



NITSL Newsletter

Our goal is to keep members informed and involved. Please check out the “NITSL Snippets” section at the bottom of the newsletter for links to additional information. Feel free to provide feedback or comments at any time.

Chairman’s Update



Spring is here! When the cold days start to fade, and I notice the trees and flowers blooming, it makes me think of a resurgence of life and new opportunities. Over the last few years, the Nuclear industry has experienced challenges to operate in a more cost-efficient manner. Many changes have occurred with our staffing, operations, maintenance, cyber security and technology. Like a transition from Winter to Spring, I see a resurgence in Nuclear through regulatory updates, technology and operational efficiencies. With climate control efforts and the need for carbon free power, Nuclear will prove to be a vital source of energy to power the lives of our customers and communities.

2021 NITSL Conference to be held Virtually:



To ensure we keep our NITSL community safe, the Conference Planning Committee and Executive Committee for the 2021 conference originally scheduled to occur in Scottsdale, Arizona July 12-15 have made the decision to pivot to a virtual conference held the week of July 19th and hosted by APS. We are still working out the logistics and you will see increased communications on the format, dates, and times over the next few weeks. Here is what we do know as of today:

- The virtual conference will occur the week of July 19th, 2021
- An enhanced member and vendor experience through a new platform for conducting the conference virtually.
- The 2023 NITSL conference will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona
- The cost of the conference will be free for members and will include a nominal fee for vendors
- Members and vendors will still need to register to attend the virtual conference.
- Vendors will be able to pay as part of the registration process.
- Normal annual meeting business will occur during the virtual conference, such as elections for Executive Committee, appointments of new co-chairs for Standing Committees, financial reporting, etc.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Cathy Przyjemski at cathy.przyjemski@nitsl.org , and Thank You for your understanding during these unprecedented times.

Key Dates to know for the 2021 NITSL Conference

- Planning for registration to started March 1st, 2021.
- Presenter Bios and Pics are needed by April 15th, 2021
- Final presentations are due by June 22nd, 2021.
- Conference date is July 19th – July 21th, 2021

Executive Sponsor Update:

2021 INPO Digital I&C Workshop

Do you want to get the latest information on Digital I&C projects and innovation ideas being implemented in the US fleet? Then save the date May 18-19, 2021 for INPO's annual Digital I&C Workshop. This year the workshop will again be hosted in a virtual environment. This annual meeting is to provide utilities a forum to share information on digital upgrades. The subjects covered will range from failure modes and affects, industry activities and the digital engineering guide to assembling a project team. Typical presenters include utility personnel and EPRI. The target participants for this workshop are Digital System Lead Engineers, Supervisors and Digital System Engineers, Electrical / I&C Engineering and Supervisors, Design Engineering Managers and Strategic Engineering Managers. Registration will open on or around April 1, 2021.

For additional information contact Martin Nganga at NgangaAW@inpo.org or (770) 644-8828 or Raymond George at georgert@inpo.org or (770) 644-8798.

Upcoming EPRI Events

Below are the upcoming EPRI training course offerings. These courses will be conducted virtually.

EPRI Digital Engineering Guide (DEG):

<https://www.epri.com/epri-u/courses/5fcf9a6f-06c4-46e3-8780-6941ea903ea7>

- April 19-22, 2021
- September 20-23, 2021
- October 11-14, 2021

EPRI Cyber Security Technical Assessment Methodology (TAM):

<https://www.epri.com/epri-u/courses/5152bc3a-dbbb-427a-8e69-b0276e6fb06e>

- May 3-6, 2021
- October 4-7, 2021

EPRI Cyber Security Procurement Methodology Revision 2 Training

<https://www.epri.com/epri-u/courses/4a696b12-0943-4bb4-b185-34f4acdb0836>

- June 22-23, 2021

For additional information contact Paul Martyak at pmartyak@epri.com or (704) 595-2140

Standing Committee Leads

Infrastructure & Applications: Matt Rhone (Talen) – Chair; Alisha Bettcher (APS) – Co-chair

Software Quality Assurance: Kimberlee Passalugo (Entergy) – Chair; Michelle Vera (Exelon) – Co-chair

Cyber Security: Dewey Coulon (Entergy) – Chair; Stacy Baskin (Southern) – Co-chair

Digital Controls: Tim Streeter (Southern) – Chair; Nick Bryant (Exelon) – Co-chair

Infrastructure & Applications Update

As part of our monthly calls we have continued to have recurring "technology topics". Since our last update these have included a look ahead at 2021 technology trends, insights and a demo of Microsoft Power Apps, and a discussion on automation transparency. We had utility spotlight topic to learn more about Xcel and the activities going on there. In addition we have had several valuable ad-hoc roundtable discussions. Leads have been identified for all of the initiatives and they have been making good progress. Some of the leads are holding collaborative meetings on their initiatives to bring in perspectives from other members. Thank you to our all of our utility and advisory members who have been making contributions as part of the calls and initiatives. Please reach out to Matt Rhone and Alisha Bettcher if you are interested in joining the monthly calls or just want to hear more about any of the I&A initiatives.

Digital Controls Update

The DC sub-committee has zeroed in on four key cross functional areas. The four areas are Implementing IoT in Nuclear Digital Systems, Implementing Technology to Support Remote Testing, Effective Stakeholder Engagement in the Nuclear Digital Upgrade Process and Improving the Digital System Upgrade Process. The team has derived these four areas out of several initiatives and topics that came out of the 2020 conference breakout sessions. Team Leads have been assigned for each area and presentations are being developed associated with each area. The topics are well defined yet broad enough to promote engaging discussions in the monthly meetings as they relate to each member. Since one of the main objectives of NITSL is to share information and experience that could make us better, the DC team welcomes any feedback or experiences regarding these 4 areas that members could benefit from or possibly incorporate into the upcoming conference presentations.

Information Sharing Through NITSL:

What to do: Each NITSL member shall follow their company's process and procedures for information classification and handling. Information is to be shared with NITSL following the company's requirements.

What not to do: Do not store, share or communicate sensitive company information without validating handling requirements and proper controls. What NITSL does: Provides a forum and secured repository for NITSL membership to share information that is limited to those who have a need to know.

What NITSL doesn't do: While NITSL provides a secure repository for NITSL members to share information, the organization does not enforce the industry regulations or company process and procedures. Members are required to adhere to company process and procedures for using secured repository for storage and sharing of sensitive information.

Nuclear Powered Superyacht coming to a Port Near You:

A molten-salt nuclear reactor powering a boat? That's the dream of Aaron Olivera, who hopes to build a nearly 1000 foot long 200 foot tall superyacht in an effort to help raise environmental awareness. The current plan is to launch in 2025, and still needs to overcome several major challenges. Certification for the nuclear reactor is not expected for another five to seven years, the superyacht will most likely run on synthetic green fuels initially. There are also issues using using an atomic propulsion vessel as some nations, such as New Zealand, have banned nuclear-powered ships from docking since 1984.

[Atomic Superyacht to Offer \\$3 Million Eco-Tours With Scientists - BNN Bloomberg](#)

Bill Gates on Avoiding Climate Disasters:

Bill Gates spoke with 60 Minutes about the need to reduce carbon emissions and to discuss his new book, "How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need."

Among his ideas to reduce emissions Bill mentions renewable and nuclear energy as the primary means to get to zero carbon emissions. Bill discusses TerraPower, a company he founded in 2008, and how TerraPower's reactor design differs from the current fleet of operational reactors.

The transcript of the interview along with the video can be found in the links below:

[Bill Gates: How the world can avoid a climate disaster - 60 Minutes - CBS News](#)

<https://youtu.be/bNKdlnoAqls>

NITSL Snippets

- Need to know who to contact? Visit the [NITSL website](#) and a list of the current Executive Committee members and Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs.

Visit us at www.nitsl.org. Comments, questions or story ideas are always welcome.