

WNTI

WORLD NUCLEAR TRANSPORT INSTITUTE

Strategic Plan and
Work Programme
2006/2007



Dedicated to the safe, efficient and
reliable transport of radioactive materials

Strategic Plan and Work Programme 2006/2007

Background

The World Nuclear Transport Institute (WNTI) was founded in 1998 to represent the collective interests of the radioactive materials transport sector, and those who rely on safe, efficient and reliable transport. Over the past eight years, WNTI has grown dramatically with member companies drawn from a wide range of industry sectors, including major utilities, fuel producers and fabricators, transport companies, package producers, and suppliers of large radiation sources.

The radioactive materials transport industry provides a vital service within a complex regulatory, commercial and political context. Industry recognises the many challenges it faces, and has demonstrated a willingness to interact with regulators, carriers and public groups to ensure the continued safe and efficient delivery of these essential materials. WNTI's capacity to represent industry interests is due in large part to its focus on transport issues from a very practical point of view, developing consolidated industry positions, and representing them in exchanges with other key stakeholders.

WNTI provides:

- a forum for Members to share information and ideas;
- well-researched, consolidated positions;
- time-sensitive, value-added analyses of regulatory changes;
- technical research, studies and publications;
- dialogue with intergovernmental organisations;
- a collective voice for industry.

The WNTI Strategic Plan and Work Programme for 2006/2007 is demanding but measured in its approach to serving Members' interests in a cost effective way.



Our vision

WNTI's vision is for the transport of radioactive materials to be regarded as safe, and as a model for the transport of hazardous materials of all kinds.

WNTI seeks to encourage a prevailing climate of opinion in which the bases for sound transport are well understood, inspire trust and are accepted.

Our objectives

- To ensure that radioactive materials are transported by sea, land and air in a safe, efficient and reliable manner through the harmonised application of national and international standards, regulations and procedures.
- To consult with governmental and non-governmental bodies to support balanced international standards, regulations, guidelines and procedures through the preparation of industry position papers, technical briefs and scientific research.
- To act as a catalyst and facilitator bringing Members together to exchange views on radioactive materials transport issues and to participate in appropriate meetings, conferences and media briefings.
- To support research, development and testing of systems for the transport of radioactive materials.

International co-operation

Intergovernmental organisations such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) play a pivotal role in establishing standards and regulations that apply to the transport of radioactive materials and it is important that industry views are represented.

Through its non-governmental status, WNTI supports the work of the key intergovernmental organisations in promoting an efficient, harmonised transport safety regime.

WNTI work benefits from the on-going information exchange between complementary industrial organisations and has established close links with FORATOM, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), and the World Nuclear Association (WNA).

Operational goals for 2006-2007

The WNTI Work Programme continues to address current and emerging issues which arise from or respond to an industry-driven agenda. Issues are never static; for example, with the essentials of the IAEA Transport Safety Regulations (TS-R-1) likely assured until 2011, and with a streamlined IAEA



regulation review process that WNTI has been promoting for some time now on the horizon, a less intensive work schedule in this particular area is possible. Nevertheless, WNTI will continue to foster its engagement with key intergovernmental bodies such as the IAEA and IMO to anticipate issues, and to represent the collective interests of its Members.

WNTI also will attach importance to co-operating with other organisations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, and national competent authorities in their process of reflecting and implementing IAEA Regulations in modal and national regulations. WNTI will continue to encourage harmonised interpretation, application and implementation as an important corollary of regulation review.

In 2006, there has been an increasing focus within WNTI on the Task Forces and Working Groups researching and preparing discussion papers and exploring possibilities for progress in such areas as:

- the potential benefits of industry-wide approaches to the preparation of criticality safety cases, leading possibly to a non-prescriptive generic Industry Knowledge Base to assist companies while at the same time respecting the applicant's freedom of choice;
- the possible advantages to industry of a greater degree of standardisation in practices for the packing and international transport of uranium ore concentrates;
- alleviating the impediments encountered in the transport of essential radioactive materials which cause delays and sometimes, denials to shipments - this is an area of continuing concern for WNTI Members and has been recognised in the IAEA and elsewhere as one requiring continued attention;
- packaging issues related to the transport of Hex based on accumulating experience of operating within the latest package test criteria, in particular to encourage fuller consideration of the safety basis for the thermal test requirement.

In each one of these cases the detailed work going forward is informed by the actual experiences of WNTI member companies, and represents a major commitment by industry to work together and with other major stakeholders in an effort to seek improvements.

WNTI will continue to support the industry driven agenda with research, publication and representation of industry interests at key international meetings. Exchanges within intergovernmental organisations, with national competent authorities and collaboration with related industry organisations such as FORATOM, the NEI, the WNA, and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) are essential and remain a priority for WNTI.

Most importantly, WNTI will continue to provide a forum for companies around the world involved in or which rely on transport of radioactive materials to share their experiences and ideas, and to work with them in the pursuit of consolidated positions which protect and promote the shared interest in safe, efficient and reliable transport.

Operational plan for 2006-2007

1 Compiling, analysing and reporting Information

Background

WNTI is committed to keeping its Members, the secretariat, and key bodies well informed, on a timely basis, of events, facts and developments related to the transport of radioactive materials, most especially as they relate to the review and implementation of the international transport safety regulatory regime. The analysis of such developments, in turn, form a basis for defining and fine-tuning WNTI research, publication, consultations and representations.

Goals

- To keep WNTI Members, secretariat and stakeholder organisations informed about important developments at the IAEA and IMO, at the modal organisations, the EU, and of other developments of interest to WNTI Members. Priority will be given to covering relevant or potential issues at the IMO and IAEA. WNTI will distil and analyse the information to make it more manageable and its meaning clearer.

Activities

- Participate in the relevant meetings of the intergovernmental organisations including principally the IMO and IAEA.
- Collaborate and exchange information with industrial organisations such as the NEI, FORATOM, WNA and ISO.
- Intelligence gathering, analyses and summary reporting including reporting from the Washington office.
- Communicating on the basis of the above to WNTI Members, and others as appropriate.

Deliverables

- Timely reporting and analyses of key information will be available to Members by the most efficient means, including the WNTI intranet.
- Information and analyses will be used as a basis for defining and fine-tuning WNTI research, publication, consultations and representations.

2 Production of information materials

Background

WNTI's credibility and effectiveness in representing Members' collective interests depends on it being recognised as an authoritative voice and repository of reliable information. To this end, WNTI must be equipped with reliable databases of relevant facts and background information, and produce substantial, objective research, study and information materials.

Goals

- To foster WNTI's reputation as a reliable source of comprehensive, well-researched, timely and professionally presented information on all aspects of radioactive materials transport.

Activities

- Stimulate research, study and production of collective position papers to support objectives in IMO, IAEA and elsewhere.
- Research and publication of fact sheets and other information materials.
- Build-up databases on baseline facts related to radioactive materials transport, including on shipments and events, regulations and standards.

Deliverables

- Specialised studies and position papers, especially in support of IMO and IAEA priorities and the industry-led Task Forces.
- Publication of fact sheets and other information materials.
- Databases of information available to Members and in support of programme activities.

3 Communication and representation

Background

The IMO, IAEA and other intergovernmental organisations, and national competent authorities, are key to the review and implementation of regulations, and the international discussion of transport issues, and are a top priority for WNTI. It is here that WNTI concentrates substantial resources to communication and influence-building.

Goals

- To foster WNTI's reputation among principal stakeholders as an authoritative voice for the safe, efficient and reliable transport of radioactive materials, and to be so credible and relevant that WNTI has considerable influence in these arenas.

Activities

- Close liaison and continuing contact with intergovernmental organisation secretariat officials and national delegations.
- Active participation in the IAEA and IMO regulation implementation and review processes.
- Responsiveness to calls by key stakeholders for WNTI support and collaboration consistent with WNTI's priorities and resource constraints.
- Responsiveness to national competent authorities' interest in information exchanges.
- Support for such IAEA programmes as transport safety courses and public information.
- Continued collaboration with the IMO World Maritime University.
- Represent Members' interests in all relevant committees and conferences of the IMO, IAEA, and other key intergovernmental organisations, in response to requests from national authorities and with key industrial organisations.
- Be an authoritative voice for the collective interests of the Members at international conferences, and with other stakeholders and opinion-makers as appropriate.

Deliverables

- Fostering substantial engagement in the relevant IMO, IAEA and other important bodies.
- Collaboration and information exchange with such industrial groups as the NEI, FORATOM and WNA.
- An influential voice for the collective interests of the Members at international conferences and other meetings.

4 Service to Members and others

Background

WNTI acts as a catalyst and facilitator bringing Members together to share concerns, information and ideas, and to work toward the development of consolidated industry positions. WNTI must ensure it provides time-sensitive, comprehensive, value-added information and analyses to its Members and be ready to provide information and support to key stakeholders.

Goals

- Facilitate bringing Members together for the development of consolidated positions on matters of common concern, including secretariat support for industry-led Task Forces.
- Provide a forum for Members to share information, ideas and concerns.
- Be a trusted source of relevant information and analyses for Members and others.

Activities

- Stimulate ad hoc Working Group and Task Force approaches to key issues such as harmonisation of regulation implementation internationally, denial/delay of shipments, industry assessment of criticality, and uranium ore concentrates packing and transport.
- Gather, analyse and disseminate intelligence in relevant areas to Members in a timely manner.
- Provide excellent internet-intranet communications links with Members.

Deliverables

- Formal and ad hoc meetings of Members on relevant topics.
- Timely, relevant and distilled information disseminated to Members.
- State-of-the-art electronic and other communications with Members.



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