

Note to Power Reactors

In mid-January, each power reactor should have received a packet from NMMSS containing a letter from DOE and the U.S. Government's determination of your October 1, 2003 foreign obligated nuclear material balance. The DOE letter was prepared and provided to document that the initial balances are endorsed by the U.S. Government.

The NRC and DOE wish to clarify that the DOE letter does not mandate a response, but encourages a reply to the NMMSS operator by January 30, 2004. If a reply is not received by this date, the beginning balances provided in the January notification will be entered into the NMMSS. If you determine after January 30 that your beginning balance in NMMSS needs to be corrected, please coordinate with Ron Bonifay of the NMMSS. Ron's telephone number is 678-328-1116 and his email address is rbonifay@nacintl.com

Reminder: NRC Bulletin Response is Due

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2003-04 on October 8, 2003. This Bulletin was issued so that the NRC could ascertain the actual location and quantities of nuclear material that licensees possess through a requested reporting of inventory holdings. Additionally, updating the Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System (NMMSS) national database will resolve database discrepancies and restore credibility to those account balances.

If you cannot locate the copy of the Bulletin sent to your facility, it is available at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/bulletins/2003/bl03004.pdf>

As of January 15, 2004, NMMSS had not received a reply from several facilities. The Bulletin requested a response from all facilities within 90 days, which ended January 6, 2004. NMMSS staff is providing regular status reports to the NRC concerning Bulletin response and resolution activities. Facility personnel that have not reported, as requested by the Bulletin, are urged to do so immediately.

If you do not perform NMMSS reporting, please direct this to your staff member that does this type of reporting.

Bulletin replies/submittal questions may be directed to Tina Barnett of the NMMSS. Her telephone number is 678-328-1126 and her email address is: TBarnett@nacintl.com

General questions concerning the NRC Bulletin should be directed to the NRC at: NMMSS@NRC.gov

Thank you,
Larry Harris, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

NMMSS I Course Rescheduled

The NMMSS I course, (MCA-112) previously scheduled for January 26-29, 2004 has been rescheduled to April 13-16. This course was designed to help personnel who have fewer than two years' experience in materials accountancy. Prerequisites for the class are successful completion of a classroom or computer-based training version of two courses: Introduction to Nuclear Materials Control and Accountability (MCA-101D, -101DC) and Transaction Data Systems (MCA-103D or -103DC). The course is provided at the DOE NNSI facility in Albuquerque and there is no training fee for persons of a DOE facility or office. Other persons must pay a training fee. More information about this and other courses may be found at www.NMMSS.com

Corrections to 741 Transactions Submitted Prior to 10/01/03

Question: Recently a facility representative asked which 741 format to use when submitting a correction to a 741 initially submitted prior to 10/01/03.

Answer: The new format should be used. Do not use the old form 741.



NMMSS Annual Users Training Meeting

The next NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida May 25-27, 2004. The primary topical areas will be related to implementation of obligations accounting. A flier will be distributed in February providing registration and hotel reservation information. We are hopeful that by May 2004 all significant issues related to obligations tracking will be resolved.

Facility representatives are encouraged to present papers at the meeting on their implementation experiences highlighting obstacles faced and overcome. If you would like to present a paper please let Brian Horn (for NRC licensee facilities) or Pete Dessauls (for DOE facilities) know of your intent. Additionally, if you would like the system sponsors to discuss a topic of interest to you, please let them know. You may contact Brian at 301-415-8128 or by email at bgh1@nrc.gov or Pete at 301-903-4525 or by email at Pete.Dessaules@hq.doe.gov. It is requested that facilities notify Brian or Pete by February 16, 2004 of their desire to deliver a paper.

NMMSS Customer Service

Please forward your comments on NMMSS customer service to the NMMSS Program Director, Garland Proco. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, accessibility by telephone, promptness of response to reporting questions, promptness of response to data requests and quality of assistance given. Forward all comments to the Director by calling 678-328-1114 or by email at gproco@nacintl.com

NMMSS.com

Please refer to the web site, www.NMMSS.com for more information on NMMSS activities. Slides presented at the January 13, 2004 Obligations Implementation Workshop in Atlanta have been added to the site under Annual Meeting. Any suggestions related to content of the web site should be directed to Garland Proco at gproco@nacintl.com

SAMS Modifications

NMMSS will soon be modified to incorporate a change in editing of transaction data that reports the blending of material that has foreign obligations attached. This change will also be copied into SAMS. When the SAMS software patch is available to SAMS users, you will be notified. Also, a special demo at the Users Training Meeting will be presented illustrating the change.

Current Country Code Table

The country code table used in obligations tracking is revised whenever a requirement is identified to the NMMSS sponsors. The following table contains the country codes authorized as of January 22, 2004.

Code	Country of Obligations
31	Australia
32	Canada
33	Euratom
34	Japan
35	People's Republic of China
36	Czech Republic
37	Switzerland
81	Australia/Japan
82	Canada/Japan
83	Euratom/Japan
84	Australia/Euratom/Japan
85	Canada/Euratom/Japan
91	Australia/Euratom
92	Canada/Euratom
WR	Former Soviet Union Weapons Material

Euratom Countries:

Austria	Germany	The Netherlands
Belgium	Greece	Portugal
Denmark	Ireland	Spain
Finland	Italy	Sweden
France	Luxembourg	United Kingdom

