

ASME Liaison Report

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Risk-Informed In-service Testing (IST) standard published

ASME has approved a Risk-Informed Inservice Testing standard entitled ISTE which provides consistent guidance to test affected pumps and valves, with the scope and frequency of testing commensurate with the component's safety significance. This standard will be included in the upcoming ASME publication.

Treatment Standard for Low Safety Significant SSCs

ASME has approved Standard OM-29 which addresses the treatment of safety-related, low safety significant pumps and valves. This is an area for future collaboration within IEEE when IEEE SC3 pursues the development of a risk-informed standard for low safety significant electrical components.

ASME Nuclear Quality Assurance (NQA) Committee

The NQA committee has revised NQA-1 which will be included in the 2009 Addenda due to be published in Spring 2009. The committee is supporting NRC revision to RG-1.28 to endorse NQA-1-2008 with the NQA-1a-2009 addenda. The RG revision is currently under NRC internal review. NQA POC is Ron Schrotke.

ASME Qualification of Mechanical Equipment (QME)

NRC has endorsed QME1-2007, but there are restrictions that need to be addressed. Also, overlap between QME and IEEE-323 and 344 exists. QME members are considering going-forward options of:

- Completely referencing IEEE-323 and -344 in QME-1
- Continue paraphrasing IEEE-323 and -344 in QME-1
- Reference IEEE, but add modifications to address mechanical equipment (would require some change to IEEE standards to be applicable to mechanical equipment (i.e., pumps, valves, fans, etc).

Next QME meeting will be in Washington DC in May 2009. QME POC is Tom Ruggiero.

ASME Operations & Maintenance Committee (O&M)

The O&M Committee is drafting a letter to be sent to 'new build' manufacturers to determine if there is interest in developing a Design Guide for testing non-safety related components (i.e., pumps, valves, diesel generators, gas turbines, etc). This is in an attempt to proactively address the issue that many of the safety-related SSCs in current designs will be non-safety related in new plants.

Nuclear Risk Management Coordinating Committee (NRMCC)

ASME and the American Nuclear Society (ANS) head a joint industry oversight group to better align various Standards Development Organization (SDO) activities when developing risk-related standards within the nuclear industry. IEEE has taken a more active role on the NRMCC with the Vice Chairman, NPEC serving as a member on the NRMCC. With the recent change in NPEC leadership, Satish Aggarwal is now the IEEE member on the NRMCC.

Other

ASME is actively pursuing the necessary standard revisions and development to support new nuclear construction as well as the next generation of nuclear plant development.