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**6. Center for collection
and analysis of
information on safety
of Russian nuclear
research facilities**



In 1998, Russian Minister of Atomic Energy issued an order to set up a branch center for collection and analysis of information on safety of nuclear research facilities (NRF) to be hosted by the Research Institute of Nuclear Reactors (NIIAR). The Center is one of the basic entities of the State Corporation “Rosatom”, entrusted with the branch-wide mission of support to NRF safety improvement.

The NRF Information Analysis Center (NRF IAC) has developed a unique data acquisition and processing system to address equipment failures and operational occurrences at the facilities placed in its care.

The information system embraces practically all Russian Operators of nuclear research facilities and has the following purposes:

- to accumulate, systematize and analyze the information on upsets at Russian facilities as well as the foreign event data provided by the IAEA (from the Incident Reporting System for Research Reactors – IRSRR);
- to prepare statistics on operational occurrences at NRFs;

- to analyze the safety implications of such occurrences, using, among other things, the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES);
- to analyze the causes for such occurrences;
- to generalize the information and develop corrective measures for mitigation of the consequences and prevention of similar occurrences at Russian facilities.

Another aim of the system is to inform the stakeholders about the events at NRFs and the measures taken to prevent their recurrence at Russian facilities.

The information analysis results appear in annual bulletins which will contain full statistics on events at Russian nuclear research facilities, detailed analysis of system (component) failures and human errors, as well as description of the remedial and prophylactic actions.

The Center has become a generally recognized and permanent forum for operational experience exchanges and a place for underpinning of NRF safety management, which brings together the leading specialists of the NRF Operators,



Participants of the meeting at Dimitrovgrad, 2011

representatives of architect engineering and design organizations, of SC “Rosatom” and Rostekhnadzor (Regulator).

Every year, the Center holds meetings to discuss the level of nuclear and radiation safety at Russian nuclear research facilities, the issues of safety culture, personnel training, etc.

Similar meetings are also organized in other countries. France, for example, has the Club of Reactor Operators (CER) – a forum for information exchange on the work of French research reactors, supervised by the Commissariat à l'énergie atomique (CEA).

The results of the NRF IAC activities are in demand by the nuclear sector leaders, by all the stakeholders, and serve as a reliable basis for making important decisions on improvement of NRF safety.

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