The CEFRI and Radiological Protection Certification of French Companies and Training Organizations

In the matter of risk prevention, the quality of training is essential. This is why the French Committee for Certifying Companies in Training and Followup of Personnel Working Under Ionizing Radiation (CEFRI) was created in 1990.

Besides the employers of Category A and B workers, represented by the GIIN (nuclear industry trade group), associated within the CEFRI are the operators of French nuclear facilities (EDF, CEA, Cogema, and the military), the French Radiological Protection Society (SFRP), the national health insurance agency, and the Office of Protection Against Ionizing Radiation (OPRI). In addition, the Committee receives support from the Ministries of Labor and Industry.

The fundamental objectives of the CEFRI are as follows:

- To contribute to the reduction and prevention of the risks to personnel working in nuclear facilities; and
- To enable French companies active in this field to objectively demonstrate the preventive actions implemented.

After performing an audit, the CEFRI issues certifications:

- To companies (including companies providing temporary workers) that perform work in nuclear facilities, concerning the quality of personnel training (whether provided by an outside organization that is itself certified or by the company itself) and concerning the organization that the company has set up to ensure the followup of exposure and medical surveillance of its personnel; and
- To specialized training organizations, concerning the contents and quality of the training provided.

The four operators of French nuclear facilities (EDF, Cogema, the CEA, and the military) have already defined a schedule of requirements for this certification, as concerns the training organizations, the companies providing temporary workers, and the companies present in certain specific fields of activity, such as cleanup, industrial logistics, etc.

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