

CHAIRMAN Resource

From: Tom Gurdziel <tgurdziel@twcny.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2015 10:14 PM
To: Mark.Nesselrode@gdit.com
Cc: T Holden; Lyon, Jill:(NMP); tateiwa.kenji@tepco.co.jp; CHAIRMAN Resource; Screnci, Diane
Subject: "Nuclear Plant Journal" March - April 2015 issue article

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Hello,

I just finished reading your "Virtual Training and Operations Environments" article. Can you tell me what is Phase Two equipment and, especially, who has specified the need to limit its operation to twice a year?

(After the Three Mile Island accident, our BWR put in two cabinets, (for two channels), to be able to monitor reactor coolant or hydrogen and oxygen: I don't remember which. What I do remember is that GE built them and we were under the impression that they cost a million dollars. (I don't know if that was true.)

I wrote up almost all the Work Requests on our operating shift and, as time passed, these cabinets needed more and more work. Well, it turned out that they had been built to satisfy a need to operate for 24 hours during an accident. Apparently they were designed for about 24 hours of use, or may be twice that. The trouble was that the lines had to be purged for an hour or so each time a sample was to be taken for training purposes. So, soon we were operating beyond the design life of this equipment. And, the cabinet was so tightly packed with equipment that, sometimes, you would have to disassemble parts of the equipment just to get to the part you needed to inspect.

I think that these cabinets are no longer required pieces of equipment.)

Anyway, it appears to me that you may be saying that the newly provided FLEX equipment has an inadequate design or operating life, if you consider the need to actually move and hook up and run it to get the operators familiar with it.

Thank you,

Tom Gurdziel