

Information Boxes

BOX 1: IAEA Code of Conduct

- Achieve and maintain a high level of safety and security of radioactive sources
- Prevent unauthorized access or damage to, and loss, theft or unauthorized transfer of, radioactive sources, so as to reduce the likelihood of accidental harmful exposure to such sources or the malicious use of such sources to cause harm to individuals, society, or the environment
- Mitigate or minimize the radiological consequences of any accident or malicious act involving a radioactive source

Two general principles of the Code of Conduct are member states should:

- Establish a national register of radioactive sources
- Take appropriate steps to ensure that the import/export of sources is consistent with the provisions of the Code of Conduct

BOX 2: NRC Orders -- Radioactive Materials Quantities of Concern (RAMQC)

Additional security measures include:

- Licensee verification
- Background investigations
- Preplanning and coordination
- Notifications
- Communications
- Drivers and accompanying individuals
- Procedures, training, and control of information

BOX 3: Energy Policy Act of 2005

The Energy Policy Act requires NRC to:

- Issue regulations restricting the import, export, and sale or transfer of radiation sources
- Issue regulations establishing a mandatory tracking system for radiation sources
- Arrange with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study of industrial, research, and commercial uses for radiation sources
- Establish an interagency Task Force on Radiation Source Protection and Security
- Assume regulatory authority over certain naturally occurring radioactive materials
- Conduct fingerprinting and criminal history checks for persons licensed in activity subject to NRC regulation
- Ensure that materials covered by NRC-designated classes of import or export licenses are accompanied by a shipping manifest and that individuals accompanying or receiving the transfer are subject to background checks

BOX 4: Increased Controls

- Control access to risk-significant sources and limit access to only approved individuals
- Monitor and immediately detect, assess, and respond to unauthorized access
- Ensure the safe handling, use, and control of licensed material in transportation for domestic highway and rail shipments
- For portable devices, have two independent physical controls that form tangible barriers to secure unauthorized removal; for mobile devices moved outside a facility, have two independent physical controls that form tangible barriers to secure the material from unauthorized removal; and for mobile devices moved inside a facility, have an independent physical control that forms a tangible barrier to secure the material from unauthorized movement or removal
- Retain documentation for three years
- Protect sensitive information that describes the physical protection of the risk-significant sources from unauthorized disclosure