Workshop Group 5

Training & Safety Culture: how can these be improved

- **Participants:**
- Kunwoo Cho, Korea
- Fabien Devynck, Switzerland
- Alain Dubouchet, France
- Jarlath Duffy, Ireland
- Elio Giroletti, Italy
- Leif Granholm, Sweden
- Raphaël Stroude, Switzerland
- Panagiotis Tritakis, Greece
- Richard van Sonsbeek, Netherlands

- **How much radiation protection training should radiographers receive?**
  (+ Quality of the radiation protection training)
- A sufficient amount of training to perform the job safely
  - On the job training as an assistant (practical training)
  - Training related to emergency response
  - A standardised common approach to training across Europe

- Radiation protection training by the RPA
- Training in radiation protection as part of professional certification + refresher training every 5 years

Training & safety culture

- **Clients**
- Justification for use of x-ray or sealed source
- Client awareness of risks and potential costs (incidents) associated with ionising radiation
- Improvement. Information could be made available on IAEA or EU ALARA websites on what you need to know when contracting NDT companies
- **Regulators**
- Knowledge of health and safety, radiation protection in practice, legislation, on the job experience, industry knowledge

Training & safety culture

- **RPA**
- Recognised expert following a defined level of experience and competence.
  Improvement: A standardised approach for recognition for RPAs would be ideal
- Good communication skills
- **Pressures of working in industrial radiography**
- Economics. Cost per job, tight margins
- Difficult working conditions. Long hours and working at night, lone working, health and safety concerns
- Peer pressure to get the job done in a short/fixed time (by the employer and the client)

Pressures of working in industrial radiography
Impacts on safety culture

- **Impact of the pressures**
- Staff may cut corners (complacency)
- Potential for incidents
- Radiographers may be afraid to report doses or events
- Frustration may lead to mistakes

Pressures of working in industrial radiography
Impacts on safety culture

- **What can be done about the pressures?**
- Better regulator/NDT company/client communication
- Annual stakeholder meetings
- Publication of inspection reports
- Where possible highlight good radiation practices (IRRS)
- Emphasise the economic/human cost of a radiological incident

Proactive assessment of radiation safety culture in NDT + how can this be improved?

- Internal company audits of practice by management + RPA
- Inspections. Announced and unannounced (equal enforcement of deviations)
- Provider of sources/supplier -> USER (periodic maintenance, enhance SC)
- Prioritisation of general health & safety (risk mgmt, procedures, employee participation), tool box talks
- Attitudes or behaviour of management + staff & their interaction with the regulator (build trust)
- Willingness to report ’events’ or incidents to the regulator – internal investigations – find root causes
- How are staff selected? Staff rotation and movement to other companies
- Willingness to go further than just comply with the regulations
- Investment in training! Accreditation
- Managing the overall ’picture’, management by-in (top down approach) – open communication