

# NITSL NOW

Informing members about NITSL news & activities



## Welcome to the June 2023 Newsletter!

Below you will find an update from NITSL Chair Amanda Engle, an update on the NITSL 2023 Conference, and a brief update from our Standing Committee Chairs.

The conference is right around the corner. A lot of planning and effort has gone into this to help make it a worth while conference as it has in the past so many times.

If you aren't already plugged into a Standing Committee, now is a good time to jump in and participate.

## Chairman's Update



Hello, NITSL Community!

The 2023 conference is right around the corner! NITSL is something I always look forward to. This organization was pivotal to me when I joined IT as an SQA administrator. Now, many years and many jobs later, I still find it to be one of the most beneficial. This year is no different, and there's plenty of reason to attend if you've not yet registered! Just check out these agenda highlights:

We'll be welcoming back the "call for papers" presentations, which are a great opportunity to learn directly from utilities about what they're doing and how they're doing it! NITSL has also invited professional development speaker, Chris Cornelison, who will lead a session on culture. Chris is a graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy and owns several companies, including Solutions Rx which he built from the ground up. He's received several awards and recognition and has a fantastic record of creating high-performing teams and positive cultures. He's has an abundance of experience along with a high energy and engaging style, making audiences laugh and think! We will also have key notes from APS leadership, an SQA panel, updates from our Advisory members, and presentations from the standing committees!

Networking opportunities with members and vendor partners are abundant! Standing Committee Working sessions offer connection with industry peers in similar areas of expertise, while Vendor Night is a chance to talk to NITSL's vendor partners, visit their booths, and learn about their products and solutions! APS is also hosting an exciting event at the Musical Instrument Museum where you can stroll through thousands of instruments while enjoying food, drinks, and conversation with fellow NITSL attendees!

And if all of the above doesn't convince you that this will be a wonderful conference, the location isn't half bad! Check out the full agenda [here](#). We hope to see you in July!



## 49<sup>th</sup> NITSL Conference Empowering the Nuclear Workforce Through Innovation

July 10 - 13, 2023

You can register through this link: [2023 - NITSL Conference](#)

## 2023 Conference

### Keynote Speakers:

**Michelle Ferrara**



Michelle Ferrara is vice president, chief information officer for Arizona Public Service (APS).

Michelle is responsible for the company's information technology (IT) infrastructure and applications including planning, architecture, development and operations, and for managing the technology strategy and the digital challenges faced by a major electric utility.

**John Hernandez**



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John Hernandez is vice president of site services at Palo Verde Generating Station for Arizona Public Service Company (APS).

Hernandez oversees Palo Verde supply chain, business operations, facilities, emergency services, administrative controls and support, nuclear strategy & policy, and works closely with the Palo Verde IT team.

**Adam Heflin**



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Adam Heflin is executive vice president and chief nuclear officer (CNO) at Palo Verde Generating Station for Arizona Public Service Company (APS).

Heflin is responsible for setting strategic direction and providing oversight and governance of all activities associated with the Palo Verde Generating Station, the nation's largest power producer of carbon-free energy.

Through the Standing Committee updates you will find their highlights on some of the topics each group will be presenting on. A full agenda can be found online—[Conference Agenda](#)

We have many great vendors that partner with us for the conference! Our vendor sponsors include:

INFRASHIELD

NextAxiom

Cyber Realm Solutions

Trinoor

OPSWAT

Hitachi

NuclearN

OTEK

Curtiss-Wright

If you have any questions about how you can be a sponsor, please reach out to [Cathy Przyjemski](#)

## 2023 Conference Host



## Standing Committees

Below you will find an update from our Chair/Co-Chairs. If you would like to participate in the discussions the group is having, please join a meeting and/or reach out to the Chair or Co-Chair (click their names to send an email)

### Infrastructure & Applications



[Josh Patrick](#)

We are excited about the topics we are presenting at the upcoming NITSL conference. We will be covering segmented network with a crash cart, emerging tech in nuclear, streamlining SQA documentation, and much more.

We will also be starting to identify the focus areas for our standing committee going into the next year.

Come join us during these presentations and discussions.

#### Meeting Info:

Monthly Meeting - 4th Thurs each month, (alternate Thurs for November & December) - 4pm EST

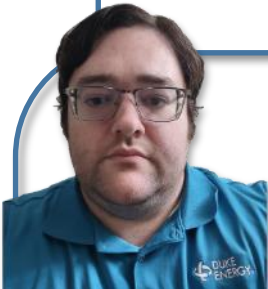
Call in: 470-705-0860 and use conference ID: 682 395 1#

[Teams Meeting Link](#)



[Thomas Brooks](#)

### Digital Controls



[Mark Whitman](#)

It has been a great year as the Chair of NITSL Digital Controls subcommittee. I look forward to seeing people in person the week of July 10th.

As for what to expect from the Digital Controls track at the conference; we have a great lineup which includes presentations from INL about Digital Infrastructure with an emphasis on Cyber Security compliances and exemption, a discussions with EPRI on the Digital Systems Engineering Group and Digital Transformation, presentation/discussion on improving the digital system upgrade process - just to name a few.



[Johnny Lindeman](#)

A final note on preparing for the conference, We are in need of a pair of Individuals to lead Digital controls subcommittee next year. It has been an eye opening experience for me this year, on the care and attentiveness needed to be the Chair of the Digital Controls subcommittee, and it has been great in terms of my personal development. I appreciate the help that I have been given by so many in the subcommittee as I plan to be for the next Chair.

So to the reader of these words, Do you know someone in your group or company that needs some industry interaction for a promotion, professional development, or to change things up in their daily routine? I can not express how well this would assist in reaching those goals that they have yet to realize. It has its challenges but getting through them has been worth the effort this year and I assure you it will be of benefit to them as well.

Again I hope to see you all in July, and It has been a pleasure this year working with you in this role.

#### Meeting Info:

Monthly Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of each month - 3:30pm EST

Call in: 704-659-4701 Conference ID: 316-394-272

[Teams Meeting Link](#)

## Software Quality Assurance



[Michelle Vera](#)

As SQA Chair & Co-Chair, we are very excited to see everyone's faces next month in Arizona!

With having a general session slot, SQA 101 and some collaboration committee presentations, we hope to bring SQA back into the spotlight of just how important SQA is in our industry.

We are here to answer all your questions, concerns and any suggestions throughout the entire conference, as well as virtually if you cannot attend!



[Lacey Mowery](#)

### Meeting Info:

Monthly Meeting – 1st Wednesday of every month from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM MST (AZ time)

Call in: 1-443-833-0044 Participant ID: 696232272

[Teams Meeting Link](#)

## Cyber Security



[Michael Dack](#)

The Cyber Security Standing Committee is preparing for the NITSL Conference July 10-13.

This year, the Cyber Security presentations will include technical discussions on Kiosks and Small form Factor Diodes, as well as updates on the four Standing Committee initiatives: Vulnerability Management, Cyber Security Specialized Training, Effectiveness Reviews, and Effective System Hardening.



[Kurt Hofmann](#)

Cyber continues to have high industry engagement, good attendance and great discussion on varying Cyber Security Programmatic or Technical strategies. We have conducted more than 5 focused technical calls as well as sent more than 11 surveys to the industry to collect and share information.

We would like to see more people engaged in the Cyber Standing Committee, so if you are currently working at a utility within the NITSL organization, feel free to request to join. The teams are eager to present the results of their initiatives in Scottsdale, hope to see you there!

### Meeting Info:

We meet bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 11amEST.

Call in: 1-470-705-0860 Conference ID: 540838509

[Teams Meeting](#)

## INPO Update



INPO has developed Station Viewer, an interactive dashboard that collates several important data elements to provide an easy-to-see snapshot of key station performance indicators. Based on a series of successful pilots, INPO plans has released Station Viewer in the first two weeks of June for all our U.S. industry members.

Although previously it has been an internally used INPO tool, late last year, a project team began working to make Station Viewer available externally to our industry members. Now, designated site and corporate leaders will be provided access to Station Viewer via the INPO Member Website, based on an allocation of licenses for each station and corporation.

INPO launched the beta version of Station Viewer with Wolf Creek and Xcel Energy in late April and began piloting in May with DTE's Fermi, and the stations belonging to NextEra, Constellation Energy, and Duke Energy.

"We had originally planned to roll out Station Viewer by the end of June, but the team is pleased to announce that Station Viewer will be ready for full use by our U.S. industry members a few weeks early," said Angie Hensley, manager of INPO Special Projects.

"One key benefit of Station Viewer is that it will improve collaboration between INPO and the industry. By more quickly recognizing declines, we can work together to close gaps," said Donna Jacobs, INPO Vice President of Data & Analytics.



Contact [Angie Hensley](mailto:ahensley@inpo.org) at 770-644-8855 for more information.

## EPRI Update

EPRI has these training opportunities that folks may be interested in:

- July 25-26, Digital Systems Requirements Engineering for Practitioners, Distance Learning
- Aug 8-9, EPRI Cyber Security Procurement Methodology, Revision 2, Distance Learning
- Oct 9-12, EPRI Technical Assessment Methodology (TAM), Revision 1, Distance Learning

For information on any of the courses or to register, please send an email to [epriu@epri.com](mailto:epriu@epri.com) identifying the course(s) you are interested in.

The EPRI Nuclear I&C Program is starting a new committee called the Nuclear Information Technology Users Group. The purpose of this group is to be a forum that facilitate collaboration regarding nuclear IT issues facing the nuclear industry and to conduct technology transfer of EPRI's research and development products. Topics include SQA, networks including wireless, and the use of EPRI software tools. If you would like to know more about the users group or if you want to be involved, please reach out to

Paul Martyak at [pmartyak@epri.com](mailto:pmartyak@epri.com).



***For continuous information, connect with NITSL on LinkedIn !***



*The NITSL Newsletter goal is to keep members involved and informed.*

*Feel free to provide feedback or comments at any time!*