

# International Conference on Research Reactors: Safe Management and Effective Utilization

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## RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT AT OPAL

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OPAL is a 20MW(t) reactor facility operated by the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) in Sydney, Australia. Commissioned in 2006, OPAL is a multipurpose reactor used to perform a range of commercial and scientific irradiations supporting ANSTO's radiopharmaceutical production and industrial irradiation businesses, as well as providing thermal and cold neutron beams to support ANSTO's neutron science programs.

Increasing demands being placed on the reactor by stakeholders from both commercial and research sectors has led to a focus on achieving sustainable improvements in reactor performance and reliability while continuing to manage safety, risk and regulatory compliance. These demands are expected to further increase in 2016/17 with the commissioning of the ANSTO Australian Nuclear Medicine (ANM) Facility which is set to triple ANSTO's current production of Mo-99.

This paper will outline some of the strategies and processes adopted by OPAL to manage and improve plant performance and reliability. Examples of specific topics include asset management framework, maintenance and capital investment strategy optimisation, proactive maintenance programs such as condition monitoring, lubrication management, precision maintenance and operator driven reliability, reliability engineering, ageing management, shutdown management, risk management, integrated logistics support and maintenance information systems.

### Organization

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)

### Country

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