

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs Telephone: 301/415-8200 Washington, DC 20555-0001 E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: www.nrc.gov

No. 02-040 April 2, 2002

NRC TO SPONSOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WIRE SYSTEM AGING APRIL 23 - 25 IN ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will sponsor an international conference on the issue of wire system aging in the nation's infrastructure on April 23 - 25 at the DoubleTree Hotel, located at 1750 Rockville Pike in Rockville, Maryland.

The conference, which will begin at 8 a.m. each day, stems from a recent White House National Science and Technology Council study that concluded wire system safety is an important public health and safety issue that transcends government agencies.

The conference will review current practices and programs for understanding and managing wire system aging, enable the exchange of information on the current status of research related to the issue, and identify technical issues and programs of interest for collaborative research.

The three-day conference will focus on four specific topics relating to wire system aging: reliability physics modeling; fire risk assessment; the risk significance of wire system aging; and prognostics and diagnostics for installed wire systems. The conference will feature technical presentations and a summary on all four topics. In addition, exhibits will show state-of-the-art techniques for monitoring wire systems. A panel of experts will close the conference with a discussion of the future direction for research and collaboration.

To register for the conference, please contact Susan Monteleone of the Brookhaven National Laboratory at 631-344-7235, (fax) 631-344-3957, or e-mail at susanm@bnl.gov. For information on exhibits or technical information, please contact Jit Vora at the NRC at 301-415-5833, or via e-mail at jpv@nrc.gov

###