Benefits of Standard Format and Content for Approval of Packaging for Radioactive Material

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US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
U.S. Transport Regulations

- US DOT - 49 CFR Parts 171-178
- US NRC - 10 CFR Part 71
- Compatible with IAEA’s TS-R-1 international transportation regulations
Regulatory Guides

- Guidance documents
- Acceptable methods for implementing specific regulations
- Techniques used by staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents
- Data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits or licenses
Regulatory Guide 7.9

- “Standard Format and Content of Part 71 Applications for Approval of Packaging for Radioactive Material”
- Outlines components of the application that meet the performance requirements found in TS-R-1 and 10 CFR Part 71
- Published March 1979, several revisions
- Recently revised to incorporate 10 CFR Part 71 rulemaking changes
Regulatory Guide 7.9

- Lists an acceptable format and content of applications for package approval
- Details information and methods that are acceptable to NRC
- Common expectations
- More complete applications
- Consistent applications
- NRC review effectiveness & efficiency
Format and Content of Applications for Package Approvals

- General Information
- Structural Evaluation
- Thermal Evaluation
- Containment
- Shielding Evaluation
- Criticality Evaluation
- Package Operations
- Acceptance Tests and Maintenance Programs
International Use

- Some Competent Authorities use applicant’s guides, similar in purpose to NRC Standard Format and Content guides.
- All have a basis in IAEA’s international transport regulations found in TS-R-1.
- IAEA an appropriate forum.
Benefits of an International Guide

- Ensure completeness of information
- Increase review efficiency
- Compatibility of review between Member States and acceptance world-wide
- Development and use of an applicant’s guide could be seen as a practical test for the need for a more detailed reviewer’s guide
Conclusion

- An international Standard Content and Format guide would contribute to safety and efficiency in the transport of radioactive materials worldwide.
- The U.S. regulators are ready to work with other Competent Authorities and international organizations, and stakeholders to begin development of an applicant’s guide or reviewer’s guide for transportation packages.