

Nuclear Revival: Maintaining Key Competencies

Arising key competencies for nuclear energy:
A challenge and an opportunity for diversity development

WIN Global Annual Meeting
Marseille, France, 26 – 30 May 2008

REGISTER NOW

For the detailed Programme and the Registration Form visit: www.win-global.org

Marseille is a very popular sea-side destination in summer
Please register now to avoid disappointment with accommodation

WIN Workshop at PIME 2008, Prague

From February 10-13, nuclear communicators from around the world gathered for the annual Public Information Materials Exchange (PIME) conference that took place this year in Prague, Czech Republic. The conference theme was "Defining Tomorrow's Vision of Nuclear Energy" and once again Women in Nuclear hosted a session, this time entitled "Public Consultation and Stakeholder Involvement". The WIN session, on Tuesday February 12th, was brilliantly chaired by Susan Brissette from WIN Canada.



About 60 participants heard from speakers from the UK, Japan and Slovenia, as well as receiving a brief update from WIN Indonesia on the Bali Climate Change Conference.

Studies in the nuclear industry often reveal that women do not support nuclear technology to the same extent as men do. Does it matter?

Consider that consumer studies have shown that women influence about 80% of product and service purchase decisions. Women have tremendous influence. The purpose of the WIN- organized session was to find out what innovative techniques the nuclear industry can deploy in order to engage a female audience.



In addition to the formal presentations on "leading practice" concepts in engaging a female audience to build support for nuclear issues, WIN introduced a more interactive approach to the workshop and delegates tackled the question of WHY support for nuclear by women is less than support received from men. Female and male communication professionals had an opportunity to share tactics and success stories, reporting back to the wider group in a brief "infomercial" style. The various table groups were very creative in getting their ideas across in about 3-5 minutes and helped stimulate workshop discussion and knowledge transfer.

That evening, about 25 WIN members from nearly as many countries got together for an informal meal at a typical Czech restaurant selected by WIN Czech Republic member Maria Dufkova. The evening was a chance to catch up with old friends and colleagues and enjoy some great food.

WIN Global Board Meeting

In the evening of 12 February, the WIN Board meeting took place.

The Board meeting was attended by 21 delegates representing WIN networks from Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Japan, Indonesia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and the USA. The meeting was chaired by WIN Global President, Junko Ogawa.

The updated membership status saw 2175 WIN Global members with Canada, USA, Sweden, Bulgaria, South Korea, Romania, Argentina, Switzerland, Slovakia and Spain leading the game as the 10 most active networks, according to the number of members from these countries in WIN Global.

Some changes in the list of WIN Global Leading Group members had occurred since the last Board meeting:

- 1) Katya Minkova replaced Daniela Manova-Nanova as WIN Bulgaria President and a WIN Global Board member, effective from June 2007. Svetlana Dimova and Boyana Garkova were nominated to assist Katya Minkova in her new role, therefore both Svetlana and Boyana took Country Representative positions for Bulgaria in the WIN Global Leading Group.
- 2) Monica Bowen-Schrire replaced Gunilla Johnsson on the WIN Global Board from November 2007, because Monica had been appointed president of WIN Sweden. Malin Löwe was appointed to take on WIN Sweden administration, thus Malin appeared in the WIN Global Leading Group as Country Representative for Sweden.
- 3) Ingeborg Hagenlocher, WIN Global Executive and WIN Switzerland President, moved to Germany at the end of 2007. She was replaced by Irene Aegerter in the position of President of WIN Switzerland. Therefore Irene Aegerter became a WIN Global Board member, and one place for a WIN Global Executive member has become vacant.

The WIN Executive member from Japan, Junko Nishimura, had to retire from the Executive position due to a career change. As her replacement, Junko Ogawa offered Keiko Chitose, Reactor Safety Manager from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

Board meeting participants also had a chance to listen to a report by Tri Murni Soentono, the organizer of last year's Annual Meeting in Indonesia, about the challenges and outcomes of this successful event.

The WIN Branding Working Group reported on progress on the revision of the WIN Global website and on the plans for its improvement which are already underway. The new website will contain revised information about WIN, will be stylistically up to modern design standards, and will boast a new on-line membership application process, which will significantly reduce manual administrative input. The launch of the new site is expected in May.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included a discussion of the WIN Award candidates for 2008 (the Award will take place at the WIN Global Annual Meeting in Marseille), a report from organizers of the Marseille event, and the announcement from WIN

USA about their intentions to host the WIN Global Annual Meeting in the USA in 2009.

The Board meeting was followed by a dinner for WIN members at a local restaurant which was coordinated by Marie Dufkova, WIN Czech Republic.

From France

Promoting Engineering Studies for Girls

Located on the premises of the Science and Technological Park of la Doua in Villeurbanne, INSA Lyon, is ranked among the top universities of Science and Technology in Europe. Multidisciplinary and international, it is at the heart of the European Higher Education Area.

Over a 5 year curriculum, it trains humanist multi-competent engineers who are both innovative and entrepreneurial. INSA Lyon applies a policy of excellence implemented at all levels. INSA Lyon was the first INSA created in 1957 and has always had a strong ambition in terms of social awareness. It graduates over 800 engineers each year in 12 fields of specialisation.

In France, women represent 42% of bachelors, but constitute only 25% of scientific certificated engineers.

Therefore, there is a strong need to help young women engineers at the beginning of their studies, in informing them about engineering careers and also in coaching them, more particularly if they come from underprivileged environments.

So, the partnership between WIN France and INSA Lyon has this objective, aiming to obtain equal opportunities for young women to integrate engineering careers in all professional environments.

WIN France has begun to set up individual coaching with senior women engineers and girl students, during their first year of the curriculum.

Moreover, in the context of our partnership, WIN France is going to hold conferences concerning opportunities in the nuclear field and presenting the WIN France Association.

Another partnership is being signed with the ENSAM, which is the premier engineering school in France with 1000 graduates a year in mechanical engineering and industrial engineering.

We would like to thank WIN women engineers for their collaboration and their involvement, without which those partnerships would not be the same.

Dominique Mouillot, WIN France President

Non-power applications of radiation: Radioecology

Interview by Anne-Marie Goube, WIN France

As you know, the subject of the WIN Global Annual Meeting 2008 in Marseille is:

“Nuclear revival: maintaining key competencies.”

There are many new fields of research in the nuclear industry, which hold very important competencies, although they do not receive the same amount of attention, as electricity production. One such area is radioecology.

In the research center of CEA Valduc in Burgundy (France), Cécile Boyer is studying for a thesis related to the monitoring of the environment and more particularly the transfer of a radionuclide (tritium) in plants.

Cécile Boyer says: “I work quite simply in a laboratory, where I share out my time between experiments, utilizations of data, various drafting...my thesis work leaves me much autonomy, but does not prevent me from working closely with colleagues. Contrary to an idea that is still widespread, research is not a solitary job! Moreover, various meetings and contacts (between laboratories, universities, suppliers...) are main points to improvements in research.”



“During my course, I never heard about radioecology, yet I currently work in this field. I would advise young people to be inquiring, to get information and contacts with professionals, and so discover sectors and trades they agree with.”

Cécile Boyer is researching transfer of radionuclides in plants at the CEA research center in Valduc, Burgundy

From South Korea

Nuclear Science Education for School Children goes on and on

WIN-Korea has been carrying out a project led by Se-Moon Park, "Educational Programme for Young Generation Using Women and Retired Nuclear Specialists", since last June. 5,500 school children experienced the educational programme between October 2007 and February 2008. WIN-Korea

educators visited schools across the nation: the urban, the rural, the big or even the very small schools. Educators used the lecture material or tools (science kit, etc.) offered by WIN-Korea. The education programme will continue until May 2008 for another 5,000 school children. Nuclear education is also used to give a vision to the next generation not only of nuclear science but also of science in general, which itself suffers from the problem that only a very small percentage of children today dream of a future as a scientist compared to past generations in Korea.



Nuclear education in schools by members of WIN – Korea

All the educators reported on their experiences and lessons learned after the lecture. The information gathered on lessons learned will be applied in work to convince the public of the benefits of nuclear energy. Of course, better methods for nuclear education will be developed continuously.

From Canada

WIN-Canada's 5th Annual Conference

Excellence and growth led the discussions at WIN-Canada's 5th Annual Conference, held in Ottawa on February 26 and 27, 2008. "Celebrating Excellence" was the theme of this year's conference attended by over 125 women and men in the industry, representing over 30 companies and organizations.



Conference participants - February 27, 2008

On Tuesday, Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. generously hosted a fabulous tour for twenty-five delegates to its Chalk River facility. The tour was very educational and showed the size and scope of the business activities being conducted at the Chalk River Laboratories.

Wednesday's session began with a workshop addressing myths about women's advancement and resulted in recommendations on how to improve opportunities for women in the industry. With over 40% of the North American nuclear industry eligible to retire within the next 10 years it is important that we, as an industry, draw from the entire workforce population to secure our success going forward. At present, women in Canada account for less than 20% of the nuclear workforce. The recommendations and strategies developed will be incorporated into a paper to support the industry to attract, select, retain and engage more women in the workforce. The session was moderated by Deborah Gillis of Catalyst Canada and facilitated by the Human Resource, Vice Presidents from some of the industry's largest companies.

During lunch, Tracy Edwards, Senior Advisor, Nuclear Energy Programs for National Resources Canada (NRCan) spoke on her interchange from industry to NRCan and talked about the wonderful opportunities in participating in this programme with the Federal Government. The afternoon comprised a series of fascinating presentations by women in the industry sharing best practices and WANO strengths.

The conference ended with a virtual tour of WIN-Canada's new website www.win-canada.org and a short workshop on skills for successful networking.



WIN-Canada Board celebrating the 5th WIN-Canada conference with a chocolate birthday cake

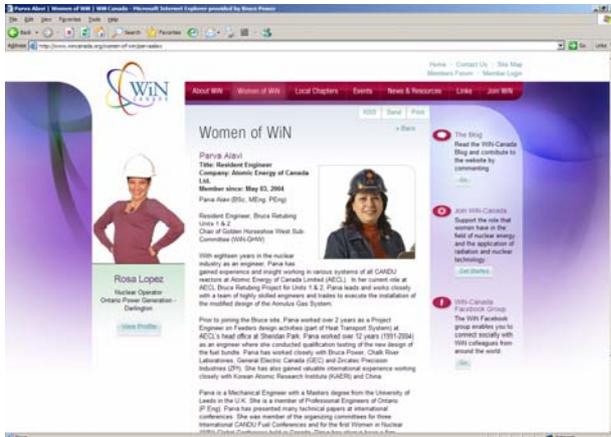
WIN Canada New Website

WIN-Canada's new website, www.win-canada.org, is up and going strong.

Since we went live in early February we have:

- Secured over 50 new members using our on-line membership application

- Featured 5 Women of WIN on our homepage
- Written 8 blog posts on Winfluence
- Joined up 75 members on Facebook from 9 countries
- Advertised numerous WIN and industry events



Please visit our website and spread the word to your WIN colleagues around the world and in your country about our Facebook Group and help us grow! Have something you are proud to share? Post a comment!

From Bulgaria

WIN Bulgaria organizes a night of “IT and Nuclear Power Plants”

An evening dedicated to the application of information technologies in nuclear power plants was held on 21st February 2008 on the initiative of WIN Bulgaria. The purpose of the event was to present nuclear engineering as a field where young people could find successful professional fulfilment.

Five teams of secondary school students, three of them from Kozloduy, one from Sofia, and another one from Belene, participated in the event. The students made presentations on some particular areas of the application of IT in nuclear power plants.



The presentations resulted with a special visit, which the teams had paid to the Kozloduy nuclear power plant, when they had the opportunity of getting a close look at the work of computer specialists. A competition also comprised solving programming problems, and prizes in some other competitions were also awarded.



The participants in the soiree were officially welcomed by the Manager of Production Administration, who wished them luck on behalf of the management of NPP Kozloduy. The mayor of the municipality, Rumen Manoev, representatives of the sponsors and teachers in secondary schools were guests at the event. The initiative was supported by BULATOM, a Bulgarian non-governmental organization, as well as some business organizations and the Municipality of Kozloduy.

This was the third time in the past three years that WIN Bulgaria has organized such an event, with the conviction that the future of nuclear engineering rests with young people. Over 500 people were present at the event, which is a clear sign of the interest it aroused in the public.

From Indonesia

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Bali, December 2007

The World Nuclear Association (WNA) and Win Indonesia took an active part in this event. The UNFCCC is the body coordinating the global effort to stabilize atmosphere concentrations of green house gases at a level that will avoid dangerous climate change and mitigate consequences.

WNA, ably assisted by Win, ran a popular and successful information exhibit outside the negotiating conference hall for the 2 weeks of the meeting.

Win Indonesia hosted a fascinating open meeting on Indonesia's approach to nuclear energy. Five very high profile speakers addressed the issues

surrounding the introduction of nuclear power. The meeting was especially privileged to have Prof. Meuthia Hatta (Indonesia's Minister of Women's Empowerment) speak as the guest of honour.

WIN Indonesia concluded the meeting by stating that governments should give serious consideration to utilizing nuclear power to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and alleviate energy poverty.



Prof. Meuthia Hatta, WNA & WIN Delegation at the UNFCCC meeting in Indonesia

From Japan

WIN-Japan Technical Tour to Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant

On 18 January 2008, 32 members of WIN-Japan visited Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant, which was damaged by an earthquake of magnitude 6.8 last July. The purpose of this tour was to find out more about the scale of the damage to the NPP and about the efforts of the operator TEPCO to resume operation.

The immense scale of the earthquake was evident from the subsidence of the ground outside buildings, the cracks in the bends of ducts and the scars of the transformer fire that affected unit 3. However, key equipment – e.g. the main steam isolation valve, seismic detecting devices, storage batteries, reactor pressure vessel fastened with bolts – had worked as designed, ensuring the safety of all units was secured.

While the public generally cannot enter an NPP in Japan, due to security rules, TEPCO, not only took us on the general tour for visitors but showed the inside of the primary containment vessel providing

further evidence that the reactors that had been in operation had shut down safely.

Besides providing tours of its facilities in Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP, TEPCO provides information regarding the status of the NPP through daily radio broadcasts, video clips and so on.

In addition to the above, TEPCO is making the following efforts to ensure resumption of operations:

Performing investigations on the structural integrity of equipment

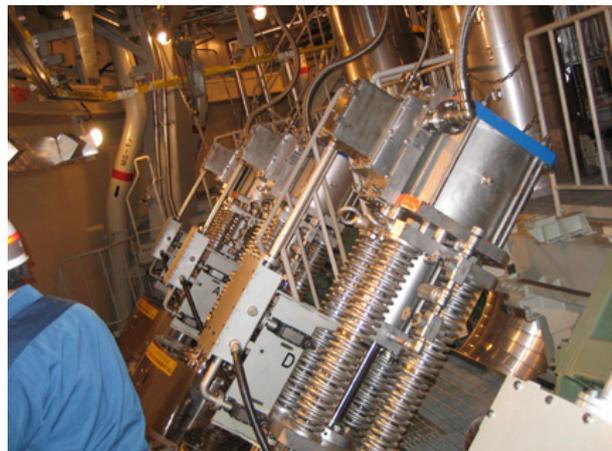
Performing geological surveys to check and evaluate active faults in water and land areas adjoining the NPP in a bid to reflect information from this earthquake properly in the NPP's seismic safety assessment

Improving fire fighting and implementing a prompt and accurate accident reporting system

Many people in Japan are concerned about the status of Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPP and the future of Japan's nuclear energy policy. We would like to contribute to restoring confidence in the safety of Japan's NPPs by conveying the knowledge we acquired through this tour to the general public throughout the country.



WIN-Japan members in primary containment vessel



Main steam isolation valve

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