

RAMPED UP!

RAMP NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2022, ISSUE 14

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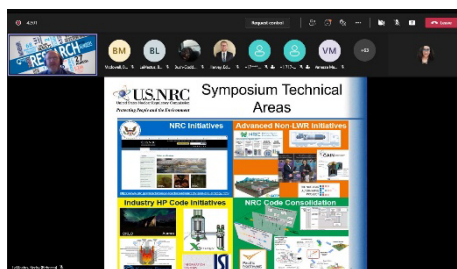
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Rockville, MD

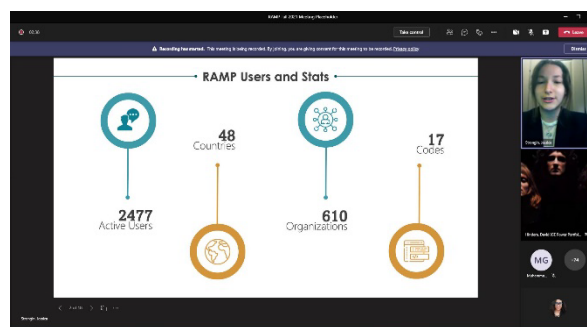
U.S. NRC RAMP website:
<https://ramp.nrc-gateway.gov/>

2021 Domestic RAMP Users Group Fall Virtual Meeting Recap



The sixth domestic Radiation Protection Computer Code Analysis and Maintenance Program (RAMP) Users Group Meeting was virtually held from October 26th to November 3rd, 2021. The meeting included two weeks of symposiums on cutting-edge applications of RAMP codes, intensive training for codes, and consultations between the NRC and international regulators. Over 360 registered participants from 22 domestic and international regulators and organizations attended the conference. The domestic and international attendees included multiple Federal government and State agencies, national laboratories, universities, and the nuclear industry.

The conference was kicked off by a feature presentation from DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary Alice Caponiti on advancements in reactors and their deployment. Additionally, there were colloquiums for dosimetry analysis, non-light water reactors, and future focused research in drones.



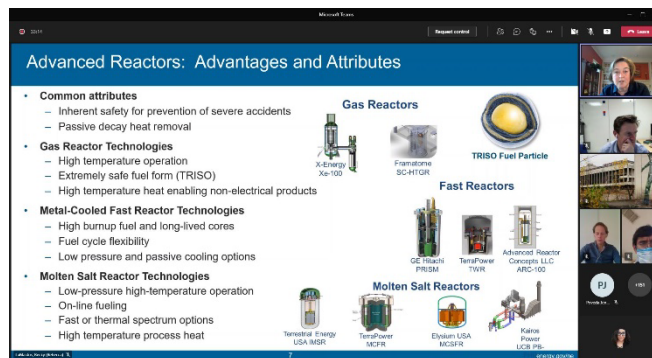
This conference included the program's very first University Symposium, where students presented on their research with RAMP codes. These projects included RAMP data analytics and management, PIMAL assessments of fission-based weapons, and a new decision-making tool for analyzing protective actions during radiological release.

2021 DOMESTIC MEETING RECAP

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(cont. from p. 1)

Although the RAMP meeting was entirely virtual for the second year in a row, attendees were able to network, collaborate, and share their knowledge and experiences. Many engaging presentations were held that stimulated in-depth discussions and comments during these sessions. Users were able to ask more in-depth questions about their needs during every session. In the end, the users meeting proved to be extraordinarily successful!



TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

Meet Blake Orr!



Blake Orr is a Senior Scientist within the Radiation Health Services branch of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA). Blake joined ARPANSA back in 2008 as part of the graduate recruitment program and has been there ever since. Blake completed a Bachelor of Science back in 2006 and a Master of Environment in 2014.

During his time at ARPANSA, he has had the opportunity to work on many different projects and assessments. Some of this work includes: the UNSCEAR Fukushima report, low-level waste disposal, assessments of visiting nuclear powered vessels and consequence assessments during nuclear emergencies. His RAMP journey started when finding the VARSKIN code to undertake an assessment of 'scalar energy' health products, later presented at a RAMP user meeting. This led to ARPANSA signing on as an international member of RAMP in 2019. The RAMP codes have been instrumental in assisting ARPANSA with dose reconstructions from contamination events and in preparation for large-scale severe accident emergency exercises.

On a personal level, Blake is married and has two young boys (ages 7 and 3) which keep him busy, although there are some perks like playing multiplayer Nintendo Switch games with them. He enjoys watching Australian Rules Football and playing social badminton once a week.

CODE UPDATES

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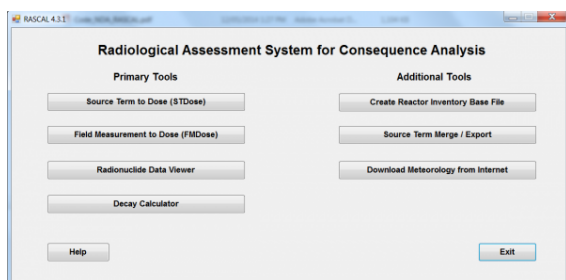
New Addition: IMBA

The Integrated Modules for Bioassay (IMBA) software suite is now live on RAMP! IMBA is a suite of software modules for internal dosimetry that implements respiratory tract, gastro-intestinal tract, tissue dosimetry, biokinetic and bioassay models as recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). Originally designed by the United Kingdom's Health Security Agency, the IMBA modules can estimate single or multiple intakes of different radionuclides and calculate resulting doses in the body and/or excrement for workers based on ICRP Publication 68 and US 10 CFR 835. IMBA provides a platform for conducting customized dose calculations with different user set parameters. The code has launched on the RAMP website and can be downloaded now, along with supporting documentation.



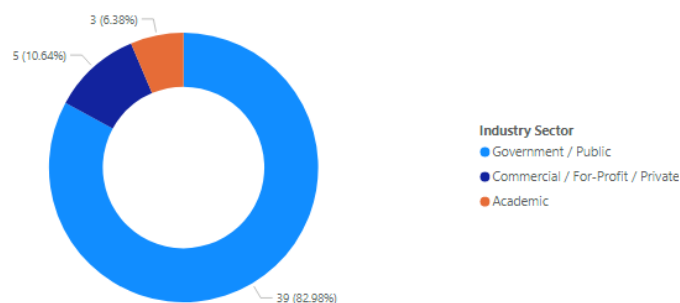
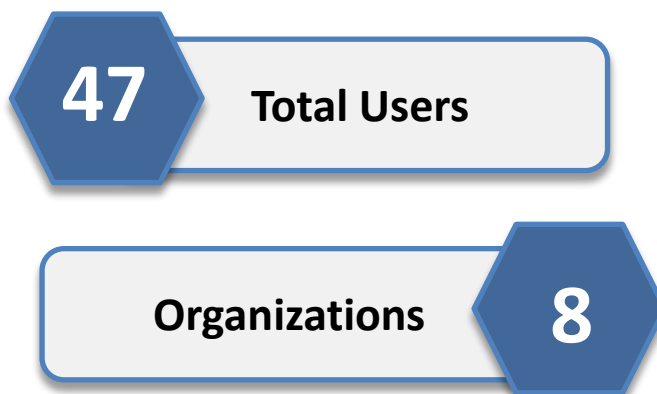
RASCAL Updates

The RASCAL Development Team released RASCAL v4.3.4 via the RAMP website in January 2022. Changes to the code include resolution of various errors, increased settings options within the user interface, and updated standards. In addition, nuclear power plant and spent fuel sites in South Africa, Spain, and Ukraine were added to the database for users to select to perform a consequence analysis. Details on the obtaining the code, change logs, and user guides are available to RAMP users via the new RAMP website (<https://ramp.nrc-gateway.gov/>).



RASCAL User Interface

RAMP User Stats: Australia



Australia RAMP Users Breakdown by Industry

FUTURE EVENTS

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WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The RAMP Team welcomes your thoughts and feedback on any code features and enhancements for the RAMP codes and the RAMP website. Please send your feedback to RAMP@nrc.gov.



EDT



AEST

Monday, April 4, 2022	Tuesday, April 5, 2022	Day 1
6:00 PM–6:15 PM	8:00 AM–8:15 AM	Opening Remarks Welcome from ARPANSA Welcome U.S. NRC
6:15 PM–7:00 PM	8:15 AM–9:00 AM	RAMP Partners Panel Moderator: Stephanie Bush-Goddard
7:00 PM–7:15 PM	9:00 AM–9:15 AM	BREAK
7:15 PM–9:15 PM	9:15 AM–11:15 AM	Handling Legacy Sites Session Moderator: Blake Orr
9:15 PM–9:30 PM	11:15 AM–11:30 AM	BREAK
9:30 PM–10:30 PM	11:30 AM–12:30 PM	Dosimetry Analysis in an Industrial Setting Moderator: Vered Shaffer
Tuesday, April 5, 2022	Wednesday, April 6, 2022	Day 2
6:00 PM–6:50 PM	8:00 AM–8:50 AM	NRC RADTRAN
6:50 PM–7:05 PM	8:50 AM–9:05 AM	Break for Session Transition
7:05 PM–10:30 PM	9:05 AM–12:30 PM	VARSKIN
Wednesday, April 6, 2022	Thursday, April 7, 2022	Day 3
6:00 PM–6:50 PM	8:00 AM–8:50 AM	MILDOS
6:50 PM–7:05 PM	8:50 AM–9:05 AM	Break for Session Transition
7:05 PM–10:30 PM	9:05 AM–12:30 PM	RESRAD
Thursday, April 7, 2022	Friday, April 8, 2022	Day 4
6:00 PM–7:50 PM	8:00 AM–9:50 AM	GENII Case Study
7:50 PM–8:05 PM	9:50 AM–10:05 AM	Break for Session Transition
8:05 PM–10:30 PM	10:05 AM–12:30 PM	VSP Case Study

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF RAMPED UP...

- 2021 RAMP User Meeting Highlights
- Drones
- Code Consolidation
- RAMP around the World!
- RAMP in Numbers
- ...and More!!