

International Conference on Human and Organizational Aspects of Assuring Nuclear Safety –Exploring 30 Years of Safety Culture



Contribution ID: 232

Type: **Dialogue Session**

Shared Space and the Power of Dialogue

Wednesday, 24 February 2016 15:45 (1h 15m)

Synopsis

This dialogue session introduces the concept of shared space and how to work with the quality of interactions between people to improve safety outcomes. Shared Space simply defines the space existing between the individual and the people (individuals, groups) in its surrounding. A good shared space is characterized by:

- Mutual trust and respect;
- Decreased power dynamics;
- Openness –free flow in sharing of thoughts and ideas;
- Individuals who have interest in learning from each other and are curious of different perspectives;
- Individuals who feel able to express views related to their inner thoughts and feelings about a particular issue without fear of recrimination or exclusion;
- Conversations that go deeper than sharing facts; and
- Dialogue instead of discussion/argumentation.

A good shared space is an essential part of a strong safety culture as its characteristics create opportunities to build a shared understanding of safety within the culture.

The dialogue session leans on a practical example from Bruce Power, where establishing dialogue and “critical conversations” has been actively used as a tool to deliver meaningful safety and security culture improvements (see dialogue session abstract DS-12 “Critical Conversations and the Role of Dialogue in Delivering Meaningful Improvements in Safety and Security Culture” by S. Brissette, Canada)

Presenters: HAAGE, Monica (IAEA); BRISSETTE, Susan (Canada)

Session Classification: Dialogue Session