

NMMSS news

PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY BY & FOR NMMSS USERS

FEBRUARY 2005

2005 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting

The 2005 NMMSS Users Annual Training meeting will be held May 24-26, 2005 at The Ritz Carlton, 921 Canal Street, New Orleans. The theme for the 2005 meeting is "Building on the Foundation, Materials Accounting for the Future."

If you plan to attend this year's meeting, you may begin making your hotel reservations by calling (504) 524-1331. When making room arrangements, please ask for a room from among those allocated for guests attending the NAC International NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting. The Hotel guarantees that the room rate for the meeting is as follows: \$146 single or double and \$166 triple or quad. The rates are subject to state and local taxes, plus an occupancy tax of \$2 per room per night. The above rates will be honored three days prior to and three days following the meeting, based on guest room availability. All reservations must be made by May 2, 2005, after which time they will be released for sale to the general public. After the cut-off date, the Hotel will make every effort to accommodate any late requests at the guaranteed meeting rate but cannot promise availability.

The official 2005 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting brochure will be sent out in the near future. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding the meeting, or experience any difficulty in making your reservations, please contact Donna Hinton at (678) 328-1131 or by email at dhinton@nacintl.com

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans!

Improving and Simplifying NMMSS Reports - *Upgrading NMMSS Reports*

Over the next few months, the NMMSS staff will be embarking on a new task to improve the quality and utilization of NMMSS reports to better serve the

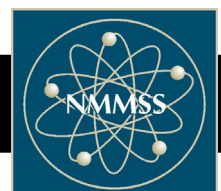
NMMSS community. In recent months, the NMMSS staff has received comments and suggestions from the DOE, the NRC and various users, requesting improvements to a number of reports generated from the database. Simply stated, as the needs of the nuclear material accounting community change, so does the need for NMMSS reports to support such endeavors.

The DOE has tasked the NMMSS to identify, improve and simplify all NMMSS reports so that they meet the current needs of the NMMSS users. A simultaneous goal is to decrease the number of reports to be maintained in the NMMSS database.

Currently, there are more than 600 report recipients requesting approximately 2,700 reports on NMMSS distribution (most of them with multiple frequencies). A small number of recipients (about 70) receive 60% of all NMMSS reports currently in distribution. Also, there are about 100 NMMSS reports that have only one recipient. Within the next few weeks, the NMMSS staff will contact a selected number of users and request information about their report needs. In particular, the NMMSS staff would like to understand how reports are used, and if possible, identify ways to improve, consolidate, and/or simplify those reports. This will be a great opportunity to work with the NMMSS staff to ensure your input is incorporated into the design of new reports.

If you, as a NMMSS report user, have any ideas, suggestions or comments to improve any report generated by the NMMSS, we would like to hear from you. If necessary, please contact a member of the NMMSS staff to request a listing of all reports for which you are on distribution. Remember, the goal is to ensure that you have the NMMSS reports you require to meet your current and future needs.

If you have any questions about this task, please contact Juan Subiry at (678) 328-1282 or by email at jsubiry@nacintl.com



NRC Licensee NMMSS Training Held in Atlanta

NMMSS training for NRC licensees was held February 15-17, 2005 in Norcross, Georgia at the NAC Corporate Headquarters. The training provided the class with an overview of NMMSS operations and included exercises on submitting transactions, and reconciling nuclear material inventories. The participants of the course evaluated the sessions as very beneficial to them in terms of increasing their understanding of the NMMSS.

The next licensee training class is tentatively scheduled for October 11-13, 2005, and is limited to 16 students. Please contact Donna Hinton at dhinton@nacintl.com or (678) 328-1131 if you are interested in attending this class.

Licensees reporting Material Type 83 less than 10% Pu²³⁸

NMMSS recently received an inquiry from the NRC on how licensees should report Material Type (M.T.) 83 that has decayed to less than 10% Pu²³⁸. According to the instructions in NUREG/BR-0006, plutonium should be reported as M.T. 50 (Pu) if the contained Pu²³⁸ is less than 10% of total Pu by weight. In order to report this to NMMSS, it is suggested that an Action Code M transaction be submitted as illustrated in the example below.

In this example the original value of material type 83 listed on the books prior to decay was element weight of 20.0 grams; 10% weight percent isotope, and 2.0 grams isotope weight (Pu²³⁸).

Line No.	Type of Inv. Change	Material Type	Element Wt.	Wt. % Isotope	Isotope Wt.
1	TN	83	20	10.0000	2.0
2	34	50	19	6.4	15

The first line decays the M.T. 83 in its entirety since its weight percentage is below the M.T. 83 threshold of 10% Pu²³⁸. Therefore, the remaining book inventory of M.T. 83 should be zero after the decay. The second line brings

the material onto the NMMSS books as a new material type (M.T. 50). Here the resulting inventory is summarized by the following material balance:

INITIAL ISOTOPE CONTENT			FINAL CONTENT AFTER DECAY		
Isotope	Weight	Wt%	Isotope	Weight	Wt%
Pu ²³⁸	2.0 gm	10%	Pu ²³⁸	1.7 gm	9%
Pu ²⁴⁰	1.2 gm	6%	Pu ²⁴⁰	1.2 gm	6.4%
Pu ²³⁹ + Pu ²⁴¹	16.0 gm	80%	Pu ²³⁹ + Pu ²⁴¹	15.1 gm	80.3%
Other Pu	0.8 gm	4%	Other Pu	0.8 gm	4.3%
Total	20.0 gm		Total	18.8 gm	

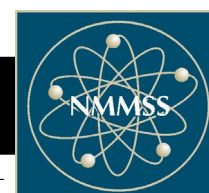
Note: Final isotope contents are listed in units of tenth of the gram for illustration purposes. However, only Material Type 83 is required to be reported as a tenth of a gram.

The ending book inventory for M.T. 50 is therefore, 19 grams element weight and 15 grams isotope weight. Note that the weight percentages change with the decay of Pu²³⁸ and Pu²⁴¹.

Please contact Juan Subiry at jsubiry@nacintl.com or (678) 328-1146 if you have any questions.

Licensee Reconciliation Notification

If you are a NRC Licensee regular submitter, NMMSS will begin sending you a post card acknowledging your inventory reconciliation when it is completed. This will enhance communications with the users.



Transaction and Inventory Due Dates For DOE Sites

Please note NMMSS transaction and inventory due dates for DOE sites are as follows.

Reporting Month	Transactions Due	Inventory Due
February 2005	March 10	March 15
March 2005	April 12	April 15
April 2005	May 11	May 16
May 2005	June 10	June 15
June 2005	July 13	July 15

NMMSS News Distribution Update

In an effort to provide more time in acquiring beneficial information for the NMMSS community, NMMSS will begin distributing the newsletter on a bi-monthly schedule. The next edition of the NMMSS News will be April 2005. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need current information, please call any member of the NMMSS staff. They will be glad to assist you.

Calendar Of Events

Dates	Events
April 5-8, 2005	NMMSS I Training Course, Albuquerque, NM
May 24-26, 2005	NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting, New Orleans
June 21-23, 2005	NMMSS II Workshop, Albuquerque, NM
October 11-13, 2005	NMMSS Training for NRC Licensees, Atlanta

2005 NMMSS Holiday Schedule

NMMSS Closed	Occasion
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 23	Christmas Holiday
December 26	Christmas Holiday

