

Organization and responsibilities of internal or external TSOs, IAEA perspective

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It has been recognized that the provision of effective technical support is essential to optimize the safe operation of nuclear power plants and to maximize their reliability, availability and productivity. A competent TSO can greatly support the nuclear programme leaders, the appointed government organizations and other stakeholders to provide all necessary information to support their decisions including during the licensing, construction, commissioning and operation phases. The importance of a Technical Support Organizations (TSO) was enhanced again in the technical reviews and activities that followed the Fukushima accident.

In the light of collected operational experience since the issue of IAEA's Roles and Responsibilities of Technical Support Organizations (TSO) document (TECDOC-1078), IAEA initiated a revision and update to such guidance in mid-2012 for improvement of TSO organizations and their functions. The new guidance is also to serve as a reference for new comer countries, where establishing an effective TSO both in operating organization and the regulatory body becomes essential for successful and safe implementation of the first nuclear power plant. This paper discusses the IAEA activities on the guidance and provides key points, such as organization, roles and functions, which have been elaborated during the consultancy and technical meetings with Member States experts.

Country or International Organisation

IAEA

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