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June 2017

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Coming up . . .

July—Profile of incoming ANS President Robert N. Coward

August—23rd Annual Vendor/ Contractor Profile Issue (see page 16)

October—Special Section on Outage Management and Plant Maintenance

On the cover: Reactor operators from the Palo Verde nuclear power station participated in evaluations of new digital control room instrumentation and controls during dynamic workshops at the Human Systems Simulation Laboratory, located at Idaho National Laboratory. An article on the findings and recommendations of the data collected from the workshop participants is included in this issue's Special Section on Instrumentation & Controls and Human Factors, which begins on page 39. (Photo: Ron Boring, INL)

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Special Section: Instrumentation & Controls	
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Human factors for main control room modernization by Kenneth D. Thomas, Ronald L. Boring, Jacques V. Hugo, and Bruce P. Hallbert	46
The IEC standard series on cybersecurity for nuclear power plants by Edward L. Quinn, Ludovic Pietre-Cambacedes, Thomas Walter, and Juergen Bochtler	52

Power

Under owners' agreements with Westinghouse, construction work on Summer and Vogtle to continue, for now. EIA's Annual Energy Outlook 2017 projects nuclear capacity drop during period up to 2050. Analysis of a study on the impact of the potential closure of the Columbia plant refutes findings. Renaissance Watch: An update on developments that may lead to new power reactors. Hope Creek receives notice of violation, but fine waived. Report by NRC's Office of the Inspector General faults agency's fire protection supervision. Two reactor trips in three days at Watts Bar-1.

Security

Study by Government Accountability Office finds DOE, NNSA security reports lacking. NNSA installs radiation detection system in Moldova; NNSA and FBI cosponsor counterterrorism exercise at University of Michigan. IAEA spotlights nuclear security in Africa; IAEA report recognizes Sweden's established nuclear security practices. Costa Rica ratifies 2005 amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. The Nuclear Threat Initiative joins California government agencies for "dirty bomb" workshop.

Policy & Legislation

Congress passes \$1.2-trillion spending bill, providing more funding for the DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy and the NNSA, less for the NRC. Court grants EPA request to put litigation regarding EPA's Clean Power Plan on hold. President Trump names picks for Export-Import Bank, FERC vacancies. Ohio nuclear subsidy bills face multiple criticisms. Hearing held on draft waste management bill for Yucca Mountain. House Republicans urge funding for small modular reactor program. Nuclear Energy Institute urges the DOE and the Office of Management and Budget to address funding inequities. Energy Secretary Rick Perry calls for review of electric grid.

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International

Startup of United Arab Emirates' Barakah-1 delayed until 2018. EDF board approves strategic energy plan to comply with targets in first phase of France's Multiannual Energy Plan. Baltic reactor pressure vessel relocated for installation in Belarus's Ostrovets-2. Governor of Japan's Saga Prefecture agrees to Genkai-3 and -4 restart. Phase 1 construction to begin at Turkey's Akkuyu site. IAEA research reactor group focuses on aging, access facilitation at annual meeting. Report from the United Kingdom's Nuclear Industry Association says that industry can avoid European Union–exit cliff edge.

Waste Management

Partial collapse of Hanford Site's PUREX tunnel prompts concerns from U.S. officials. DOE prepares Portsmouth Site's X-326 building for demolition. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awards cleanup contract for Shallow Land Disposal Area. IAEA workshop highlights flexibility of ARTEMIS reviews. NRC issues Federal Register notices on license amendments, renewals. NRC's draft regulatory analysis on decommissioning rule opened for comment.

Fuel

University of Maryland research reactor refueled with lightly used TRIGA fuel from INL. Energy Secretary Rick Perry reduces allowed uranium transfer amounts. NRC informs companies of inspection results. Uranium Energy to acquire Reno Creek; other business developments.

Industry

Sargent & Lundy enters alliance with PSEG; other business developments. BWXT awarded \$259 million in CANDU, naval contracts; other pacts. GE Hitachi evaluating contaminated control rod drive mechanisms; other 10 CFR Part 21 reports.

Standards & Documentation

Standards approved, published; comments requested. Two regulatory analysis guidelines issued by the NRC open for comment. ANS answers inquiry on ANSI/ANS-5.1-2014.

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