
PRESS RELEASE

AREVA NP Completes First MRP-227 Exam on a Combustion Engineering Plant

CHARLOTTE, N.C., July 31, 2017 – AREVA NP recently completed the first fully encoded, automated Materials Reliability Program (MRP)-227 exam on a Combustion Engineering (C-E) pressurized water reactor (PWR). The work, completed during the spring outage at Dominion Energy’s Millstone Power Station in Waterford, Conn., provides the utility with a detailed baseline examination with encoded data on the condition of reactor vessel internal (RVI) components.

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Part of the Materials Reliability Program (MRP) from the Electric Power Research Institute, MRP-227 “Pressurized Water Reactor Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines” provides guidelines to manage aging in PWRs. In the United States, so-called MRP-227 exams gather data to meet these guidelines and are integral to the development and implementation of aging management plans. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires aging management plans to ensure safe and consistent plant operation.

AREVA NP’s innovative approach to RVI MRP-227 exams for C-E plants involves a tooling combination that pairs a core support barrel tooling ring assembly with a motorized cart and ultrasonic distance sensors to maintain the critical variables for enhanced visual testing (EVT-1) examinations. Controlled by operators in a remote-control center outside containment, the tool rotates around the core shroud and core support barrel, looking for any gaps or cracks in need of repair. This approach allows personnel to perform these inspections in an underwater, high-dose environment with minimal personnel exposure.

“Our teams are known for their creative thinking and efforts to constantly improve the way that AREVA NP and our customers do business,” said Craig Ranson, senior vice president of the Installed Base Business Unit in the United States. “As we demonstrated at Millstone, our innovative approach to completing MRP-227 exams on Combustion Engineering plants provides utilities with the important information they need about their plant components to ensure continued efficient and reliable operation.”

To date, AREVA NP has completed MRP-227 primary component examinations at 13 PWR plants of B&W, C-E and Westinghouse designs, and is contracted to perform additional C-E RVI MRP-227 examinations in the future.

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MORE ABOUT AREVA

AREVA in North America (AREVA Inc.) combines U.S. and Canadian leadership to supply high added-value products and services to support the operation of the commercial nuclear fleet. Globally, AREVA is present throughout the entire nuclear cycle, from uranium mining to used fuel recycling, including nuclear reactor design and operating services. AREVA is recognized by utilities around the world for its expertise, its skills in cutting-edge technologies and its dedication to the highest level of safety. AREVA Inc.’s employees are helping build tomorrow’s energy model: supplying ever safer, cleaner and more economical energy to the greatest number of people. Visit us at <http://us.areva.com> or follow us on [Twitter: @AREVAus](https://twitter.com/AREVAus).