MDEP Structure

Canada
Finland
France
Japan
India
The Peoples Republic of China
The Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
South Africa
Sweden
The United Kingdom
The United States

Associate Members
Turkey
The United Arab Emirates

Policy Group (PG)
Steering Technical Committee (STC)

EPR Working Group
AP1000 Working Group
APR1400 Working Group
VVER Working Group (new)
ABWR Working Group (new)

Digital I&C Working Group
Mechanical Codes and Standards Working Group
Vendor Inspection Co-operation Working Group

ISSUE SPECIFIC WORKING GROUPS: CONVERGENCE

DESIGN SPECIFIC WORKING GROUPS: CO-OPERATION

MDEP Library
VICWG Objectives

- To maximize the use of the results obtained from other regulator’s efforts in inspecting vendors
- To understand the similarities and differences between MDEP national regulators’ Quality Assurance/Management (QA/QM) Requirements in order to reach a consensus on the potential for harmonization
- To facilitate the adoption of good vendor oversight practices by national regulators
- To harmonize the vendor inspection practices among MDEP regulators for inspections under the MDEP protocol
- To continue joint, witnessed, multinational inspections of vendors according to the common QA/QM requirements
MDEP Member Regulatory Approaches

- Status of Vendors
  - Licensed
  - Not Licensed
  - Qualified by Regulator

- Regulator Oversight
  - Direct Oversight of Vendors
  - Oversight of Licensee Oversight
  - Use of Inspection Bodies
  - Use of Hold Points

- Quality Requirements
  - Prescriptive
  - Non-Prescriptive
Common QA Criteria

1. Quality management system
2. Grading
3. Documentation of the quality management system
4. Control of documents and records
5. Responsibility and Leadership
6. Human resources
7. Process Implementation
8. Control of planning and implementation changes
9. Purchasing (including aspects of CSFI)
10. Control of implementation including Control of special processes
11. Monitoring and measurement of product and service
12. Assessment
13. Non-conformances
14. Corrective and preventive actions
15. Safety culture
MDEP Inspection Types

- **Witnessed inspection** – an activity in which a regulator conducts an inspection according to its own regulatory framework and one or more regulators witnesses it.

- **Joint inspection** – an activity in which one regulator conducts an inspection according to its own regulatory framework with the participation of one or more other regulators’ inspectors.

- **Multinational Inspection** - an inspection performed by multiple regulators to the VICWG Common QA Requirements.
Benefits of MDEP Participation

- **Regulators**
  - Greater Ability Understand the Results of Foreign Inspections
  - The ability to Prioritize Inspections Based on Foreign Inspections
  - The Ability to Leverage Foreign Inspectors
  - Increased Communication Regarding Vendor Issues

- **Vendors**
  - Reduced Inspections Because Regulators are Sharing Results
Challenges

- Inspection Practices
- Relevance of vendors change as projects progress
- Coordination

- Access Restrictions
- Language Issues
Inspection Selection Considerations

- Prior Inspection Experience
- NUPIC Results
- Scope of Supply
- Complexity of Product or Service
- Susceptibility to Counterfeiting or Cyber Security Issues
- Industry Experience with Product or Service
- New or Advanced Technology
- Oversight by Other Entities (ASME, Foreign Regulators)
- Significance to Pending Regulatory Actions
Inspection Focus Areas

- Focus on activities in progress:
  - product design
  - fabrication
  - testing
  - qualification
- Use of technical specialists
- Use risk as a guide
Take Away Points

- Identify countries sharing interests
- Understand regulatory differences
- Consider project schedules

Leverage Resources