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Leadership for Safety in Practice: Perspectives from a Nuclear Regulator

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Synopsis

The principal responsibility for a nuclear regulator is to assure compliance with regulations and safety standards by operators. One of these requirements is demonstration of and adherence to nuclear safety culture by the operators. At the same time, the regulators themselves are expected to live the talk and practice what they preach, i.e. demonstrate highest levels of nuclear safety culture within their organizations. Consequently, it is recognised that leadership is important in the creation of a culture that supports and promotes a strong nuclear safety performance of an organisation. The leaders of a regulatory body are vital in inspiring employees to a higher level of safety and productivity, which means that they must apply good leadership attributes on a daily basis. This paper will attempt to bring forth and share attributes for strong leadership role in promoting a safety culture within a nuclear regulatory body by surveying world-wide practices and examples in developing and advanced nuclear countries.

Country or International Agency

South Africa

Primary author: TYOBEKA, Bismark (South Africa)

Presenter: TYOBEKA, Bismark (South Africa)

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