The European ALARA Network

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http://www.eu-alara.net/
ALARA Network objectives

• Promote a wider and more uniform implementation of the ALARA principle for the management of worker, public and patient exposures in all situations,
• Provide a focus and a mechanism for the exchange and dissemination of information from practical ALARA experiences
• Identify and investigate topical issues of common interest to further improve the implementation of ALARA
History and Evolution

• 1996
  – cooperation of experts from various European organisations mediated by the European ALARA training course
    • European Support from 1996 to 2004
    • EC support to three workshops
    • Enthusiast individuals, supported by their institutions
• Evolution to a self supporting network
• 2005
  – EAN a legal entity, non-profit organisation under French law
    • Coordination CEPN, HPA and a group of European experts
    • EAN Administrative board (financial)
      • Chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, secretary
    • EAN steering group (activities)
• EAN in 2016-2019:
  • 18 Members (organizations) in Europe
    • + working groups
    • + active sub-networks (ERPAN, EAN_NORM, ...)
    • + in relation with other organisations ...
    • Organisation in formal relation with ICRP!
• EAN now 20 member (organisations)
EAN participation

- Voluntary cooperation
- Broad range of experts
  - radiation protection authorities and safety authorities
  - industrial companies and services
  - research institutions
  - hospitals
  - ...
- Evolution from 8 to 20 countries since 1996
- Financial support through contributions from different institutions, companies, regulatory authorities, ...organised per country (a representative or contact person per country)
EAN Activities and outputs

- EAN Workshops
- Support to European Surveys
- EAN subnetworks
- ALARA Newsletter
- EAN Website

Input ➔ output

Information Networking Workshops Surveys ➔ Recommendations Guidance Return of experience
EAN has organized 19 workshops since 1996

**Planned**
- Industry and research
  - Good radiation practices in industry and research, Oxford, 1998
  - Managing internal exposure, Munich, 1999
  - Management of occupational radiological and non-radiological risks: lessons to be learned, Antwerp, 2000
  - Occupational radiological protection control through inspection and self-assessment, Upsala, 2004
  - 19th EAN Workshop "Innovative ALARA Tools"
  - Occupational exposure optimisation in the medical and radio-pharmaceutical sectors, Madrid, 2002
  - ALARA and the medical sector, Oscarborg, 2011
  - NDT
    - Industrial radiography, improvements in radiation protection, Rome, 2001
  - decommissioning
    - ALARA and decommissioning Saclay 1997
    - Decommissioning and site remediation, Arnhem, 2003
    - Workshop n°18 on Site Clean Up and Decommissioning, March 2019

**Existing**
- Occupational exposure to natural radiation, Augsburg, 2005
- ALARA in existing exposures situations, Dublin, 2012
- Possible subject on evolution in the NORM industry
- ALARA issues arising for safety and security of radiation sources and security screening devices, Vienna, 2009

**Emergency**
- ALARA issues arising for safety and security of radiation sources and security screening devices, Vienna, 2009
- ALARA in accident and post accident situation, Lisbon 2017
A practical guide book

Finalisation of the book
A last review by the members of EAN is in progress
Publication as a downloadable pdf file
EAN is also ...

- A bi-annual newsletter, widely distributed:
  
- A new logo, that match with our objectives
  
- A new website

http://www.eu-alara.net/
Strategic agenda 2021-2026

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New challenges

- Medical sector
  - important improvements have been identified
  - ALARA needs to keep pace with recent developments in the use of new imaging techniques and radiopharmaceuticals.

- Nuclear installations
  - ageing of existing installations, decommissioning
  - New nuclear installations (nuclear power plants, nuclear waste disposal, isotope production facilities, research reactors, new reactor designs, etc.) are under development or will be developed in the near future.
    - Both need knowledge and skills from the radiation protection community to implement the ALARA principle in all life stages of a nuclear installation. This requires an ongoing focus on maintaining and expanding skills and competencies, through radiation protection and ALARA education and training.
New challenges

• Existing exposure situations
  – applying the ALARA principle in the prevailing circumstances is still challenging

• Harmonization of practices by promoting the sharing of experience

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Key ALARA themes 2021-2026

• Strategic agenda for 2021-2026.
  – Medical field
    • interventional radiology
    • new imaging techniques
    • the production and safe use of new radiopharmaceuticals, with special attention to exposure situations involving alpha exposure.
  – Nuclear industry, research and the medical field EAN
    • further harmonization of practices in the implementation of the ALARA principle.
    • maintaining and further developing knowledge and skills in these fields.

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The tools

• The key ALARA themes will be developed through the organisation of workshops, discussions in working groups and networking with different organisations and projects to explore subjects of common interest.

• EAN also puts forward an open invitation for other countries (organisations) to join the network to further promote a wider and more uniform implementation of the ALARA principle and exchange and disseminate of information from practical ALARA experiences.

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Thank you