I recently had the pleasure of attending the 24th National Radon Training Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, on September 29 - October 1. The conference was held in conjunction with the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists’ (AARST) 28th International Radon Symposium. The joint meetings provided for great interaction between CRCPD and AARST members which was of great benefit to all in attendance. At the conference I had the honor of presenting the 2014 Radon Hero award to Ohio’s own Marybeth Rich who received the award “For her accomplishments in radon risk reduction, her unwavering commitment demonstrated by her years of sustained exemplary leadership, and her consistently helpful and supportive guidance for state radon programs and the radon industry”.

On behalf of the CRCPD, I would like to once more thank the USEPA Office of Radiation and Indoor Air for the financial assistance that they provide that makes this conference possible.

→
The CRCPD Board will be meeting on November 18-19 to discuss Board activities and policies. As part of the meeting we will receive reports on the activities of our federal partners at the:

- US Environment Protection Agency (EPA);
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA);
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC);
- Department of Energy (DOE); and
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We will also hear from our partners at:

- American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM);
- American College of Radiology (ACR);
- American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO); and
- Organization of Agreement States (OAS).

If you have any issue that you would like to see added to the agenda for the Board to discuss, please contact any Board member.

The Technical Program Planning Committee will meet after the November Board meeting to begin setting the agenda for the 47th Annual National Conference on Radiation Control that will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, May 18-21, 2015. There is still time to submit topics for presentation at the annual meeting. Please submit your topic along with a brief summary (a couple of sentences) to Sue Smith at ssmith@crcpd.org.

This year, National Radiation Protection Professionals Week will be celebrated during the week of November 2-8, 2014. Take a moment to give a pat on the back to your colleagues, and yourself, for all of the hard and important work that is done on a daily basis.

As always, please forward any other needs or issues that you have to the Board so that we can put the resources of the CRCPD to work for you. We are easily found at http://www.crcpd.org/contact_information.aspx.
Greetings from Your Executive Director

“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

Henry Ford

CRCPD started it journey by coming together, starting in the 1960s and having its first national conference in 1968. Since then it has stayed together, making progress in several areas of radiation protection, and even more than ever, it is working together to bring about successes.

It has been another exciting couple of months since the last issue of the Newsbrief. More joint efforts have been accomplished and others are still in the works. Here are some of the highlights:

Radiation Response Volunteer Corps: Another Round of Sub-Awards Available

The HS/ER-10 Committee is once again planning the selection of the next sub-awardees under CRCPD’s Radiation Response Volunteer Corps cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). During the spring and summer, CRCPD provided outreach and information on the program at the Public Health Preparedness Summit and national meetings of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Medical Imaging, the Health Physics Society and the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. Now is a good time to apply for one of these assistance awards. We will be accepting applications throughout the year. You can see how to apply by going directly to the website at http://www.crcpd.org/RRVC/rrvc_rfp.aspx.

Kudos to the E-25 Committee on Radon and the other planners and coordinators of the recently-held National Radon Training Conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Sue Smith from the Office of the Executive Director has provided an overview of the success of this meeting in an article in this issue of the Newsbrief.

The same week of the Radon Conference, Bill Long from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and I were invited to participate in and to make a presentation at an international
Executive Director

Greetings (continued)

Activities and Meetings

Public Health Preparedness
Summit and National Meetings of SNM, HPS & AAPM

National Radon Training Conference

International Radon National Plan Workshop

2nd National RadResponder Drill

Board of Directors and Technical Planning Committee


The workshop gave the participants an opportunity to compare national strategies and action plans for reducing radon risks in each of the various countries and to develop common themes for taking action in the future and communication of radon risks to the public. A full report containing the presentations and conclusions will be available soon on the websites of the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority and the Autorite de Surete Nucleaire (ANS--French radiation control authority).

Second National RadResponder Drill

CRCPD’s partners from the Department of Homeland Security, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy are going to integrate actual RadResponder entries into play during the second national RadResponder Drill during a regional improvised nuclear device (IND) exercise.

The New England Radiological Health Conference is holding its 45th annual meeting during the last week of October in Providence, Rhode Island. On October 30, starting at 0830 Eastern Time, people across the nation will be asked to log background radiation levels and sampling data into RadResponder. More information on this drill was sent to all Program Directors and to those registered in RadResponder.
Board Meeting and Technical Planning Meeting for 2015 National Conference

The Board of Directors, along with liaisons from several of our federal partners, will be meeting in Austin, Texas, on November 18-19, 2014, followed by a meeting of the Technical Planning Committee on November 20, 2014, to start the planning process for the 2015 National Conference on Radiation Control. The National Conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, May 18 – 21, 2015. If you would like to present a paper at this conference, I encourage you to send in an abstract soon, by November 7 if at all possible. Also, mark your calendars to meet us in St. Louis!

National Radiation Protection Professionals Week—November 2-8, 2014

Finally, National Radiation Protection Professionals Week is just around the corner, a time when we pause to celebrate and acknowledge the tremendous amount of service that radiation protection professionals provide in protecting workers, patients and the public from unnecessary radiation. CRCPD is once again joining with the Health Physics Society and other groups to celebrate National Radiation Protection Professionals week, during the week of November 2 – 8, 2014. (See article in this issue of the Newsbrief for more information.)

Over the past year, several key issues (e.g., data sharing, source security, necessary uses of radioactive material and sources, new medical technologies) have arisen that demonstrate the need for us to educate others (citizens, employers, and even politicians) on the scope of skills and abilities required by radiation protection professionals and the important role played by these dedicated individuals.

National Radiation Protection Professionals week is a time to express your appreciation to your colleagues and employees and to display your support and dedication to the field. I encourage you to celebrate the upcoming National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.

Let’s use this week in November to recognize and take pride in what we do every day to assure radiation safety for all!
24th National Radon Training Conference

The 24th National Radon Training Conference was held September 28 – October 1, 2014, in Charleston, South Carolina, at the Charleston Marriott Downtown. Three full days of plenary sessions and an additional (optional) day of hands-on training entitled **Building Technical Capacity** were presented. The first day of the meeting was a joint meeting with the American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (AARST). AARST assisted with the planning of the first day joint meeting.

There were 106 registrants for the three day conference, with attendees from 32 states, tribal nations, EPA, and partners from both EPA and coalitions. Critique sheets from the 24th National Radon Training Conference are being analyzed and will be used in planning the 25th National Training Conference that will be in September 2015 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Committee on Radon (E-25) is to be commended for their efforts of putting together another outstanding conference.
Marybeth Rich, a Senior Health Physicist with the Ohio Radon Program, was recently awarded the 2014 Radon Hero Award on September 29, 2014, during the National Radon Training Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

She was recognized for her leadership and dedication to reducing radon exposure to citizens in the State of Ohio for over 20 years. She was instrumental in the development of a licensing program in the State of Ohio and has worked tirelessly to ensure the protection of the citizens of her state. Marybeth has set an excellent standard of quality and integrity for the licensees performing measurement and mitigations in Ohio.

Marybeth has served on CRCPD’s E-25 Committee on Radon for the last six years. She has helped to coordinate the plans for the National Radon Training Conference agenda and has been a frequent presenter. She has always been willing to share her considerable expertise and attention to detail at the national level.

Marybeth has been instrumental in the development of “Building Technical Capacities” continuing education for state radon programs. She has also provided continuing education to Ohio licensees by collaborating with the Ohio Association of Radon Professionals.

For her accomplishments in radon risk reduction, her unwavering commitment demonstrated by her years of sustained exemplary leadership, and her consistently helpful and supportive guidance for state radon programs and the radon industry, Marybeth Rich is recognized as CRCPD’s 2014 Radon Hero.
Call for Papers
for the 25th National Radon Training Conference

You are invited to present a paper at the 25th National Radon Training Conference that will be held in Bloomington, Minnesota, September 20 – 23, 2015.

Presentations are generally 15 minutes in length. Once a paper is accepted, CRCPD will provide presenters with guidelines for the presentation to assure their “readability” from the back of the room.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit a brief four or five sentence abstract to Sue Smith <ssmith@crpd.org> at the Office of Executive Director no later than December 1, 2014, for consideration by the E-25 Committee on Radon.

The E-25 Committee will be meeting in December 2014 to begin planning the 25th National Radon Training Conference.

Acceptance of a submitted paper does not imply that CRCPD will pay the travel expenses of the speaker to give the paper.
Medical Event Reporting

On September 30, 2014, Jennifer Elee, Chair of H-38 Committee on Medical Events, participated in a panel discussion on “Event Reporting Mechanisms” at the fall committee meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Use of Isotopes (ACMUI). Other participants on the panel included representatives from American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), Centers for Assessment of Radiological Sciences (CARS), IAEA’s Safety in Radiation Oncology (SAFRON), and the NRC’s Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED). **Ms. Elee presented an overview of the CRCPD Medical Events reporting mechanism and a summary of the data collected so far.** The committee was interested in how the different agencies collected information and if there was a way for the agencies to work together to combine all of the data that is being collected. **The ACMUI seemed to be very in favor of combining both machine events and material events related to medical uses of isotopes into a single database.** Ms. Elee indicated to the committee that this was something that has been considered and that CRCPD is willing to work with NMED to do this.

We are now at the end of the fiscal year for CRCPD, **which means it is time to make sure that all of the machine based therapy and diagnostic events from your state have been submitted to CRCPD. The reporting criteria and reporting forms can be found at [www.crcpd.org](http://www.crcpd.org).** The H-38 committee has also sent out a short survey regarding events in your state. **Please take the time to complete the survey whether or not you have events to send in.** The more complete information that we can gather, the better our data will be.

Once all of the events from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 have been submitted, the event information will be shared with the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) to further analyze the data for trends and similar causes.

**If you need additional information about submitting your events, please contact Jennifer Elee at Jennifer.elee@la.gov.**
SCATR Disposal Options

SCATR Provides New Disposal Options for Unwanted Sealed Sources

The Conference Radiation Control Program Directors Source Collection and Threat Reduction (SCATR) Program will begin its 2014-2015 disused and unwanted radioactive sealed source collection and disposal effort in October 2014. **CRCPD/SCATR provides cost-shared support for the packaging, transport, and disposal of Class A, B, and C sources with access to a commercial disposal facility.** Licensees in all 50 States and U.S. territories are potentially eligible for program participation.

The SCATR program is a cooperative arrangement between CRCPD and the Global Threat Reduction Initiative/Offsite Source Recovery Project (OSRP) of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Nuclear Safety Administration, and has been in operation since 2007. **Its primary purpose continues to be the reduction in the numbers of unwanted, sealed sources stored at facilities throughout the U.S. via disposal at commercial disposal sites.** The program allows for radiation control agencies, users’ groups, or in some cases manufacturers to organize a collection effort in coordination with the CRCPD. **For the majority of collections, however, CRCPD with the assistance of the states involved organizes and provides financial assistance for all collection efforts under this program.**

Until April 2012, only 14 states had access to low-level radioactive waste compact disposal sites for class B and C low-level radioactive waste. These states thus defined the niche in which SCATR worked. **Between 2007 and 2014 the SCATR program collected 6817 sealed sources from the 14 sited states.** In April of 2012, Waste Control Specialists (WCS), operator of the Texas-Vermont Low-level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) Compact disposal site, was issued a license to accept waste. The license also allows WCS to accept LLRW from out-of-compact states. **Now all fifty states and U.S. territories have a place to dispose of their LLRW.** Upon completion of its most recent collection, which is being conducted in 28 states across the U.S. in 2013-14, **the CRCPD projects it will have collected and disposed of approximately 7,000 additional sealed sources.**
SCATR Provides New Disposal Options for Unwanted Sealed Sources - continued

CRCPD is anticipating a new collection in 2014-15 which will target all states. **To encourage participation, the DOE through CRCPD will offer financial assistance by paying 45% of the total cost of disposal of a participating facility’s unwanted sources.** If a facility is located in a state that belongs to a compact that has an operating LLRW disposal site, CRCPD will pay 50% of the total cost of disposal.

**Additional information about the new collection can be found on the CRCPD’s web site [http://www.crcpd.org/StateServices/SCATR.aspx](http://www.crcpd.org/StateServices/SCATR.aspx) under the heading New Opportunities for disposal.**

CRCPD encourages facilities that have unwanted sealed sources and sealed or sources of radium-226 to register those sources with OSRP now. Registration is a prerequisite for participation in the SCATR program. **Facilities in both “sited” and “un-sited” states can download a registration form for unwanted sealed sources from GTRI’s Off-Site Recovery Program at the following web site:**

[http://osrp.lanl.gov/SCATRTemplate.xls](http://osrp.lanl.gov/SCATRTemplate.xls)

The email address is provided on the form for return once it is completed. Registrants will normally receive and acknowledgement of registration in a day or two of emailing the form.

If you have questions please contact:

**Russ Meyer, CRCPD’s Technical Assistant**

**Telephone:**  512-761-3822

**email:**  meyer@crcpd.org.
National Radiation Protection Professionals Week
November 2 - 8, 2014
Each year, CRCPD and the Health Physics Society (HPS) join forces with the radiation protection community to gain recognition and support for the field. In celebrating during the week of November 2-8, 2014, CRCPD encourages community members to take pride in their profession - recognizing their colleagues for their hard work and promoting radiation protection practices to the public.

CONVENTION OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS, INC.

RESOLUTION

Relating to: National Radiation Protection Professionals Week
WHEREAS: Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovered X rays on November 8, 1895, and
WHEREAS: Soon after, natural radioactivity was discovered in March of 1896, and
WHEREAS: Radiation is a useful and necessary part of our modern world; and
WHEREAS: Radiation exposure is potentially harmful to people; and
WHEREAS: Man-made and concentrated natural radioactivity can cause environmental contamination; and
WHEREAS: Radiation Protection Professionals work with government, industry, medical, educational, and private sources to bring the benefits of X rays, radiation and radioactivity to the public while minimizing the hazards of radiation exposure; and
WHEREAS: The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. supports efforts to encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of Radiation Protection Professionals who provide necessary leadership in protecting the public from the hazards associated with the use of radiation.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED:

That November 2 – 8, 2014 is National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.
That the weeklong observance is dedicated to recognizing Radiation Protection Professionals for their contributions to public safety.

On behalf of the members of the Conference of Radiation Control Directors, Inc., I am pleased to recognize November 2 – 8, 2014 as National Radiation Protection Professionals Week.

Approved by the CRCPD Board of Directors this September 17, 2014,

Michael Snee
CRCPD Chairperson
Second National RadResponder Drill Will Integrate Actual Entries

by Bob Aughahl, Contractor to DOE

In partnership with the New England Radiological Health Committee, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Energy (DOE) are going to integrate actual RadResponder entries into play during the second national RadResponder Drill during a regional tabletop exercise simulating an improvised nuclear device (IND).

The New England Radiological Health Conference is holding its 45th annual meeting the week of October 27 in Providence, Rhode Island. In conjunction with the meeting, starting on October 30th, at 8:30 eastern time, people across the nation will be asked to log background radiation levels and sampling data into RadResponder. The exercise players and everyone else across the United States will be able to see the progress live over the course of the day. There will be periodic situation briefings led by our federal partners and the DOE’s Consequence Management Home Team will “colorize” RadResponder data products in the IND-affected area for the exercise participants. Data entries from other locations across the country will show AS READ at their location.

If you are a registered RadResponder user, look for information about this nationwide RadResponder exercise in your email. If you are not a registered RadResponder user, you might want to sign up for RadResponder now at (https://www.radresponder.net/). For information on the initial drill, see the CRCPD Newsbrief, August 2014, issue.

For more information, on the October 30th drill, contact:

Bob Augdahl
Senior Operations Specialist
Consequence Management and Assessment
Contractor to the United States Department of Energy
Telephone: 702-295-8037
Cessation of the AAPM-accredited Calibration Service for Sr-90 Ophthalmic Applicators

by Malcolm McEwen, Chair, CLA

This article originally appeared in the AAPM Newsletter, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014, Volume 39, No. 5. Reprinted with permission.

Notice of Cessation of Sr-90 Calibration

In May 2014, the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) indicated that they would no longer be providing a standard for Sr-90 ophthalmic applicators. Further to this fact, the University of Wisconsin Accredited Dosimetry Calibration Laboratory (UW ADCL) has notified the American Association of Physicists in Medicine’s (AAPM) Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Sub-committee (CLA) that they will no longer be offering a calibration service for Sr-90 ophthalmic applicators beyond December 2014.

The CLA has monitored demand of these sources and the service has had very limited requests in the last 5 years. The CLA therefore concluded that no recommendation for continuation of the service to AAPM users was required. Also, the opinion of the CLA is that it is unlikely that this calibration capability, once ceased, will be restarted. Users are therefore encouraged to review their long-term usage of Sr-90 ophthalmic applicators and seek calibration/recalibration before the end of 2014.

Due to the very long half-life of these sources, a calibrated source, if stored and handled correctly, should hold its calibration for many years without recalibration. The user, if not already doing so, should implement quality assurance (QA) procedures to monitor source stability. Although the calibration service will no longer be available, the expertise will not be lost and the CLA will work with the NIST and the UW ADCL to ensure that guidance is available for end users in developing such QA procedures.

Background - accreditation by the CLA

The accreditation of ADCLs by the AAPM, through the Calibration Accreditation Subcommittee (CLA), stands on two pillars:

1. A recognized quality system that is consistent with the requirements of the AAPM’s Criteria

2. A demonstration of technical competence through regular comparisons or the exchange of reference standards.
Notice of Cessation of Sr-90 Calibration

Cessation of the AAPM-accredited Calibration Service for Sr-90 Ophthalmic Applicators - continued

The first is addressed through site visits by trained assessors, while the second is demonstrated through proficiency tests (PTs) of each ADCL with the primary standards laboratory, NIST. Each ADCL has a scope of accreditation that covers the calibration services it offers and the CLA has developed a PT schedule for each service. For example, PTs for Co-60 absorbed dose are carried out every two years (to reflect the two-year calibration cycle of users). For other services, where long-term stability of the calibration procedure and reference standard have been demonstrated, the interval between PTs is longer but never more than four years. Calibration of long-lived sources, such as Sr-90 and Cs-137, would fit in this latter category.

Typically, if an ADCL does not have the desire or capability to provide a certain calibration to users they do not participate in the PT, and therefore have a reduced scope of accreditation. However, the question has arisen recently as to the AAPM policy regarding accreditation of services if the primary laboratory cannot provide the PT; in this case, NIST ceasing to provide a standard for Sr-90 ophthalmic applicators. Based on historical calibration data, the CLA made a decision to extend accreditation of these services, without a PT, until December 31, 2014. At the same time, the ADCLs were encouraged to develop QA procedures that could robustly maintain the reference standard for user calibrations (but perhaps with increased uncertainty). This could be done, for example, through intercomparison of two reference standards to monitor drift, or the use of a different PT to demonstrate competence. This intercomparison procedure was done by the UW ADCL and the laboratory can therefore provide an accredited calibration until December 2014.

Users of Sr-90 ophthalmic applicators who have concerns regarding calibration of such sources are encouraged, in the first instance, to contact the UW ADCL.
CRCPD Welcomes New Members

September & October

New Members

Associate Members
- Jon Bakkedahl (NV)
- Aaron Beck (NV)
- Steve Grimm (GA)
- Robert E. Dansereau (FL)
- Mark Dietrich (ID)
- Vicky Dix (WA)
- Tim Dunn (FL)
- Tristan Hay (WA)

Affiliate Members
- Ash Chabra (NJ)
- Steve Grimm (GA)
- Gary Hodgden (KS)
CRCPD Board of Directors

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<th>Board position</th>
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CRCPD Councils

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<td>Environmental Nuclear Council</td>
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The Newsbrief is written to address the needs of all radiation control program personnel. Readers are encouraged to contribute newsworthy or informative items for the Newsbrief, with neither charges nor stipends for the items that are selected. News of state radiation control programs is especially sought.

Articles should be sent to CRCPD, Attn: Sue Smith, 1030 Burlington Lane, Suite 4B, Frankfort, KY 40601 (fax: 502/227-7862; email: <ssmith@crcpd.org>). The deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month before an issue is to be published.

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