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Overview of Security Training Programs for U.S. Nuclear Power Plants

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Key Messages

- The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) security training program requirements ensure that security personnel have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to effectively protect U.S. nuclear power plants.
- Each operator of a power reactor licensed by the NRC is required to implement a security training program.
- The security training program is an important component of an effective physical protection program.
- The NRC and licensees evaluate program effectiveness through periodic compliance and performance-based inspections and other activities.
- The NRC adapts to licensees' interest in, and use of, innovative and engaging training methods and technologies.

Training Program Requirements

Security training requirements ensure that licensee security personnel possess attributes and demonstrate they can adequately perform their assigned duties, including those associated with:

- General mental and physical abilities
 - Determination of physical and psychological fitness
 - Determination of trustworthiness and reliability
- Job knowledge and proficiency in skills and abilities
 - Performance of critical tasks, such as personnel and vehicle searches, security patrols, and contingency response team activities
 - Successful completion of duty training, weapons familiarization, range activities, firearms qualifications, on the job training, and drills and exercises
- Access and use of appropriate and serviceable weapons and equipment
 - Firearms, less-lethal weapons (e.g., pepper spray)
 - Body armor, gas masks, flashlights, and radios

Oversight and Innovation

Oversight

- Compliance and performance-based inspections and other activities to ensure security training program effectiveness
- Improved security training with a focus on realism

Innovation

- Use of simulators to train and demonstrate proficiency
 - Types: Alarm stations and firearms
 - Purposes: For initial and periodic qualifications (not firearms), proficiency, and familiarization
- Use of realistic security mockups for classroom instruction