The ISOE Asian Symposium has been held in the following four locations, and this is the fifth Symposium.

Omaezaki, Japan, in 2005; Echigo Yuzawa, Japan, in 2006; Seoul, South Korea, in 2007; Tsuruga, Japan, in 2008 (International), Aomori, Japan, in 2009

Together with reactor safety, reduction of exposure is the number one priority for nuclear power generation. It is therefore important to utilize the ISOE network to promote communication and share techniques and experiences for exposure reduction.