Development of Tools at the Chalk River Laboratories in Support of the NRU Reactor

The Mechanical Equipment Development (MED) Branch specializes in providing unique tooling and other mechanical equipment to Nuclear Generating Stations as well as other groups within AECL. Most recently, the MED Branch has been called upon to develop customized tooling for the NRU reactor following the discovery of a heavy water leak in May 2009. The talented engineers, designers and technologists in the branch, in collaboration with the Inspection Monitoring and Dynamics Branch at AECL, designed and built a manually-operated tool to inspect the inside of the reactor vessel.

Another team in the MED branch has produced specialty tools to clean the inside vessel wall in preparation of upcoming repairs. This talk will focus on the inspection and cleaning tools that were designed, built, tested and successfully used in the NRU reactor at Chalk River Laboratories and some of the inherent challenges that were encountered.

The speaker is Gina Strati, Manager of the MED Branch for the past two years. Ms. Strati received a BSc degree with a major in Chemistry from McGill University and a Ph.D in Physical Chemistry from the University of New Orleans. She has been working at AECL for a little over 7 years, and has been involved in the management of trademark projects, including the Emergency Core Cooling (ECC) Strainers™ designed for nuclear power plants, as well as tooling projects for internal AECL departments and external customers. In her current role, she is bringing her experience in project management to assist in returning the National Research Universal (NRU) reactor to service as safely and as quickly as possible.

This talk is jointly sponsored by the Canadian Nuclear Society (CNS) and Women in Nuclear (WiN).

Gina Strati
Manager
Mechanical Equipment Development

Talk : 7:00 pm, Monday October 26th

Bennett / Mackenzie Room, J.L. Gray Centre
(Entry via rear security entrance)

Further information: Ragnar Dworschak at 584-8811 Ext. 44342, or Geoff Edwards at Ext. 43247