

# Knowledge Management at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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# Prior to KM as a Discipline:

- KM is not new; we just didn't call it KM
  - NRC Policy Documents
  - NRC Management Directives and Standard Operating Procedures
  - Guidance Documents
  - Training, workshops, seminars using expert staff
  - Mentoring
  - On the job training with a more experienced employee
  - Records and files
  - After Action Reviews and Lessons Learned
  - Community of Practice networking



# What Changed?

- Workforce demographics projected retirement wave meant projected sudden loss of knowledge
- Projected rapid growth in the NRC workforce: compress time to competency of new employees
- Advances in Information Technology
  - Increased storage and accessibility of information
  - More rapid communications and collaboration



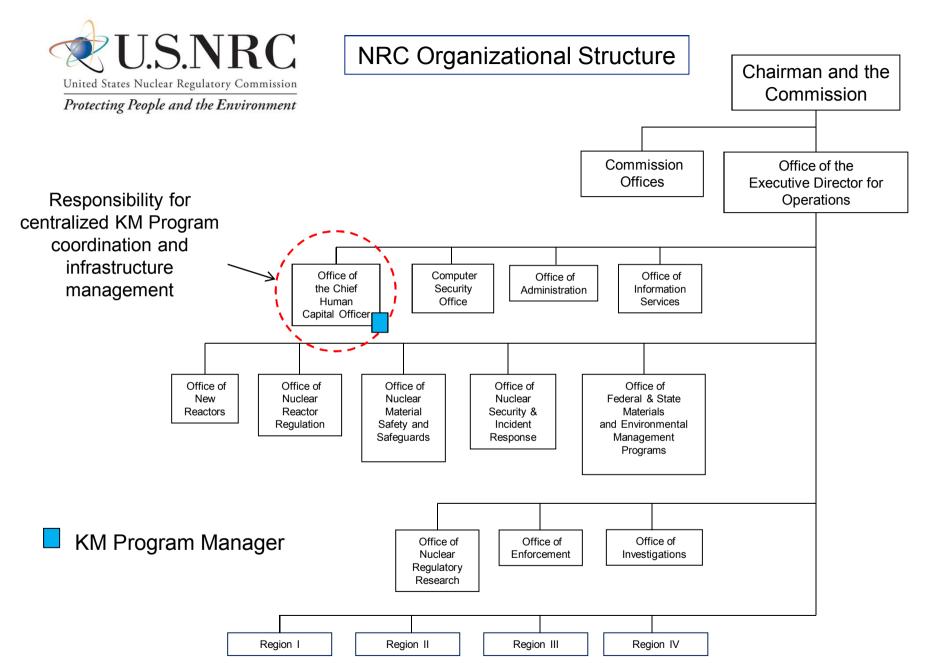
# NRC KM Policy:

- Created NRC's KM Program: Policy (SECY-06-0164), July 25, 2006
  - Governance
  - Roles & Responsibilities
  - Initial KM Program Goals



## Governance and Roles & Responsibilities

- Distributed Model
  - Centralized infrastructure management and KM Program coordination
  - Decentralized networked implementation
- Created 5 new roles:
  - Senior-level KM Executive Champion
  - KM Executive Office/Regional Champions
  - KM Steering Committee (SC)
  - KM Program Manager
  - KM Staff Leads
  - KM Community of Practice

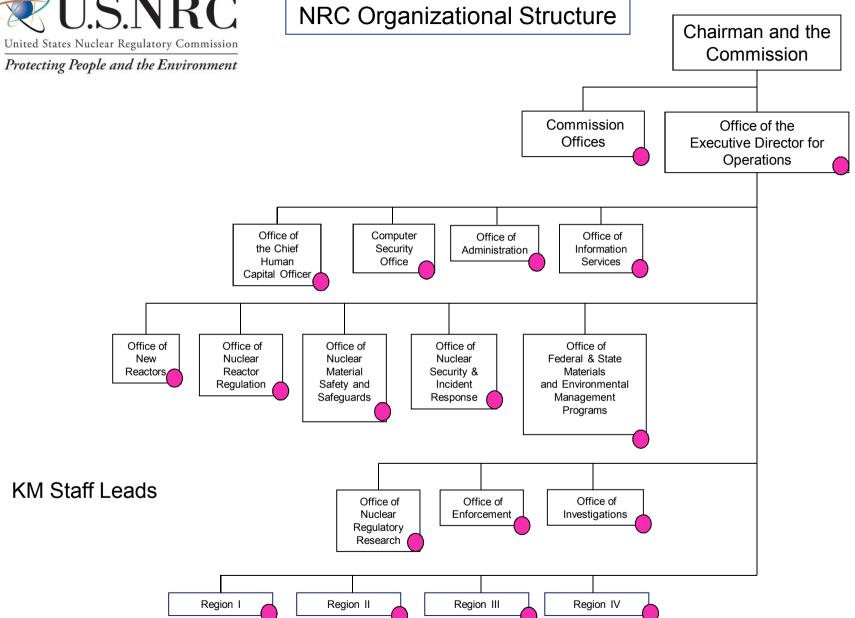




#### KM Program Manager

- Reports to the Chief Learning Officer
- Manages centralized KM infrastructure and KM coordination
  - Develops and maintains KM policies, procedures and guidance
  - Maintains and updates the KM Web site
  - Conducts and evaluates KM pilot activities
  - Develops, oversees and conducts KM training to NRC employees
  - Conducts focus groups and surveys to determine evolving KM needs
  - Improves KM program based on lessons learned
  - Serves as the community leader for the agency KM Community of Practice (CoP)







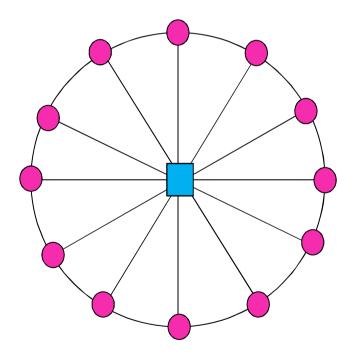
#### KM Staff Leads

- Support KM within their respective Office or Region
- Conduct focus groups within their Office or Region to obtain staff input on KM needs, capabilities, and techniques
- Communicate and promote adoption of KM awareness and practices within their respective Offices and Regions
- Participate in and/or lead KM activities to support KM priorities within their Office or Region
- Coordinate with the NRC's KM Program Manager regarding results and lessons learned in their Office's KM initiatives
- Participate as members of the agency's KM CoP

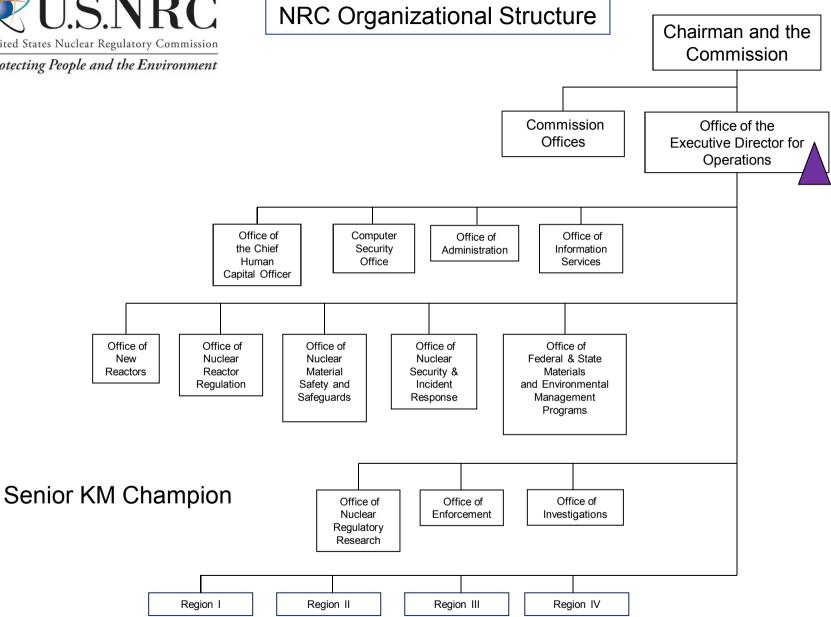


#### KM Community of Practice

- Serves as KM network that horizontally connects the entire NRC at the staff level
- Share KM best practices and ideas
- Collectively identify KM infrastructure needs and recommendations to improve the KM Program
- Monitor status of KM activities and projects
- Support and assist each other







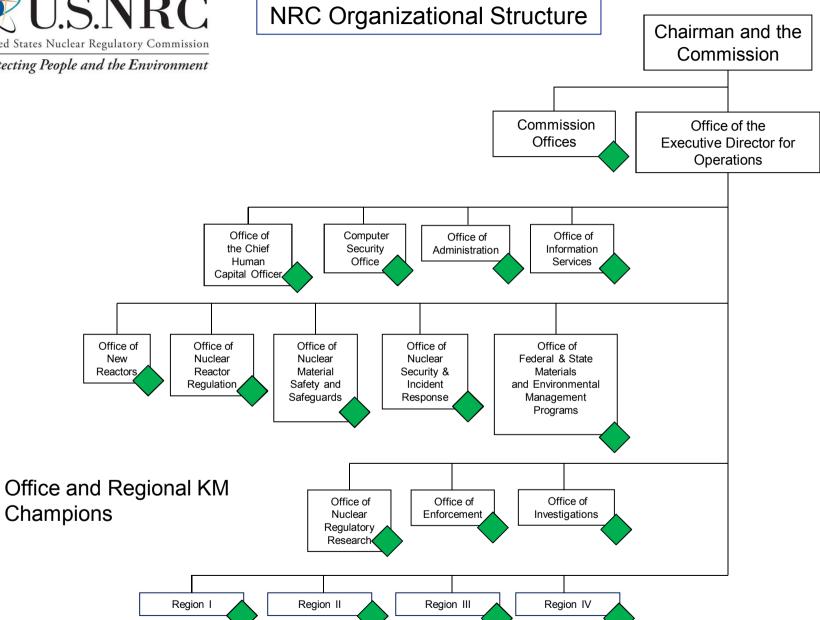




## Senior KM Champion

- Senior level NRC Executive
- Uses stature and influence to encourages and actively promote KM across the entire NRC
- Helps overcome agency-level obstacles to effective KM
- Co-Chairs the KM Steering Committee







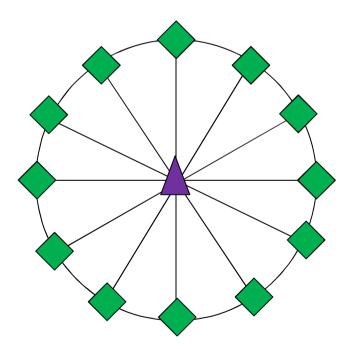
## Office & Regional KM Champions

- Office/Regional level Executive
- Use stature and influence to encourage and actively promote KM within their respective Office of Region
- Help overcome agency-level obstacles to effective KM
- Participate on the KM Steering Committee

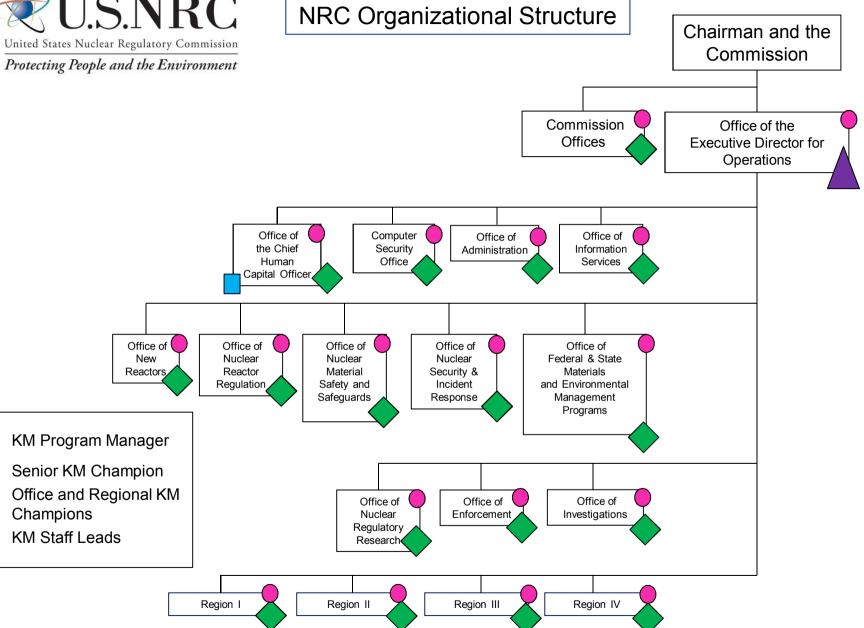


### **KM** Steering Committee

- Executive-level KM network that horizontally connects the entire NRC at the executive level
- Assesses KM Program status quarterly
- Ensures strategic alignment between KM and the NRC's needs
- Assesses recommendations from the KM Program Manager and KM CoP to improve the KM Program
- Support and assist each other



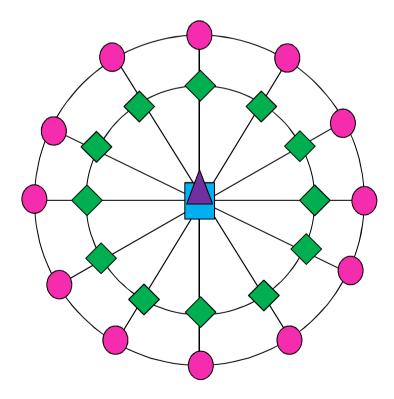






#### **Nested KM Network:**

- Staff level Community of Practice
- KM Steering Committee
- Connects KM vertically and horizontally
- KM Program Manager
- Senior KM Champion
- Office and Regional KM Champions
- KM Staff Leads



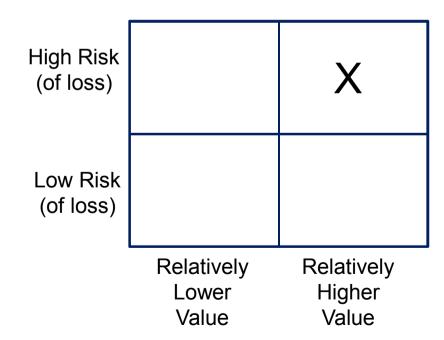


## **KM Methodologies**

- Four categories
  - Human resources processes, policies and procedures
  - Knowledge sharing practices
  - Knowledge capture practices
  - Information technology



Priority focus is on identifying knowledge that is <u>BOTH</u> High Value and High Risk (of loss), then capture and preserve it for access by others





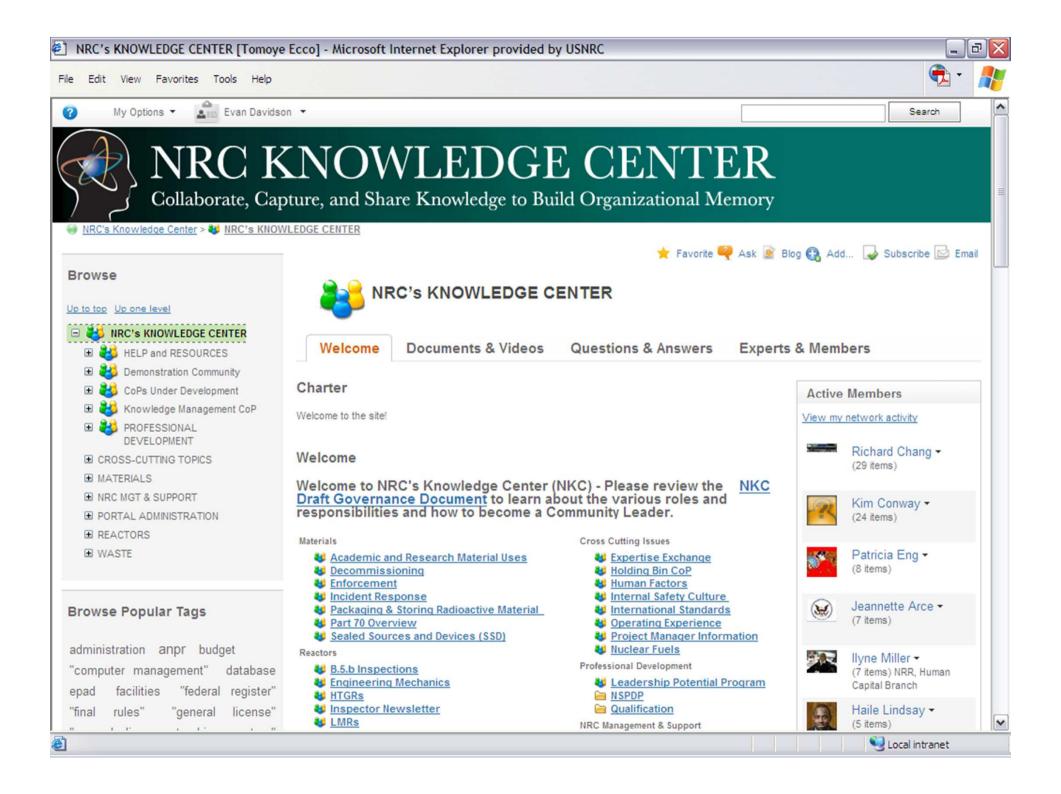


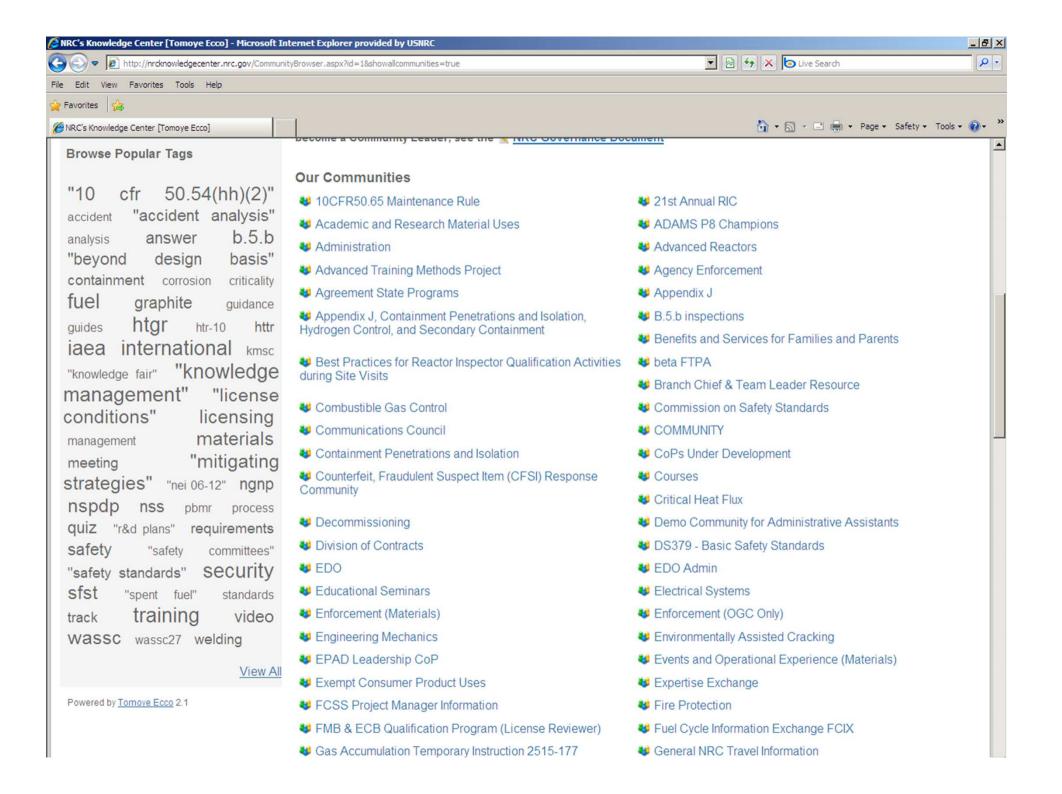


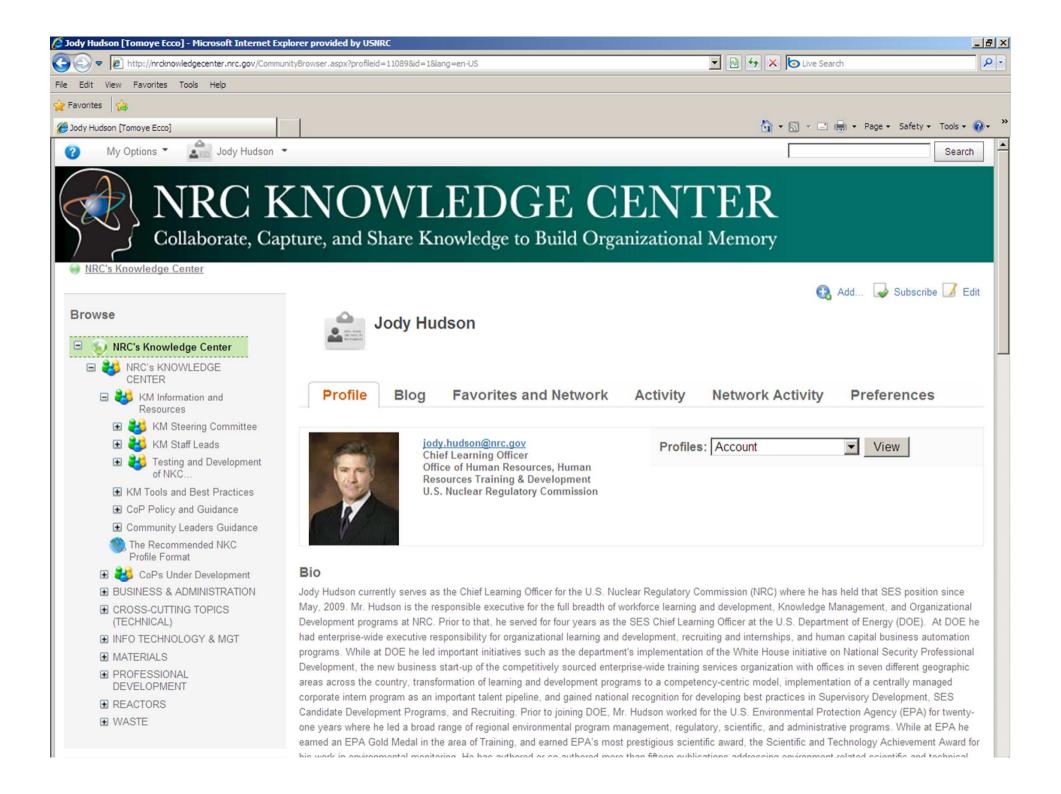
NRC Knowledge Management Fair



NUREG/KM Series
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#### KM Success Factors at NRC:

- Clear governance, and roles & responsibilities is important
  - Strong leadership support
- Distributed networked model is effective
  - Centralized KM infrastructure management
  - Decentralized, networked implementation
  - Nested KM networks connect the NRC horizontally and vertically
- Priority focus on High Value/High Risk knowledge
- Keep KM practical focus efforts on major work functions
- Encourage Communities of Practice and networks
- Use KM to advance informal workforce learning & development
- Leverage technology
- Keep evolving and improving



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