

NMMSS news

PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY BY & FOR NMMSS USERS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

2008 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting

The 2008 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting will be held May 20-22, 2008 at the Omni San Antonio Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. Planning for the meeting is under way.

In order to make the meeting as productive as possible, we need your input as to the topics to be covered in talks and open discussions. Please take a moment and provide your valuable views to us.

In addition, we are looking for volunteers to present talks and participate in roundtable discussions. Getting more users involved will make a more interesting and useful meeting. Please forward your input to Tina Barnett at tbarnett@nacintl.com or 678-328-1126.

Upcoming NMMSS Training Courses for DOE

The NMMSS I training course and NMMSS II workshop have been scheduled at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina for FY 2008.

The NMMSS I (MCA-112) training course has been scheduled for February 11-14, 2008. This course is designed to help personnel who have fewer than two years' experience in materials accountancy.

Prerequisites for the class are successful completion of two computer-based training courses: Introduction to Nuclear Materials Control and Accountability (MCA-101DC) and Transaction Data Systems (MCA-103DC).

The NMMSS II (MCA-212) workshop has been scheduled for June 24-26, 2008. This workshop is a follow up to NMMSS I, and addresses advanced topics and report products associated with nuclear materials accounting as they apply to NMMSS. Participants are also encouraged to bring NMMSS-related issues and problems they are currently

experiencing to the workshop for discussion. The NMMSS I course (MCA-112) is a prerequisite for the NMMSS II workshop.

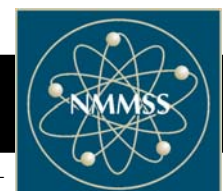
There are no training fees for DOE facility/office personnel or DOE contractors. Other persons must pay a training fee.

Go to the NTC website, ntc.doe.gov, to learn more about the courses, obtain copies of the course prerequisites and to register for courses.

ANSI Scrap Reporting Requirement Change Effects on NMMSS Financial Reports

For years, the NMMSS has included recovery cost and devalued cost when calculating the value of an item. During a Material Control & Accountability Quality Panel Meeting, it was determined that ANSI Scrap Code information was no longer useful. Also, the ANSI Standards Committee no longer exists to maintain and update the standards. Therefore, a page change to the DOE Manual was submitted and approved with an effective date of 08/14/2006. Facilities reporting DOE-owned material are no longer required to report ANSI Scrap Codes. To categorize material as scrap, the equivalent numeric Composition Code is reported (example: Comp Code 721 = ANSI Scrap Codes {A10, A11, A12...}). The current NMMSS allows facilities to report ANSI Scrap Code or the equivalent numeric Composition Code. When the NMMSS Upgrade is completed and becomes the system of record, the NMMSS will no longer accept ANSI Scrap Codes. Currently, there are two facilities that did not report the ANSI Scrap Codes.

Because of the M 470.4-6 change, the cost values will go up for facilities reporting the Composition Code equivalent instead of the ANSI Scrap Code. For example an item with A10 for an ANSI Scrap Code would have devalued the cost of the material by a specified amount. Total cost values at a



headquarters level will increase significantly when the NMMSS Upgrade becomes the system of record.

If you have any questions about the effect of the elimination of ANSI Scrap Codes on financial reports please contact Sam Brown at sbrown@nacintl.com or 678-328-1129.

Replacement Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads and Foreign Obligations

During the past couple of months, a number of power reactors have contacted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inquiring as to whether replacement reactor pressure vessel heads that they had imported, and are using at their nuclear reactors, require them to document all nuclear material in the core as obligated to another country.

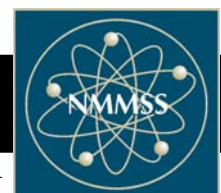
The NRC staff handled these inquiries by checking both the NRC files and confirming with the Department of State the specifics of each case before responding. The NRC has responded with one of the following three replies.

1. The reactor pressure vessel head that your company has imported has no Foreign Obligations or restrictions associated with the equipment.
2. The reactor pressure vessel head that your company has imported is subject to Nuclear Suppliers Group Guideline conditions. As a result, the NRC did issue a letter to your company noting several responsibilities that your company has accepted through the purchase of this item. First, your company may not use the reactor pressure vessel head for any purpose that would result in any nuclear explosive device, or the production of tritium for a nuclear weapon program. Second, the reactor pressure vessel head may not be exported to another country unless the U.S. Government obtains a similar peaceful use assurance from the recipient country.
3. The reactor pressure vessel head that your company has imported is subject to an

Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation. As a result, the NRC did issue a letter to your company noting several responsibilities that your company has accepted through the purchase of this item. First, your company may not use the reactor pressure vessel head for any purpose that would result in any nuclear explosive device, or the production of tritium for a nuclear weapon program. Second, the reactor pressure vessel head may not be exported from the United States without the prior consent of the supplying government. Third, depending on the Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation, when your reactor is restarted using the foreign obligated reactor pressure vessel head, all nuclear material used in or produced through the use of the reactor from that day forward may also become obligated to the supplying country, so long as the foreign obligated reactor pressure vessel head is in use. For example, the third condition regarding obligations on nuclear material would apply to reactor pressure vessel heads subject to the U.S. – Japan Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation.

One company subsequently asked whether the U.S. Government is going to re-negotiate any of the assurances provided to supplier governments to reduce or eliminate the U.S. Government commitment on reactor pressure vessel heads that have been imported. The Department of State reviewed the request and replied that the U.S. Government assurances are for the lifetime of the reactor pressure vessel heads and no re-negotiation of the U.S. Government assurances provided is planned.

The NRC and Department of State hope that this short article responds to some of the industry questions concerning the scope of the international assurances provided by the U.S. Government, as well as clarifies the Department of State's position that the U.S. Government assurances apply for the life of the equipment.



New Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff Member

On October 1, 2007, Mr. Santiago Aguilar was appointed to be the new point of contact at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for day-to-day issues involving foreign obligations. His duties will include coordinating with industry the import of foreign obligated nuclear materials, technology, and equipment. Mr. Aguilar's contact information is:

Office number: 301-492-3569
Fax number: 301-492-3359
Email: SRA1@nrc.gov

Feel free to contact Santiago if you have any Foreign Obligations questions.

The DOE foreign obligations contact remains Sonya Barnette, who can be contacted at SONYA.BARNETTE@hq.doe.gov or 301-903-2068.

Establishing or Deactivating a RIS for NMMSS Reporting

DOE RIS

In order for a new DOE Reporting Identification Symbol (RIS) to be established in the NMMSS, the requesting organization must contact their field element or site office. The field office will provide the required information to DOE Headquarters, Office of Information Management (HS-1.22). HS-1.22 will instruct the NMMSS operator to assign the new RIS. The deactivation of the DOE RIS occurs when a facility's authorization to store/handle nuclear materials inventory is withdrawn. Before deactivation all inventory must be removed to a balance of zero. Request for NMMSS deactivation of the RIS is sent from the field element or site office to HS-1.22. HS-1.22 will confirm with the NMMSS that the nuclear material balance is zero and will instruct the NMMSS operator to deactivate the RIS. For additional guidance on establishing a new DOE RIS, please contact Tina Barnett at tbarnett@nacintl.com or 678-328-1126.

NRC RIS

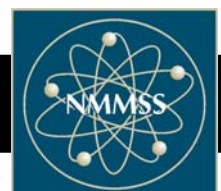
In order for a new NRC or Agreement State Licensee RIS to be established by NMMSS, the requesting organization must contact Brian Horn at NRC Headquarters (301-492-3122), who in turn will instruct NMMSS to assign the new RIS. Before deactivation, all inventories must be removed to a balance of zero. A request for the deactivation of a NRC issued RIS must also be directed to Brian Horn at the NRC (301-492-3122). Prior to deactivation, the NRC will request confirmation from NMMSS that the nuclear material balance is zero, and will subsequently instruct NMMSS to deactivate the RIS. For additional guidance on establishing a new NRC RIS, contact Ron Bonifay at rbonifay@nacintl.com or 678-328-1116.

Meet the Staff

This month's featured staff member is Ron Bonifay. Ron has nine years of service with the NMMSS. Since joining NMMSS, he has held the positions of Nuclear Materials Analyst, Project Engineer, and is currently the NMMSS NRC and International Liaison. He is responsible for the daily operations in support of the NRC. Additionally, Ron is the primary contact for all special data requests and coordinates NRC NMMSS training classes. You can contact Ron at rbonifay@nacintl.com or (678) 328-1116.

NMMSS Outreach

Outreach to our users who submit data to the NMMSS is one of our most important responsibilities. Although the NMMSS presents an annual users training meeting, individualized assistance is also available from the DOE NMMSS sponsor and NMMSS staff. By working with our user sites in their own environment, our dedicated team can discuss issues, share knowledge and experiences, and help resolve data problems. To request assistance from DOE Headquarters, please contact Peter Dessaulles at pete.dessaules@hq.doe.gov or 301-903-4525. If you would like assistance from the NMMSS staff, please contact Tina Barnett at tbarnett@nacintl.com or 678-328-1126.



NMMSS Point-of-Contact Change

Ms. Tina Barnett, NMMSS Program Director, has assumed overall responsibility for NMMSS operations. This includes being the day-to-day point of contact for operational, technical, and contractual matters pertaining to the NMMSS, as well as being the primary NAC point of contact for the NMMSS News. This position had been held by Mr. Dan Collier since February 2004. Although Dan will continue being involved with NMMSS operations, he will be spending some of his time supporting other NAC International efforts.

If you have any questions or comments on the NMMSS News, please forward them to Tina Barnett at tbarnett@nacintl.com or 678-328-1126.

Suggested Articles

Do you have NMMSS-related questions or topics that you would like to see addressed in a future NMMSS News? If so, please forward them to Tina Barnett at tbarnett@nacintl.com or 678-328-1126.

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
October 2007	November 12	November 15
November 2007	December 12	December 17
December 2007	January 11	January 15
January 2008	February 12	February 15
February 2008	March 12	March 17
March 2008	April 10	April 15

Calendar of Events

Dates	Events
February 11-14, 2008	NMMSS I Training Course for DOE, Aiken, South Carolina
May 20-22, 2008	2008 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting, San Antonio, Texas
June 24-26, 2008	NMMSS II Training Course for DOE, Aiken, South Carolina

2007 NMMSS Holiday Schedule

NMMSS Closed	Occasion
November 22-23	Thanksgiving
December 24-25	Christmas

2008 NMMSS Holiday Schedule

NMMSS Closed	Occasion
January 1	New Year's Day
January 21	Martin Luther King's Birthday
February 18	President's Day
May 26	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 1	Labor Day
November 27-28	Thanksgiving
December 25-26	Christmas

The NMMSS News is published at the direction of the Department of Energy (DOE) and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). General comments on the publication can be made to Tina Barnett of NAC (tbarnett@nacintl.com, 678-328-1126), Peter Dessauls of DOE (Pete.Dessauls@hq.doe.gov, 301-903-4525), or Brian Horn of NRC (BGH1@nrc.gov, 301-492-3122).

