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The US Nuclear Material Characteristics Data Dictionary –History and Development

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The US has established a National Nuclear Forensic Library (NNFL) under the auspices of the Nuclear Materials Information Program (NMIP). NMIP was established by Presidential Directive in 2006 and includes as one of its major objectives to catalog available information on the characteristics of nuclear materials. To create the electronic database that comprises the US NNFL, NMIP developed a comprehensive data dictionary of nuclear material characteristics. The data dictionary lays the foundation for defining the specific data that needs to be acquired for the US NNFL. The data dictionary was designed to be comprehensive, hence is rather lengthy, so as to capture materials information from the wide variety of nuclear (and radioactive) materials that reside in and are used by the civilian and military nuclear industries. The intent was to create a data dictionary that will allow the US NNFL to handle any type of nuclear material.

The presentation will describe the origin of the US data dictionary and delve into the various parts of the nuclear fuel cycle that led to the development of the data dictionary. Examples will be given of specific types of materials of interest.

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