

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

September 20, 1990

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 90-60: AVAILABILITY OF FAILURE-DATA IN THE
GOVERNMENT-INDUSTRY DATA EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Addressees:

All holders of operating licenses or construction permits for nuclear power reactors.

Purpose:

This information notice is intended to provide information relative to the availability of data on engineering, metrology, material problem (failure experience), and reliability/maintainability through the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP). It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions, as appropriate. However, suggestions contained in this information notice do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Background:

During the past several years, the nuclear industry has uncovered an increasing number of instances where counterfeit, fraudulent, and substandard parts have been supplied for use in nuclear power plant systems. The NRC has informed the nuclear industry of instances through information notices and bulletins. In addition, the NRC staff has been meeting with other government agencies to determine the extent of the problem with fraudulent and substandard parts and to exchange information that may be relevant to the nuclear and other industries. Several government agencies have indicated that the GIDEP system is a primary mechanism within their agencies and respective industries for disseminating information regarding problem parts and suppliers. The NRC became a member of the GIDEP system in the fall of 1989. Since then, all bulletins and information notices have been included in the GIDEP database for use by other government agencies and industries.

Discussion:

The GIDEP system is a government-sponsored program designed to facilitate the exchange of data between government and industry relating to the design, production, and operation of equipment and associated research. The system is intended to reduce or eliminate expenditures of time and money by making broader use of existing knowledge. The system is a forum to exchange information on

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problems; to provide data on the testing, approval, and reliability of products; and to provide procedures and reports on products and processes.

GIDEP maintains and operates four data interchanges (engineering, metrology, material problems, and reliability/maintainability). Of primary interest to the nuclear industry is the material problem data interchange which contains objective failure experience information on significant problems that may affect other GIDEP participants. Failure experience information is continually being collected on parts, components, materials, safety and health hazards, and test instrumentation. The information is included in data sheets distributed as ALERTS, SAFETY-ALERTS, PROBLEM ADVISORIES, AGENCY ACTION NOTICES, and DIMINISHING MANUFACTURING SOURCES that provide the participants with rapid identification of actual and possible problems with parts, components, material, manufacturing processes, test equipment, and safety conditions. The NRC has been placing information notices and bulletins into the GIDEP material problem data interchange as Agency Action Notices.

Participation in the GIDEP system is voluntary. Each participant must be willing to actively exchange data appropriate to the system and to evaluate its effectiveness to his or her organization. More information regarding participation in the program may be obtained from:

Mr. James C. Richards, Program Director
GIDEP Operations Center
Corona, California 91720-5000
(714) 736-4677

This information notice requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact the technical contact listed below or the appropriate NRR project manager.

Charles E. Rossi
Charles E. Rossi, Director
Division of Operational Events Assessment
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Technical Contact: Walter Haass, NRR
(301) 492-3219

Attachment: List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
 NRC INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
90-59	Errors In the Use of Radioactive Iodine-131	9/17/90	All medical licensees.
90-58	Improper Handling of Ophthalmic Strontium-90 Beta Radiation Applicators	9/11/90	All NRC medical licensees.
90-57	Substandard, Refurbished Potter & Brumfield Relays Misrepresented As New	9/5/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
90-56	Inadvertent Shipment of A Radioactive Source In A Container Thought To Be Empty	9/4/90	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees.
90-55	Recent Operating Experience on Loss of Reactor Coolant Inventory While In A Shutdown Condition	8/31/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
83-44 Supp. 1	Potential Damage to Redundant Safety Equipment As A Result of Backflow Through the Equipment and Floor Drain System	8/30/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
90-54	Summary of Requalification Program Deficiencies	8/28/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
89-18 Supp. 1	Criminal Prosecution of Wrongdoing Committed by Suppliers of Nuclear Products or Services	8/24/90	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.

OL = Operating License
 CP = Construction Permit

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Original Signed by

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*Previously concurred.

OFC	:SPS:VIB:DRIS:NRR:C:SPS:DRIS:NRR:C:VIB:DRIS:NRR:D:DRIS:NRR	:OGC:NRR	:D:DOEA:NRR
NAME	:WPHaass:jeh* :GCwalina* :EWBrach* :BKGrimes* :CBerlinger*		:CERossi <i>CR</i>
DATE	:08/14/90 :08/15/90 :08/20/90 :08/22/90	: 9/10/90	: 9/16/90

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NAME	:WPHaass:jeh* :GCwalina* :EWBrach* :BKGrimes*	:CBerlinger	:ERossi
DATE	:08/14/90 :08/15/90 :08/20/90 :08/22/90	: 9/10/90	: / /90

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 Document Name: WALTERS' INFORMATION NOTICE

There are four data interchanges operated and maintained by GIDEP. The Material Problem Data interchange contains objective failure experience information on significant problems that may affect other GIDEP participants. Failure experience information is continually being collected on parts, components, materials, fluids, safety and health hazards, and test instrumentation. The information is included in data sheets distributed as ALERTS, SAFETY-ALERTS, PROBLEM ADVISORIES, AGENCY ACTION NOTICES, and DIMINISHING MANUFACTURING SOURCES that provide the participants with rapid identification of actual and potential problems on parts, components, material, manufacturing processes, test equipment and safety conditions. The NRC information notices and bulletins have been placed into the GIDEP material problem database as Agency Action Notices.

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NAME	: WPHaass: jeh* : CWalina* : EWRBrach* <i>FW</i> : EKGrimes	: CBerlinger	: ERossi
DATE	: 08/14/90 : 08/15/90 : 08/20/90 : 8/27/90	: / /90	: / /90

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