

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Protecting People and the Environment

Knowledge Management at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

IAEA International Conference on Human Resources Development for Nuclear Power Programmes May 12-16 Vienna, Austria

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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 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
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- 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













NUREG/KM Series Publications









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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