

MDEP CSWG Programme Plan 2016-2017

Related to: Codes and Standards Working Group Activities

CSWG Programme Plan for 2016-2017

*Multi-National Design Evaluation Programme
Codes and Standards Working Group (CSWG)*

1) CSWG Long-Term Goals

CSWG ultimate goal is harmonisation of code requirements for design and construction of pressure-retaining components in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the regulatory design reviews, increase quality of safety assessments, and make each regulator stronger in its ability to make sovereign safety decisions.

2) Definitions

Harmonisation is defined as establishing a framework for convergence and for reconciliation of differences in code requirements. Convergence refers to increasing the areas identified as same or equivalent while reducing the areas of difference in codes; reconciliation refers to developing positions for mutual recognition of code differences.

3) Objectives

- Conduct code comparison, study the similarities and differences between codes, and develop a strategy and process for achieving code harmonisation; **[Completed]**
- Follow the developed strategy or process, work closely with Standards Development Organisations (SDOs) and the World Nuclear Association's Working Group on the Cooperation in Reactor Design Evaluation and Licensing (CORDEL) to converge code requirements, reconcile code differences, and prevent further code divergence;
- Improve the developed strategy and process of code harmonisation based on improved understanding in codes and regulatory practices in different countries;

4) 2016-2017 MDEP CSWG Work Plan

- Encourage SDOs to finalize Class 1 Code Comparison Report (including Phase I and Phase II code comparison work); **[Completed]**
- Review and issue MDEP document on the regulatory practices in using codes; [Technical report on the regulatory frameworks for the use of nuclear pressure boundary codes and standards in MDEP countries, published in 2013]; **[Completed]**
- Complete technical report on Lessons Learnt on Achieving Harmonisation of Codes and Standards for Pressure Boundary Components in Nuclear Power Plants; **[Completed]**
- Complete technical report on Fundamental Attributes, seek SDOs comments, and then issue the document; **[Completed]**
- Complete common position on Findings from Code Comparisons and Establishment of a Global Framework towards Pressure-Boundary Code Harmonisation; **[Completed]**
- Review and discuss Essential Performance Guidelines with SDOs, finalise and issue this document; **[Completed]**
- Work with SDOs and encourage them to continue efforts to establish a convergence board to pursue convergence of code differences and to minimise further code divergence;
- Work with CORDEL to continue efforts with its pilot project to achieve convergence of selected code gaps or differences;

- Interact with Chinese SDO, and encourage them to minimise the difference of Chinese future code with the existing codes.

Outputs of the CSWG during 2014/2015

- MDEP document to describe the regulatory practices in using codes [**Completed**]
- Common position on Findings from Code Comparisons and Establishment of a Global Framework towards Pressure-Boundary Code Harmonisation [**Completed**]
- Lessons Learnt on Achieving Harmonisation of Codes and Standards for Pressure Boundary Components in Nuclear Power Plants [**Completed**]
- Fundamental Attributes to provide overarching requirements for designing and constructing pressure-retaining components in nuclear power plants [**Completed**]
- Essential Performance Guidelines to identify the common code aspects [**Completed**]

Key Stakeholders with whom the CSWG members will interact

- SDOs: ASME, JSME, KEA, CSA, AFCEN and NIKIET; CSWG may also interact with Chinese SDO who will develop Chinese nuclear code.
- Co-operation in Reactor Design Evaluation & Licensing (CORDEL) group of World Nuclear Association (WNA).
- International Atomic Energy Agency.