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### Evaluation of Operating Experience with Regard to Passive Mechanical Components Approach and New Insights

### Introduction

- Intention of this presentation
  - to share knowledge gained from 35 years of experience
  - to provide information on the GRS approach
  - to present examples of recent generic studies
- Focus on passive mechanical components (PMCs)
  - pressurised components
  - RPV internals
- A few questions on OE evaluation
  - Where to get the necessary data from and how to store them?
  - How to evaluate the available data?
  - How to make the gained insights retrievable for future work?



### **GRS** approach



### Databases used at GRS for evaluation of OE with PMCs

Database	No. of records	Acquisition period	Scope	Criteria for data capture
VERA	~ 6,000	since 1965	SCCs	Reportable events
KomPass	~ 1,000	since 1972	Pressurised components	Reportable events
Internals	~ 100	since 1973	RPV internals	Reportable events
IRS	~ 3,800	since 1978	SCCs	Selected safety- related events
CODAP	~ 4,500	since 1970	Pressurised components + RPV internals	Selected safety- related events

#### **Examples of recent generic studies performed**

- <u>Ageing behaviour</u> of PMCs
  - > topic-specific study on behalf of European CH on OEF
- Environmentally-assisted cracking in PMCs
  - mechanism-specific study on behalf of BMU
- Degradation in <u>essential service water systems</u>
  - > system-specific study on behalf of BMU
- Changes in <u>leak frequencies of piping</u> over time
  - topic-specific study on behalf of BMWi

# Number of ageing-related individual events in PMCs of German NPPs





# Number of ageing-related individual events in PMCs of German NPPs



# Proportions of degradation mechanisms in PMCs of German NPPs (1990 – 2009)





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#### Number of individual events due to chloride-induced TGSCC in German NPPs by calendar year



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# Safety-related events due to chloride-induced TGSCC in German NPPs and events which induced INs



EUROSAFE

# Safety-related events due to chloride-induced TGSCC in German NPPs and events which induced INs



### Events due to degradation of piping in essential service water systems of German NPPs (1974-2009)



Ε

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### Events due to degradation of piping in essential service water systems of German NPPs (1974-2009)



Ε

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# Events in piping of essential service water systems of German NPPs (1997-2009)

by nominal size ranges

by degradation mechanisms



# Events in piping of essential service water systems of German NPPs (1997-2009)

#### by nominal size ranges



- Piping of all ranges affected
- Events in piping of NB ≥ 400 mm only reported from older plants
- Majority identified by walk-downs, in large piping within ISI



# Events in piping of essential service water systems of German NPPs (1997-2009)

by degradation mechanisms Through-wall shallow pits in piping made of LAS Coating failure due to Fatigue 2 % Manufacturing 5 % manufacturing defects Mechanical impact/ corrosion 25 % Manufacturing/corrosion 20 % mechanical impact Areas with stagnant / Overload 5 % turbulent flow conditions New insights from OEF Corrosion 43 % have been considered in KTA 3211.4 (ISI schedule)

### Leak frequencies of safety-related piping in German BWRs depending on the root cause by calendar year



Technical Nuclear Safety Practices in Europe

### Leak frequencies of safety-related piping in German BWRs depending on the root cause by calendar year

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

E U R O S A F E

# Leak frequencies of safety-related piping in German plants with PWR depending on location of damage

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

EUROSAFE

# Leak frequencies of safety-related piping in German plants with PWR depending on location of damage

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Conclusions

- GRS is evaluating OE in order to early identify changes in the reliability of PMCs and corresponding safety issues
- GRS has established appropriate data and knowledge bases as well as tools and methods for this
- For German NPPs, results confirm robustness of component design and effectiveness of measures taken, such as
  - extended plant monitoring
  - optimisation of operating conditions
  - enhancement of ISI programmes and NDE techniques
  - replacement of components sensitive to degradation
  - enforcing technical requirements in codes and standards
  - implementation of target-oriented R&D programmes

![](_page_23_Picture_11.jpeg)

### Outlook

- Future GRS work on OE evaluation with PMCs will comprise in particular
  - maintaining, updating and extending of available data and knowledge bases
  - further evaluation of available data in a specific way
  - co-operation in international WGs in order to ensure that sufficient information for safety assessment is available
- Generic studies under way / in the pipeline at GRS
  - long-term behaviour of RPV internals (on behalf of BMU)
  - cracks and leaks of the RCPB (CH on OEF)
  - FAC in water-steam cycles (OECD CODAP)