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Ministers' message

'On time, on budget' a must

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Kudos to eight top industry teams

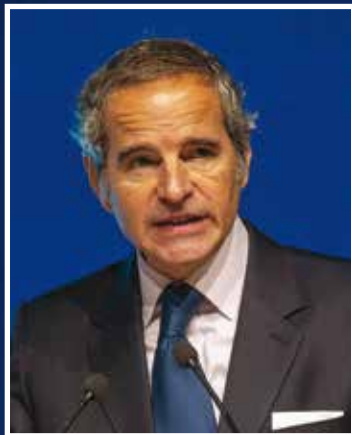
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WNE DAILY



NOVEMBER 05 2025 // PARIS NORD VILLEPINTE



“

What a great moment to be having this WNE, a moment where we see this return to realism is a real return

–Rafael Mariano Grossi



“

Nuclear energy is more than electricity. It is a versatile, transformative force that can address some of humanity's greatest challenges

–Sylvie Bermann



“

We are entering the age of electricity. The amount of electricity consumption growing around the world is unprecedented

–Dr Fatih Birol

NUCLEAR IS BACK!

Four years after predicting at WNE that nuclear energy was set to make a comeback, International Energy Agency (IEA) executive director Dr Fatih Birol had a message for delegates at yesterday's WNE opening ceremony: Nuclear is back.

This year, he said, data shows “the highest amount of electricity generated from nuclear in the world.”

He also highlighted that there are 70 gigawatts of nuclear capacity under construction globally – the highest level for the past three decades – while noting 40 countries new to the sector have plans to build a nuclear industry.

“So, with all these three things coming together, I think what I said four years ago that nuclear is going to make a comeback is a reality now,” Birol said.

Alongside energy sovereignty and supporting climate change ambitions, Birol cited increased demand for electricity as a key factor. “Nuclear has a golden opportunity to make this comeback and see a golden age of nuclear power as we saw in the ‘70s and ‘80s,” he added.

Rafael Mariano Grossi, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), struck a similarly upbeat tone about how nuclear energy is valued.

“I think over the past few years we have seen a steady growth in

the activity and realisation of its indispensable nature. I refer to this as a return to realism. A return to the realisation that without the contribution of nuclear energy, economic growth, decarbonisation and the creation of conditions for technological innovation is going to be impossible.”

Also speaking at the opening ceremony, Roland Lescure, France's minister of Economy, Finance, and Industrial, Energy and Digital Sovereignty, commended both Birol and Grossi for “bringing facts to the table” in the wider debate about nuclear energy.

“What progress we have made together over the last two years,” said Lescure. “We now have convinced the world that we are part of the solution, not part of the problem. And this is a great victory for all of us. Now the real work begins.”

Sylvie Bermann, Ambassador of France and President of WNE, said this is a “critical juncture” for the industry, amid the global demand for reliable, low-carbon energy

“As we stand here today, the world faces unprecedented energy challenges,” she said. “The demand for clean, reliable, and affordable power has never been greater. Nuclear energy is not just part of the solution – it is essential to it.”



“

Everyone in the room is a friend of nuclear energy, but more importantly I think everyone in the room is also a friend of the planet

Roland Lescure

Join/follow us
on Social Media
#WNE25



10

Assystem is currently involved
in around 10 new-build
programmes worldwide

EDITORIAL XAVIER URSAT, CHAIRMAN OF GIFEN

LOOKING BEYOND ELECTRICITY, AND THE QUEST FOR NOVEL FINANCE



Welcome – and welcome back – to WNE 2025. It was a pleasure to witness the enthusiasm of opening day yesterday. To have guests of honour from the top tiers of government and industry give their vision about the sector from our main stage reinforces that WNE is not just the world's largest civil nuclear exhibition.

Our opening day programme set the bar high with insights, encouragement, warnings and commentary from a variety of experts and the leaders of international institutions.

In Day 1's sponsors' tribunes, attendees heard lessons that should be applied in the momentum of nuclear's next wave, and thoughts on the sector's ambition to sustain reactors of all size. Last but not least, this opening day was capped at the end of the day by the winners of this year's WNE Innovation

Awards being crowned. Congratulations to all of them!

You can read reports on these sessions elsewhere in this issue of WNE Daily.

Today our attention turns to some of the pressing challenges of nuclear, starting with finance and the need to find novel ways to fund the nuclear renaissance. WNE's first-ever panel on fusion technology is another highlight in a programme packed with interesting and important topics.

If you have not already investigated our 'Beyond electricity' (BEE) area at the entrance to WNE, I would encourage you to do so. This feature, new in 2025, offers a snapshot of several key applications of nuclear energy, both the obvious and the less obvious. Our BEE exhibitors will be happy to explain what they're doing to improve lives.

I hope your visit to WNE today is successful.

ON TIME AND ON BUDGET!

"We must be on time and on budget!" That was the biggest message coming out of the Ministerial session on the first day, chaired by Roland Lescure, the French Minister of Economy, Financial and Industrial, Energy and Digital Sovereignty – and two other speakers echoed his sentiment.

"We also must ensure that the authorities are going to be on time," he said. "To make sure permits, environmental regulations, facilities, housing are there [so] the ones building the nuclear facilities have the right surroundings to make sure we do it fast."

Lescure was keen to stress the innovations nuclear energy provides. "It's not just about providing carbon-free cheap volume electricity but providing heat for industrials who want to decarbonise the industry," he said.

Peter Szijarto, Hungarian Minister

of Foreign Affairs, agreed. Hungary is currently managing the largest nuclear project under construction in the EU. "We know the demand for electricity in Hungary is going to increase exponentially in the coming years, and the only way we can meet that demand in an environmentally protective, cheap and stable way comes from the nuclear energy."

Hungary has two nuclear projects running in parallel, a life-time extension for its four current nuclear reactors, and is building two new reactors that together will add 2,400 megawatts of capacity. Szijarto revealed the welding of the first pressure vessel, forging of the second pressure vessel, and production of the core capture are under way.

Poland is now building its first nuclear plant, because as Wojciech Wrochna, the Polish Minister of Industry, said: "It's a dispatchable clean source of electricity

and we can rely on it to secure our supply. We believe that Poland can be part of this global nuclear revival that can help boost Poland's economy."

Sharon S Garin, the Philippines Secretary of Energy, travelled 20 hours to speak at the forum about the aspirations her country to return to nuclear energy. Its facility in Baatan was mothballed in 1986, before it actually opened, following the Chernobyl accident; then came the Fukushima disaster in 2011.

In October 2024, it was announced that Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power (KHNP) would complete a technical and economic feasibility study on the potential rehabilitation of the Bataan plant.

"We just need a private developer to come in with government participation. We have ambitions of having a nuclear power plant in the Philippines inside 10 years, with help from the international community".



Ministerial panel members (from left) WNE president Sylvie Bermann; Wojciech Wrochna, Polish minister of Industry; Sharon S Garin, Philippines secretary of Energy; Péter Szijártó, Hungarian minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Stephen Lecce, Ontario minister of Energy and Mines; and French economy minister Roland Lescure

Sharon S
Garin, the
Philippines
Secretary of
Energy

FLAMINGO FLIES HIGH FOR OAKRIDGE

The pink flamingo is Oakridge's WNE mascot for 2025. Like previous mascots – the polar bear (2018), clown fish (2021) and monarch butterfly (2023) – it was selected from the list of animals endangered by CO₂ emitted by fossil fuel plants. At WNE yesterday, Cyrille Molina, president of Oakridge, presented an award to Victor Bocher of French microreactor innovator Naarea, who guessed the identity of the mascot during a six-week lottery on LinkedIn. Show-goers can pick up their own flamingo at Oakridge's stand (C064).



Flamin-Go get one! Oakridge president Cyrille Molina with the flamingo giveaways

INTERVIEW STÉPHANE AUBARBIER, DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF ASSYSTEM

ASSYSTEM OFFERS A HELPING HAND TO NUCLEAR NEWCOMERS

Assystem is using WNE to highlight the key challenge of how to ensure first-of-a-kind nuclear power plants are successfully developed in light of the surge of activity in the sector.

"I don't think that we have ever seen so many countries aiming to be a newcomer in nuclear [energy]," Assystem deputy chief executive Stéphane Aubarbier told WNE Daily.

Demand is being driven by states aiming to secure sovereignty over their energy supply given wider geopolitical volatility, as well as the key role nuclear energy can play in meeting sustainability targets. But this fresh demand creates its own challenges.

"On one hand we have a lot of countries keen to access nuclear [for the first time] and on the other hand we have a nuclear industry, particular in the western world, which has delivered a very limited number of projects in the last decades," Aubarbier noted.

"It means this part of the industry is going through a fresh learning curve and, to support this, Assystem is hosting a Tribune entitled 'First of a kind without failure' today at 14:00 featuring perspectives from stakeholders across the sector and tackling a range of issues. That includes financing.

"We know the funding is one of the prominent topics to make a nuclear programme possible right now," said Aubarbier.

The Tribune also features Yernat Berdigulov, chief executive of Kazakhstan's atomic

agency KNPP, one of the countries Assystem is assisting as technical advisor in developing its first nuclear reactor in generations. "We are currently involved in around 10 new-build programmes worldwide," said Aubarbier. "So we have a strong and up-to-date benchmark of what is working and what are the best practices of the industry."

The family-owned French firm, which employs around 8,000 staff and will mark its 60th anniversary during WNE, is also highlighting its digital capabilities. "We are maybe more orientated to digital technology and AI than some other competitors, meaning we tend to leverage more the capabilities of the available technology in how to make new projects successful," said Aubarbier.

This is being showcased during a series of demonstrations during WNE, which Aubarbier flagged as a key event for the sector. "You have all the stakeholders taking part, from the operators to the supply chain, and coming from all parts of the world. For us, it is a unique opportunity we have every two years to meet with all our customers and our target prospects."

"This part of the industry is going through a fresh learning curve and, to support this, Assystem is hosting a Tribune entitled 'First of a kind without failure' today..."



ROLLS-ROYCE AMR:
Scalable power for sustainable energy security

OPTIMIZING COMPLIANCE: The Strategic Role of AIA in Mitigating Project Risk

Workshop room 3

Mercredi 5 novembre à 11h30



3 QUESTIONS

with Chris Conboy,
AtkinsRéalis Managing
Director, Nuclear and Power,
EMEA

Our attendance at WNE 2025 is driven by our commitment to engaging with industry peers, sharing best practice and innovation, and collaborating to tackle the common challenges facing the global nuclear sector. By participating actively at WNE, we aim to deepen partnerships and help accelerate the delivery of safe, reliable and sustainable nuclear solutions worldwide.

As one of this year's gold sponsors, and as a global nuclear company, AtkinsRéalis will be representing our involvement across the nuclear lifecycle at our stand (M058). Across the event, we'll be running workshops, presenting on panels and hosting talks on our stand to share our experiences and perspectives on the key challenges and opportunities facing our sector: from skills to isotopes, learnings from replication and delivery of major programmes, as well as technology that's helping to deliver safe, sustainable and future-ready nuclear solutions.

As we focus on increasing nuclear capacity by 2050, we must address our common challenges and look at ways to achieve those goals: incentivising investment; realising the efficiencies of replication, modularisation and collaboration; and the role of nuclear in the future energy mix.

WNE is an opportunity for the sector to come together, strengthen partnerships and focus on how we can collectively deliver the next generation of nuclear around the world, and we're looking forward to joining the conversation.

38 The average age of France's 57 reactors is now 38.



INTERVIEW LOU MARTINEZ, CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER AND EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT, R&D AND INNOVATION, WESTINGHOUSE

BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

In our Tribune at WNE 2025, we are focusing on how digital innovation is reshaping the nuclear landscape from design to deployment to operations. Technologies such as automation, AI, analytics, and machine learning are revolutionising our society. They are also redefining how we build and operate nuclear plants.

This transformation is not theoretical – it is happening now. Thus, we are pleased to share the main stage with distinguished partners and customers from Constellation, Google Cloud, Databricks and Spie Batignolles, who drive this shift alongside Westinghouse.

Our company was born 140 years ago out of George Westinghouse's bold vision to solve problems others couldn't. That spirit still drives us – from pioneering nuclear power in the 1950s to supporting half the world's reactors today.

Now, we're accelerating the nuclear lifecycle: deploying AP1000 reactors powered by AI, fabricating next-gen fuels, and extending the life of the global fleet. With 75 years of nuclear data, we're equipping our teams with predictive and prescriptive tools to make smarter, safer, and services.

KEPCO KPS (KEPCO KPS) is a global leader in power facility maintenance, providing comprehensive services and total plant solutions not only for NPPs but also for thermal and other types of power generation facilities worldwide.

Pavilion organiser KAIF has around 530 member organisations, including major companies in Korea's nuclear industry. Its work includes promoting the expansion of the nuclear

industry and facilitating domestic and international cooperation and exchange initiatives on behalf of its members.

In 2014, EDF implemented a major renovation strategy, the Grand Carénage programme, to strengthen the resilience of the fleet, anticipate future requirements and address the evolving needs for electrical power, by extending the long-term operation (LTO) span of its nuclear plants.

more effective decisions.

But ultimately energy is about people. It's about quality of life. Nuclear has quietly powered progress in medicine, food safety, and peacekeeping. And today, it's back at the centre of the global energy conversation – ready to expand, enhance, and lead.

Westinghouse is bringing together hyperscalers, utilities, constructors, policy-makers and financial experts alongside skilled workers to deliver large-scale deployment of new AP1000 nuclear reactors across multiple projects and in different countries simultaneously. We are innovating in a new way with our AP300 SMR and microreactor technologies while we serve the current fleet.

For example, we are fabricating the next generation of nuclear fuel to lengthen the time between refueling outages. We are engineering and manufacturing components that increase power and extend reactor lives.

There is a commitment from leaders globally to expand nuclear power

generation in the next 20 years, and we are ready to meet the demand. These new projects will create tens of thousands of high-paying, long-lasting jobs for the energy sector. They will also provide safe, carbon-free energy certainty to countries and their citizens for the 80-plus years of nuclear power plant operations.

At WNE, we're showcasing how Westinghouse is driving the future of nuclear as a 21st century energy leader. From advanced reactors to next-gen fuels produced in North America and Europe, our solutions are built for scale, speed, and impact.

Visitors will get a first look at Bertha, our AI simulation powered by the Westinghouse HIVE platform, which optimises construction timelines and costs for AP1000 projects. We're also demonstrating how our AI-enhanced OptiLife CMIS platform transforms engineering workflows.

To explore what's next in nuclear, stop by our exhibit space (F104). Let's build the future – together.

“ But ultimately energy is about people. It's about quality of life

WORKSHOP

EDF addresses lifespan extension challenges

France's nuclear fleet is a cornerstone of the country's energy security and national sovereignty, but it is aging. What to do about this is the subject of an important WNE workshop today.

The average age of France's 57 reactors is now 38. These reactors were originally licensed to 30 years and are subject to 10-year reviews to allow their continued operation.

In 2014, EDF implemented a major renovation strategy, the Grand Carénage programme, to strengthen the resilience of the fleet, anticipate future requirements and address the evolving needs for electrical power, by extending the long-term operation (LTO) span of its nuclear plants.

The programme has defined and addressed the challenges. Sylvie Richard, director of the Programs and Strategy Division, EDF Thermal and Nuclear Direction (pictured), said LTO is a “key lever” for achieving France's goals of carbon neutrality by 2050, competitiveness and reindustrialisation, and ensuring security of supply.

“Extending the lifetime of nuclear plants requires mastering a high level of industrial and regulatory complexity – from coordinating large-scale safety upgrades, managing aging components and climate change adaptation, to keeping projects on schedule and within budget. “Ensuring the right skills, knowledge transfer, and a

continuous dialogue with the regulator are equally crucial, to maintain safety, security and quality.”

In 2010, EDF assessed the prospect of 60-year lifetimes for all its existing reactors. Now, 10 years into the programme, the team has gained insights that it will share in the workshop.

Richard said anticipation and teamwork are everything. “The programme has shown that industrial excellence relies on operational efficiency and strong collaboration across the entire nuclear ecosystem. Our goal is our sustainable contribution. Each plant's future will depend on rigorous assessment, evolving standards, and our shared commitment to energy transition.”

The challenges of existing plants: 12:00, Workshop Room 2



70 There are about 70 technologies for SMRs under development

WORKSHOP

Stakeholders must ‘embrace conversation’ about SMRs

Projections suggest the SMR industry could be worth \$650 billion by 2050 – if SMRs' potential can be turned into a reality. What needs to happen, and how companies can be part of the journey, is the theme of a workshop today presented by the Frazer-Nash Consultancy (N045).

Client director Stuart Yellowlees said SMRs will struggle to make an impact on the growing demand for clean energy without achieving readiness in five key areas: technology, delivery, infrastructure, regulation, and policy. Alignment in those areas is essential, he said, before the industry can begin to be deploy SMRs at the accelerated pace that will soon be needed.

Kevin Murray, Frazer-Nash nuclear market group manager, said governments and

major utilities around the world, broadly speaking, are “embracing the conversation” about growing energy demand which “no one vendor, no one technology” can meet.

There are about 70 technologies for SMRs under development, all with “unique value propositions and different end-use cases”.

As a global strategic adviser, Frazer-Nash is exposed to developers working with some of the more innovative technologies in AMR, molten metal, etc. “We’re seeing nuclear as integral in so many applications,” said Murray. “Nuclear is inserting itself into the dialogue on decarbonisation and new technologies.”

In its workshop, the company will share practical guidance on learning lessons from previous major capital programmes by deploying a technology



with a fleet view, not a project view, in order to create a global, repeatable value proposition for SMRs.

Join the SMR dialogue with Frazer-Nash at 12.30 today in Workshop Room 3



Sharing practical guidance on learning lessons from previous major capital programmes, from left, Kevin Murray, Richard-Metcalfe and Stuart Yellowlees of Frazer-Nash Consultancy

INTERVIEW GRÉGOIRE PONCHON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF FRAMATOME

FRAMATOME PUTS INNOVATION ON DISPLAY

For a company that spends around a third of its profits on research and development (R&D), WNE provides a great opportunity for Framatome to showcase its innovation, according to new chief executive Grégoire Ponchon.

Ponchon, who served as chief financial officer before taking the helm of Framatome this summer, says that WNE has become the “reference event” for the global civil nuclear industry worldwide.

“Framatome, as an international company and a leader for designing and manufacturing the nuclear steam supply system of nuclear power plants, is a key player in the nuclear industry and it is important for us to be there, as a sponsor, to show we are part of that community,” he says.

Across the week the company will have a series of live demonstrations and workshops, including the Framatome Tribune at 15:00 today – a panel discussion entitled ‘Key enablers for the competitiveness of Nuclear Energy’, chaired by Ponchon.

“It is always a good opportunity to show that we can complement the activities that we have, with many opportunities that come from innovation,” Ponchon says of WNE.

One example of this innovation is a

new additive manufacturing plant that Framatome will open mid-next year. “It enables us to produce complex components fast,” Ponchon says, noting the plant will be able to produce metal components of up to 20 tonnes.

Located in more than 20 countries, Framatome is growing rapidly. It now employs 21,000 staff, up from 13,000 in 2016, and one of the company's objectives at WNE is to support staff recruitment. “We hire 2,500 people every year – which means we need to promote the brand and make sure we get the best candidates.”

It comes as nuclear energy plays an increasingly prominent role in national energy strategies.

But while there is an increase in new-build nuclear energy programmes, he sees a key role for Framatome in helping to support existing plants as well, be it through improving productivity, extending the lifetime of plants or



restarting them altogether.

Ponchon says the priorities for the company are health and safety, quality and lead-time. On the latter, he points to work Framatome has done to reduce lead-time on components.

“If we want to be part of the new-build programme that is very promising, we need to make sure that we develop win-win solutions that reduce cost,” Ponchon says. “That comes from strong organisation, but also the investment we are doing right now to grow our products.”

“ We hire 2,500 people every year - which means we need to promote the brand and make sure we get the best candidates

inbrief

COLOR CLUES TO CONTAMINATION

Making its WNE debut is Color Tech Holdings (E018M), here to promote its solutions for the accurate and simple detection of nuclear contamination in the field. Its colorimetric technologies CodeNu and CodeBe are innovative approaches to the chemical detection of uranium, plutonium and beryllium. Based in the US and UK, Color Tech Holdings boasts an active R&D programme to develop colorimetric tools for other contaminants/ radionuclides, broaden applications, and develop other nuclear and security related technologies.

SPECIALIST IN ROTATING MACHINERY

Normandy Control Group (E064), at WNE for the first time, is a specialist in speed regulation and protection of rotating machinery in the energy sector, including nuclear. A distributor of Woodward and Parker Meggitt brands, it provides reliable solutions for turbine and generator control and monitoring with services including equipment supply, maintenance, retrofitting, and training. Based in France, the group supports clients in demanding projects worldwide.



Boccard, 50 years of experience in the nuclear sector - Booth G064

TOMORROW AT BUREAU VERITAS BOOTH F053



Visit Bureau Veritas Booth F053 from 11.00 for a special presentation of DORNIER HINNEBURG GmbH, the newest member of the Bureau Veritas nuclear family.

Don't miss the exciting moment when Bureau Veritas will unveil the new name of its subsidiary dedicated to Dismantling and Decommissioning, Radiation Protection and nuclear Waste management !

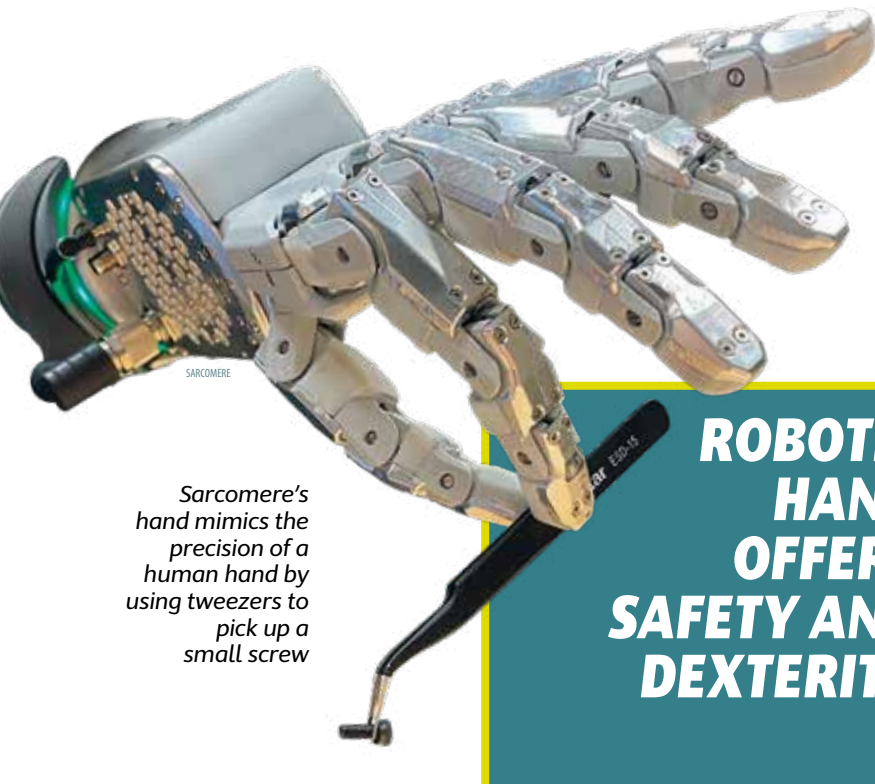


At Onet Technologies, innovation drives performance.

AUTOMATIC ORBITAL WELDING ASSISTED BY AI

Join us at our stand for a live demonstration operated 700 km from the machine.





Sarcomere's hand mimics the precision of a human hand by using tweezers to pick up a small screw

STARTUP PROGRAM

by WNE

ROBOTIC HAND OFFERS SAFETY AND DEXTERITY

Sarcomere Dynamics (A012B) returns to WNE with its near-human robotic hand, this year as part of the Startup programme, in search of partners to help trial its high-dexterity hands for teleoperations, including in glove boxes, and high-radiation settings

Co-founder and chief executive Harpal 'Manny' Mandaher says that by replicating the capabilities of the human hand, the company will contribute to overall worker safety by augmenting human labour in hazardous settings.

The company was founded in the Canadian city of Calgary in 2021 by Mandaher, his wife and son, who is the chief technical officer, and remains family-owned and managed. A current funding round is aimed at

supporting a scaling-up of output to 100 hands a month, to meet demand from system integrators.

Using its patent-pending actuator technology, Sarcomere says it is able to build compact robotics without sacrificing functionality or grip force, which enables automation of intricate tasks previously considered too difficult for robots. Nuclear decommissioning, waste management, and emergency response are among the high-risk scenarios targeted.

"Our hand has been undergoing trials with customers from various verticals," said Mandaher. "We need partners with experience in this field to help us refine our design and capabilities for the nuclear industry."

ENHANCED SCAFFOLDING SAFETY WITH SCAFF LOAD

Improving safety and reducing hazardous situations involving scaffolding is the goal of Polish newcomer Scaff Load S.A., at the show as part of the Startup Programme. The Warsaw-based company (A014A) has developed and patented a system of devices, software, and a mobile application that monitors the load on the structure and, in the event of excessive loads, activates an alarm system, thus increasing user safety and protection.

The Scaff Load system is adapted for monitoring and managing scaffolding structures at every stage of the operation process. The company says integrating the system with a mobile application allows for online monitoring and reduces operating costs by utilizing the structure.

"Effective management and technical control directly impacts the safety of the structure and financial control," the company says, as well as reducing theft, administration, operating times, and downtime.

The system has already won the minister's award in the Polish occupational safety improvement competition and received expert recognition from the European Economic Congress in Katowice 2025.



A BIG BOOST FOR STARTUPS

The popular Startup Programme returns to WNE 2025 with new ideas, products and processes from 20 of the brightest SMEs in the global nuclear family. The programme participants have been selected for the originality of potential viability of their innovations. At WNE, they will have the opportunity to make their business case to investors and decision-makers, while enjoying the networking that comes with the elevated profile afforded by the Startup Programme. Typical of the 20 selected SMEs are the journeys of Atom XR, Sarcomere Dynamics, and Scaff Load

ADVERTORIAL

SNETP: EMPOWERING THE NUCLEAR COMMUNITY

SNETP, the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform, unites industry, all major European R&D organisations, academia, and startups to accelerate nuclear innovation across Europe.

Our work spans three key areas: enhancing the safety and efficiency of today's reactors, developing advanced systems to recycle fuel and reduce waste, and exploring novel applications of nuclear energy, including clean hydrogen production and industrial heat solutions.

As a member-driven association, SNETP empowers its community by providing clear R&D priorities, opportunities to connect with partners

through our Open Innovation Platform (SOIP), access to EU funding initiatives, and visibility via our newsletters, events, and communications channels.

Visit us at the WNE Startup Village, where we actively support startups through mentoring, networking, and collaborative opportunities. Meet our team, showcase your ideas, and discover how partnering with SNETP can help accelerate your innovation and bring your solutions to the European nuclear market.

Website: snetp.eu
LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/snetp](https://www.linkedin.com/company/snetp)

XR FOR THE NUCLEAR ENVIRONMENT

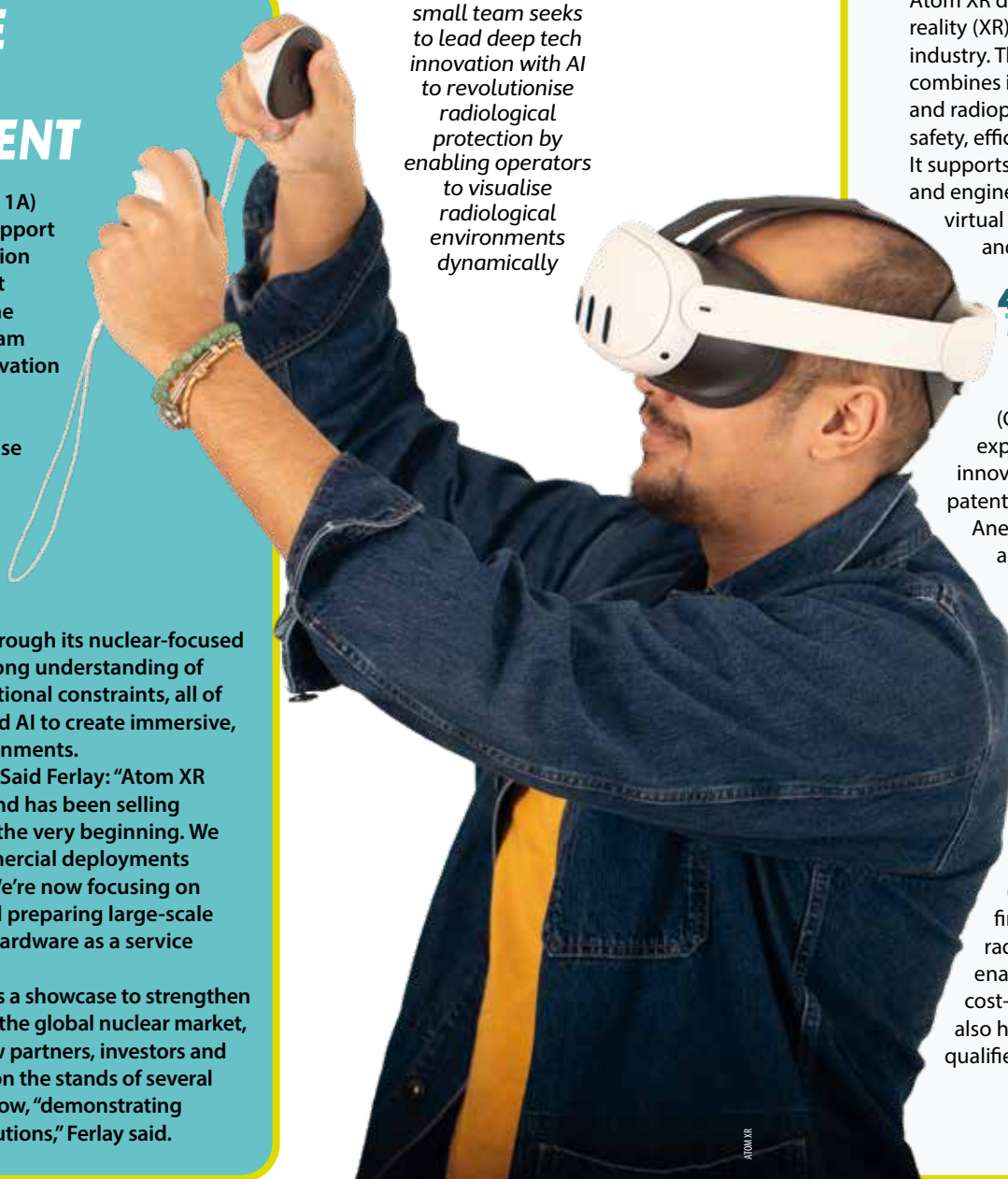
French startup Atom XR (A011A) was founded in 2024 with support from CEA's Magellan incubation programme to bring the best of extended reality (XR) to the nuclear industry. Its small team seeks to lead deep tech innovation with AI to revolutionise radiological protection by enabling operators to visualise radiological environments dynamically.

Chief executive Fabien Ferlay says the company builds bespoke XR solutions with modular reusable software 'bricks'. Through its nuclear-focused expertise, Atom XR has a strong understanding of safety, regulatory and operational constraints, all of which help it combine XR and AI to create immersive, intelligent and secure environments.

Success has come quickly. Said Ferlay: "Atom XR has had clients from Day 1 and has been selling services and solutions since the very beginning. We have already achieved commercial deployments with nuclear stakeholders. We're now focusing on expanding product lines and preparing large-scale standardised software and hardware as a service (SaaS/HaaS) offers."

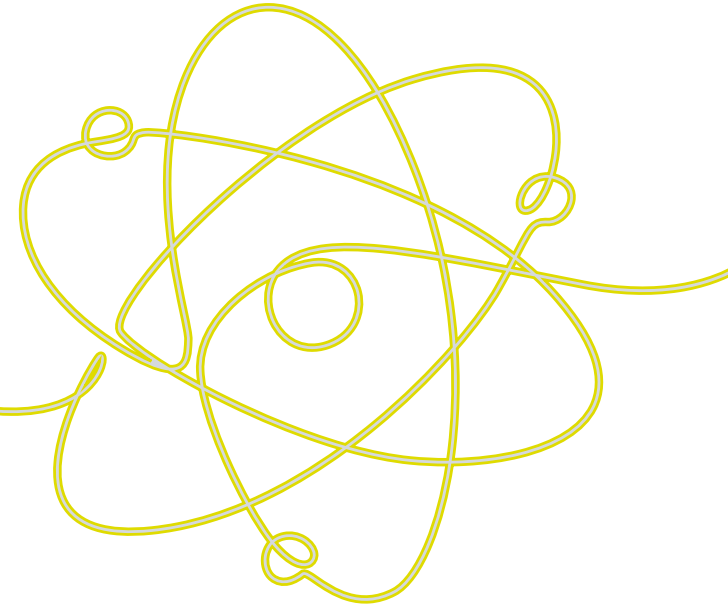
The company views WNE as a showcase to strengthen its visibility and credibility in the global nuclear market, with potential to bring in new partners, investors and clients. Its work can be seen on the stands of several partners and clients at the show, "demonstrating adoption and trust in our solutions," Ferlay said.

Below: Atom XR's small team seeks to lead deep tech innovation with AI to revolutionise radiological protection by enabling operators to visualise radiological environments dynamically



STARTUP SUMMARIES

A little about the 20 companies in our Startup Program



1 AM3L

3D-printed shock absorbers

AM3L designs and manufactures metallic metamaterials for safety-critical industries. Its flagship 3D-printed shock absorbers, with up to 95% porosity, are qualified by the CEA and validated by ASN for nuclear waste container protection. The company controls the full value chain to ensure traceability and nuclear-grade quality.

2 ARALE LABORATORY

Gamma ray imaging technologies

Arale Laboratory produces various innovative technologies in the field of radiation imaging. The South Korean firm has developed systems including radiation detectors for national security and clinical and pre-clinical diagnostic nuclear medicine imaging systems for national healthcare.

3 ATOM XR

Extended reality for the nuclear industry

Atom XR develops innovative extended reality (XR) solutions for the nuclear industry. The company's software suite combines immersive training, digital twins and radioprotection simulation to improve safety, efficiency and knowledge transfer. It supports operators, trainers and engineers with tools that connect virtual environments to real machines and processes.

4 CLEAN CORE THORIUM ENERGY

Thorium fuels innovation

Clean Core Thorium Energy (CCTE) is a nuclear fuel company exploring Thorium-driven nuclear innovations. US-based CCTE's patented nuclear fuel technology, Aneel, comprises Thorium and high assay low-enriched Uranium (HALEU) and is capable of improving the safety and cost-efficiency of pressurised heavy-water reactors.

5 EXANODIA

AI software for non-destructive testing

Exanodia specialises in the development of AI software for non-destructive testing (NDT). The Lyon-based startup's first product, Smart-RT, automates radiographic image analysis, enabling faster, more reliable and cost-effective inspections – while also helping address the shortage of qualified NDT operators.

6 EXODYS ENERGY

Turning nuclear waste into clean energy

Exodys Energy is developing closed-loop nuclear systems to recycle used nuclear fuel to supply clean energy. The New York-based firm's technology allows for the recovery of more than 85% of valuable materials for reuse in current and advanced reactors. This reduces the volume and radiotoxicity of the waste, while also securing energy supply.

7 FLUID WIRE ROBOTICS

Rugged arm to withstand extreme conditions

Fluid Wire Robotics (FWR) is a deep tech startup that has built a rugged electric robot arm capable of operating in the most challenging conditions, including radioactive and high temperature zones, explosive environments, underwater depths, and space. The sensors and electronics reside in a shielded actuation box, keeping the arm lightweight and electronics free.

8 GRAPHICORE

Tackling the dismantling bottleneck

GraphiCore has developed patented technologies to tackle one of the biggest bottlenecks in nuclear decommissioning: the dismantling of graphite-moderated reactors. The firm's proprietary systems enable the safe extraction and handling of intact, broken and damaged graphite blocks, an industry-first solution.

9 HYLENR TECHNOLOGIES

Cleaner energy through LENR technology

Hylenr Technologies develops revolutionary reactors based on low energy nuclear reaction (LENR) technology, offering a clean, safe and sustainable source of heat for industrial applications. Its compact and emission-free solutions enable high-efficiency decentralised thermal production, suitable for sectors such as energy, chemicals, oil and gas.

10 ICE9 ROBOTICS

Robotic solutions for hazardous environments

Ice9 Robotics produces and deploys mobile robotic solutions to inspect and characterise hazardous environments. Primarily working in the nuclear decommissioning sector, the UK firm has a range of technology that can be deployed in GPS-denied, pitch-black and confined spaces to gather actionable data in a payload agnostic package.

11 INSPECTO

Software solutions worth close inspection

Inspecto offers a ready-to-use software solution for digitising inspections, audits and quality management. Its platform is designed for highly regulated sectors, such as nuclear, energy, aerospace and defence. It helps companies comply with ISO standards, while strengthening traceability, performance and reliability.

12 IUMTEK

Delivering real-time chemical analysis

iUmtex tackles the challenges of the nuclear industry by offering innovative solutions for in situ and real-time chemical analysis in hostile environments. The French startup's instruments and software applications are tailored to user requirements, allowing them to optimise processes and mitigate risks through online monitoring.

13 LIUM

Aerial eye to monitor sensitive sites

Lium has created an autonomous captive balloon dedicated to the continuous monitoring of sensitive sites. Called Horus, the balloon is equipped with smart sensors and onboard AI to detect fires, gas leaks and intrusions in real time. Unlike drones, it requires neither a pilot nor complex authorisations, and ensures persistent coverage over several thousand hectares.

14 NEEXT ENGINEERING

Reactive fluids for efficiency gains

Neext Engineering is developing innovative heat-to-electricity conversion systems that promise an efficiency increase of more than 30%, while supporting the energy transition and industrial decarbonisation. Using patented technology developed from CNRS research, its systems replace the working fluid of a reactor's thermodynamic cycle with new reactive fluids that provide additional enthalpy.

15 NIO ROBOTICS

Robot eases inspection and maintenance tasks

Nio Robotics has developed Aru, a service robot designed to revolutionise industrial inspection and maintenance. Aru can manipulate objects and change shape in complex environments, performing tasks in confined and hazardous environments. From opening doors to conducting thermal inspections, Aru ensures operational efficiency, enhances safety and reduces downtime.

16 OTRERA NEW ENERGY

Developing next-generation nuclear reactors

Otrera New Energy is a French firm specialising in the development of next-generation nuclear reactors. The company is developing an advanced small and modular Sodium-cooled reactor to produce affordable, low-carbon electricity and heat (100-150°C, up to 500°C) for cities and industry (datacentres, e-fuel production, district heating, etc) by 2032.

17 PAINTUP

Semi-autonomous robot for nuclear dismantling

PaintUP designs and develops large-scale mobile robotic systems for industrial applications. That includes CleanUP, a compact semi-autonomous robot capable of reaching 10m high walls and ceilings for safe and efficient nuclear facility decontamination. It maps radiation, extracts hazardous dust and takes samples, without requiring scaffolding.

18 SARCOMERE DYNAMICS

Helping hand for intricate tasks

Sarcomere Dynamics is bringing to market a near-human robotic hand that can perform complex tasks with high dexterity and precision. Using its patent-pending actuator technology, the firm is building compact robotics without sacrificing functionality or grip force.

19 SCAFF LOAD SA

Smart system for scaffold load monitoring

Scaff Load has developed and patented an innovative system combining devices, software and a mobile app to improve safety and reduce risks in scaffolding. It monitors structural loads online, in real time, triggering alarms in case of overloads to protect users and prevent accidents, downtime and financial losses.

20 SERAC IMAGING SYSTEMS

Real time gamma-optical video imaging

Serac Imaging has designed Seracam, a portable gamma-optical video camera allowing operators to pinpoint radioactive sources with surgical precision at the point of use. Live gamma video images are fused with a live optical video stream showing the operator the location of sources and watching them move in real time. Seracam is a configurable, modular platform technology for hands-free or hand-held operation, and can be mounted on robotic arms or remote-operated vehicles.

3 QUESTIONS

with Petra Lundström,
executive vice-president,
Nuclear Generation,
Fortum (G048)

Each year, we select one key nuclear industry event to attend, representing the full scope of the nuclear business activities and experience we have built up over more than 45 years of safe operations in Finland and Sweden.

WNE was the clear choice this year, as it offers an excellent setting for meetings, networking, and showcasing our expertise. For example, Fortum provides expert services across the entire lifecycle of a nuclear power plant to customers worldwide, and we are pleased to present our products and services at WNE 2025.

In our view, the current challenges in the nuclear industry are related to profitability and the sector's ability to renew itself. More nuclear power is needed in the increasingly electrified world, but the question is how we can complete new nuclear projects profitably and efficiently.

At Fortum, we are currently considering how to get onto a learning curve that will make this possible in the future. We believe that a long-term and carefully planned preparation is one key to success in new nuclear projects.

I am absolutely looking forward to meeting nuclear colleagues at WNE, having good discussions, and hopefully generating a lot of new ideas and initiatives.



KHNP Lands first contract in Europe



The APR-1400 model on show at Doosan/KHNP stand is the model supplied to UAE

South Korea's KHNP (K/L058) is set to start building its first nuclear power reactor in Europe by 2028/29.

It comes after the Czech Republic prime minister, Petra Fiala, signed a \$18 billion deal in June that will see two Doosan AP-1000-megawatt reactors built at the Dukovany nuclear facility.

A Doosan spokesman (K058) said the AP-1000 is made up of two loops, two steam gauges and four reactor coolant pumps. The work should be completed in 2036 with up to 2,000 people employed at the site.

The unsuccessful bidder in the Czech Republic, EDF, had earlier challenged the tender award and won an injunction that halted the contract signing which was initially planned for 7 May. Following an appeal by the Czech state-controlled company EDU II and KHNP, the injunction was overturned.

Doosan is the sole supplier of nuclear reactors to KHNP, and cut its teeth in the nuclear industry in 1965, for the South Korean market. To date it has built 34 reactors – 26 for South Korea, four APR-1400s for UAE and up to four AP-1000s have been sold to China. It will also be supplying AP-1000s to USA's Westinghouse.

Day Two Exhibitors events

13:30-15:00
Frazer-Nash Consultancy
(N045) Cocktail

15:00-16:30
CZECH PAVILION – POWER PLAY
(B004/004D) Networking event

16:00-18:00
WALES PAVILION (B030)
Reception

18:00-19:00
GERMAN PAVILION (B052)
Beers & pretzels

Gen-IV science waits on decisions from policy-makers

Policy-makers hold the key to the future deployment of Generation IV (Gen-IV) systems, the topic of a workshop at 10:00 today.

The technology readiness levels (TLFs) of all six systems supported by the Generation IV International Forum (GIF) depend on national considerations and definitions that vary from one country to another, said GIF chair Stéphane Sarraide, director of Energy Programmes at CEA.

"We can acknowledge that the sodium-cooled fast reactor (SFR) and the very high temperature reactor (VHTR) appear closer to industrial deployment," he said. "Nevertheless, their industrial use largely depends on political decisions and national strategies supporting one technology or another, with the relevant fuel cycle."

A pilot project within the SFR system, involving industry partners, is under way. Sarraide said: "It took GIF considerable time to find the right balance for both parties, and we are now awaiting the results and progress of this project before launching others."

"Accelerating deployment is one of my priorities as GIF chair, and together with my team, we are working to achieve this objective by 2030. Our first step was to establish a biannual industry round table – open to all – in every region where the GIF is active, to share knowledge, processes, and ways of advancing both technologically and financially."

Generation IV International Forum (GIF): accelerating the deployment of the 4th Generation, organised by CEA, 10:30, Workshop Room 3



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Presence on 18 nuclear plants – 2,800 employees – 900 cranes – 200 SPMT lines – 3,000 pieces of equipment – 100 branches



Eight awards, four for big companies and four for SMEs, were presented yesterday evening as the winners of the fifth WNE Innovation Awards were revealed

GR-8 EXPECTATIONS



BOOSTING NUCLEAR INSTALLATION PERFORMANCE AND LTO

- 1) SMEs/VSEs: CORE Energy Systems
2) Big groups: EDF

CONTRIBUTING TO MORE ADAPTIVE SOLUTIONS TO NEW CHALLENGES

- 3) SMEs/VSEs: GraphiCore
4) Big groups: Westinghouse Electric



OPTIMISING CONSTRUCTION COSTS AND LEAD TIMES

5. SMEs/VSEs: Spaciotempo
6. Big groups: AIC

INNOVATING BEYOND ELECTRICITY

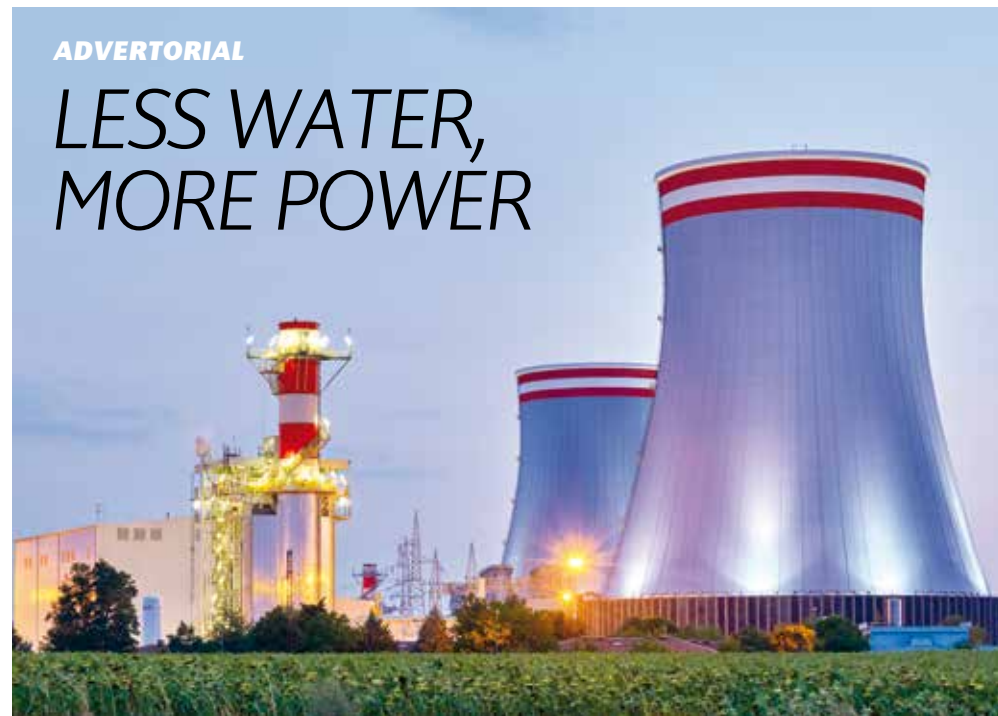
7. SMEs/VSEs: Calogena
8. Big groups: Framatome



MORE INFO
Scan the QR code to learn more about all of our 2025 Innovation Award entrants



ADVERTORIAL

LESS WATER,
MORE POWER

The risk of water scarcity can have significant negative impact on a nuclear site. As extreme conditions become more prevalent, so demand intensifies for reliable cooling systems.

Budapest-based MVM EGI – which has the world's only dry-cooling reference for a nuclear plant – offers a solution for nuclear plant operators with its hybrid, dry and wet cooling systems.

Designed to meet the challenges of nuclear energy, from large-scale NPPs to SMRs, they reduce risk, save water and ensure stable performance in harsh environments.

These solutions draw on more than 75 years of experience to help operators around the world reduce water consumption, secure permits in drought-prone areas, and ensure long-term performance under extreme climatic and regulatory conditions.

MVM EGI (D128) delivers not just cooling systems, but strategic outcomes: lower risk, better ESG positioning, and greater peace of mind.

Top: Indirect dry cooling system, Hamitabat, and below: MVM EGI Teshrin



ADVERTORIAL

CONNECTED RISK MANAGEMENT
IN THE NUCLEAR SUPPLY CHAIN

As global energy demand grows and the transition to net zero accelerates, nuclear power plays a vital role in securing a sustainable energy future. Managing the nuclear supply chain, however, requires navigating complex regulatory, technical, and operational risks.

LRQA (C080) partners with organisations throughout the entire nuclear plant lifecycle – from design and construction to operation and decommissioning. Its connected portfolio spans equipment inspection and certification, project assurance, technical advisory, and supply chain and vendor inspections. Together,

these services help ensure compliance with international standards, maintain integrity, and build confidence across global operations.

From ISO 19443, ASME and RCC-M inspections to regulatory training, GHG verification, and supplier assessments, LRQA provides independent assurance and practical insight grounded in decades of sector expertise.

Through people, data and technology, LRQA helps clients turn risk into opportunity – supporting safer, stronger, and more sustainable nuclear supply chains worldwide.



3 QUESTIONS

with Issam Taleb, partner of EY-Parthenon (F138)

A leader in the energy consulting field, EY recognises the importance of having a presence at all relevant trade shows. WNE is a key event for the consultancy, given its close and historical working relationship with several nuclear value chains at global level.

Within EY, EY-Parthenon offers a broad range of services from strategy to transactions support with functional and industry depth. The company's strategists help nuclear supply chains maximise their value today while reshaping their businesses to meet tomorrow's growth needs.

Partner Issam Taleb said recent strategic reports produced by EY-Parthenon included studies on the true power of SMRs; the remuneration models and financing structures of the Dutch nuclear new build (NNB) programme; risks and opportunities for mining and metals in 2025; and an independent review of economic analyses of Slovenia's JEK2 project. "Those documents showcase EY capabilities when it comes to the nuclear sector and wider energy sector," he said.

A new white paper prepared by EY-Parthenon about financing the civil nuclear industry at a global level will be published during WNE. Presentation of this new thought leadership was a highlight of the company's session on 4 November.



3 QUESTIONS

with Laurent Odeh, chief commercial officer of Urenco (C030)

WNE is the leading civil nuclear exhibition around the globe, so it's incredibly important to us to showcase the company, our existing and new areas of business and to strengthen industry relationships. The exhibition also provides a fantastic base to network, explore contemporary issues in the industry and learn about newcomers.

We are investing in our LEU capacity at all four of our enrichment sites as a result of the increased demand for nuclear energy globally. The first enrichment capacity came online this year, with more to come, and we have the option to further expand when the market requires it.

We are also taking advanced fuels forward to power small and advanced modular reactors. For this, we are building an advanced fuels facility to produce HALEU fuel, with the co-investment of the UK government.

The market for isotopes with medical, industrial and research applications continues to grow, and our newest Urenco Isotope installation, named Blaise Pascal, has gone live, strengthening our position.

We expect an even bigger and better show than WNE 2023, which will take some doing! The momentum in nuclear since the last show has continued to gain pace, so we are excited to be a part of this again.



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nuclear lifecycle

Join our exclusive workshop

Lifecycle intelligence: leveraging CALM to unify design, construction and operations in nuclear infrastructure
Wednesday, November 5 - 17:00-17:40, Workshop room 2
[siemens.com/software](https://www.siemens.com/software)



24



There are 24 national pavilions at WNE, a quarter of which are taking space for the first time

SEALING SOLUTIONS FROM FAMILY FIRM

The Efire Group (C084), a French family-owned group founded in 1872, is at WNE 2025 to share its expertise in custom-made technical sealing solutions for the safety and performance of nuclear facilities and equipment.

Graphite die-cast ring seals, spiral wound gaskets, ribbed gaskets, and other metallic and semi-metallic seals are among proven, PMUC-certified solutions are on display on Efire's stand.

Recognised for its expertise in precision cutting and machining, Efire is showcasing its

expertise in the design of custom metallic and composite seals, from prototypes to small series, meeting specific requirements of each project.

"With more than 40 years of experience in the industry, we support our customers in the design and reliability of components essential to nuclear safety," says Etienne Burnichon (pictured), nuclear market manager of Efire Group.



Brazilian delegation celebrates country's first ever pavilion at WNE

NEW NATIONS COME
TO THE WNE PARTY

Brazil, South Africa and India, three of the six so-called BRICS nations, are among the countries mounting national pavilions for the first time at WNE 2025.

There are 24 national pavilions at WNE, a quarter of which are taking space for the first time. Hungary, Kazakhstan and Ukraine are also exhibiting here for the first time.

The Brazilian presence is led by the Brazilian Association for the Development of Nuclear Activities (ABDAN), which has brought together several key players in the country's developing nuclear sector.

They include nuclear technology developer Amazul and engineering and software systems provider Atech. The pavilion also features coal-to-nuclear transition specialist Diamante Energia, as well as INB, which leads Brazil's nuclear fuel cycle, producing uranium and fuel elements.

Brazil is carrying out work on a new multipurpose reactor. State-owned South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa) meanwhile is leading the country's national pavilion at the show.

Necsa carries out research and development

in the field of nuclear energy and radiation sciences and technology, offering a range of nuclear-related and non-nuclear products and services. South African power utilities firm Eksom and radioactive waste disposal specialist NRDI are also sharing the pavilion.

South Africa has had the SAFARI-1 research reactor in operation since 1965, while plans are under way for a new multipurpose research reactor.

Elsewhere in Africa, Egypt is currently constructing a plant and the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) says 13 other countries – including Gambia, Kenya and Nigeria – are planning or considering adopting nuclear technology.

The IAEA reports that by 2050, Africa's electricity capacity is expected to rise significantly. In a high case scenario, nuclear capacity could triple by 2030 and increase tenfold by 2050. The debuts this year of Brazil, South Africa and India mean that the four BRICS countries able to exhibit at the event are in attendance. China is already an established exhibitor, while Russia is currently subject to ongoing sanctions.

COMPRESSOR SPECIALIST
COMMITTED TO NUCLEAR

Girodin-Sauer (P133), the French subsidiary of the Sauer Compressors Group of Germany, is at WNE for the first time to promote its expertise in the nuclear sector. A leader in the design, installation, and maintenance of industrial compressors, its commitment to the nuclear field is built on decades of experience, with hundreds of compressors installed worldwide.

SYSTEMS BASED ON
BALL BEARING TECH

French company ADR (A102) is at WNE for the first time. Located in Ile-de-France, ADR designs and manufactures rotating systems based on ball bearing technology. Custom-made, its bearings operate in demanding environments including aeronautics, space, defence and security, medical, and in the energy sector. ADR products include high-precision ball bearings, integrated ball bearings, and sub-systems.

ADVERTORIAL

CAELUS
Ecosystem

DESIGN, LICENSE, BUILD – REPEAT:
A NEW PARADIGM FOR NUCLEAR 3.0.

From licensing and design to construction and operation, nuclear teams face a combination of fragmented tools, isolated data, limited automation, and supply chain disruptions that ultimately increase financial risks, delays, and cost overruns.

CAELUS (P130) is redefining how the nuclear industry works, thinks, and connects. We design the digital infrastructure that powers the new Nuclear 3.0. Through licensing intelligence, AI-driven processes, and supply chain qualification, CAELUS brings all stakeholders – from regulators to reactor designers, utilities and EPCs – into one unified ecosystem.

Our suite enables organisations to streamline compliance, optimise engineering, and accelerate deployment

with transparency and trust. Our partner programmes empower project developers, engineering consultancies and manufacturers to collaborate through tailored qualification and integration pathways, while regulators engage via our regulatory OS to co-assess and refine digital regulatory applications, thus enhancing oversight and efficiency in the whole process.

Supported by our operational technologies and ancillary services, CAELUS ensures seamless execution through AI-native processes and advanced digital tools. Operating across Europe, Asia, and Africa, we bridge innovation and governance to enable faster and smarter nuclear development.

CAELUS is powering the "design, license, build repeat" future of global nuclear innovation.

BOOKSHOP

TODAY'S SIGNING
SESSIONS AT
THE EPHEMERAL
LIBRARY

10:30-11:30

ÉNERGIE NUCLEAIRE :
LE VRAI RISQUE

Dominique Louis, CEO, Assystem

11:45-13:00 & 15:00-17:00

ÉNERGIES, FAKE OR NOT?
CONSTRUIRE NOTRE AVENIR
ET DECARBONER NOTRE
ÉNERGIE SANS FAKE NEWS:
TRANSITION ÉNERGETIQUE,
ÉNERGIES FOSSILES,
ÉNERGIES RENOUVELABLES,
ÉLECTRICITÉ VERTE,
NUCLEAIRE

Maxence Coordiez, Head of
Nuclear Fuel Cycle, Hexana

HOMO ÉNERGETICUS POUR
UNE TRANSITION BAS
CARBONE

Stéphane Sarraide, Director of
Energy Programs, CEA

L'ÉNERGIE NUCLEAIRE EN 100
QUESTIONS POUR UN MONDE
EN TRANSITION

Maxence Cordiez and
Stéphane Sarraide

2,667 TWh



Last year marked a record global electricity generation from nuclear – 2,667 terawatt hours of electricity, avoiding more than 2.1 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions

**DAY TWO****Main Stage Programme****09:30-09:45**

Keynote speech: Xavier Ursat, president, GIFEN

**09:45-11:00**

Panel discussion: Bridging the gap financing the nuclear renaissance: from policy support mechanism to new financing solutions

**11:15-12:30**

Panel discussion: From breakthroughs to industry: delivering fusion at global scale

**14:00-14:45**

Assystem Tribune: First of a kind without failure: how new nuclear players can deliver with confidence

**15:00-15:45**

Framatome Tribune: Key enablers for the competitiveness and resilience of nuclear energy

**16:00-16:45**

Westinghouse Tribune: Digital and nuclear: the perfect match to accelerate nuclear deployment and innovate in nuclear operations

**17:00-17:15**

Keynote speech: Lassina Zerbo, chair, Rwanda Atomic Energy Board

**17:15-18:30**

Panel discussion: Standardisation in the global nuclear industry: pathways and challenges

KEYNOTE SPEECH SAMA BILBAO Y LEÓN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE WORLD NUCLEAR ASSOCIATION

A CONSOLIDATED CALL TO ACTION

In her keynote address yesterday, Dr Sama Bilbao y León (pictured), director general of the World Nuclear Association, reflected on the progress made since COP 28 recognised nuclear as one of the energy sources that needs to be accelerated to meet climate change goals.

She spoke of how the historical ministerial declaration to triple global nuclear capacity by 2050 set a clear goal, and the means to ensure it was achieved.

She said: "We now have more than 14 banks and financial institutions supporting this tripling of global nuclear capacity. We have many large energy users including Google, Amazon, Meta, Dow Chemical, and Occidental supporting nuclear development.

"Nuclear has moved from the margins of the

energy discourse to take front and centre in global climate action."

She congratulated the gathered industry, commenting that "last year marked a record global electricity generation from nuclear – 2,667 terawatt hours of electricity, avoiding more than 2.1 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions."

However, she urged them to strive for more.

Next week at COP 30, the WNA will be working to influence and inform decision-makers, hoping to add more countries to the declaration. The event will also see WNA release the first report on progress made since COP28.

Bilbao emphasized: "Declarations alone are not enough. We need to now deliver. So our tripling movement cannot just be a slogan, it needs to be a call for action."



“Nuclear has moved from the margins of the energy discourse to take front and centre in the global climate action. The groundwork has been laid, but the path ahead requires unity, a sense of urgency and unwavering commitment

KEYNOTE SPEECH DR LASSINA ZERBO, CHAIRMAN OF THE RWANDA ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD

SMRS OFFER 'PRACTICAL SOLUTION' FOR AFRICA: ZERBO

"The potential of nuclear power in Africa is immense." So says Dr Lassina Zerbo, chairman of the Rwanda Atomic Energy Board (RAEB), energy advisor to the Rwandan president, and a noted 'nuclear science diplomat'.

In a WNE keynote speech this afternoon, Dr Zerbo will lay out an energy vision for the continent that is "ambitious yet essential" and focuses on SMRs and micro reactors, which he says offer Africa a real opportunity to transform its energy landscape.

With enhanced international cooperation, the continent can

build a safer, cleaner energy future, while improving the quality of life for millions of Africans, he says.

At present, South Africa is the only African country operating a commercial nuclear power plant (NPP). Egypt is building its first NPP. Dr Zerbo sees SMRs as "a practical, scalable solution for Africa's baseload and its resilience and industrialisation goals".

"Rapidly growing populations and economies require an energy sector that is not only expansive but sustainable.

Africa is not just a participant in the global energy conversation," he says. "We are leaders, innovators,

and stakeholders, shaping the future of clean energy solutions."

Dr Zerbo will address several big questions today, including industrial partnerships and "bankable projects" aligned with IAEA milestones and strong governance; workforce development and regional supply chains to localise value creation; and financing models that de-risk first-of-a-kind deployments and accelerate time-to-power.

The global industry has a unique opportunity to work with Africa to meet these demands while tackling climate change, he says.

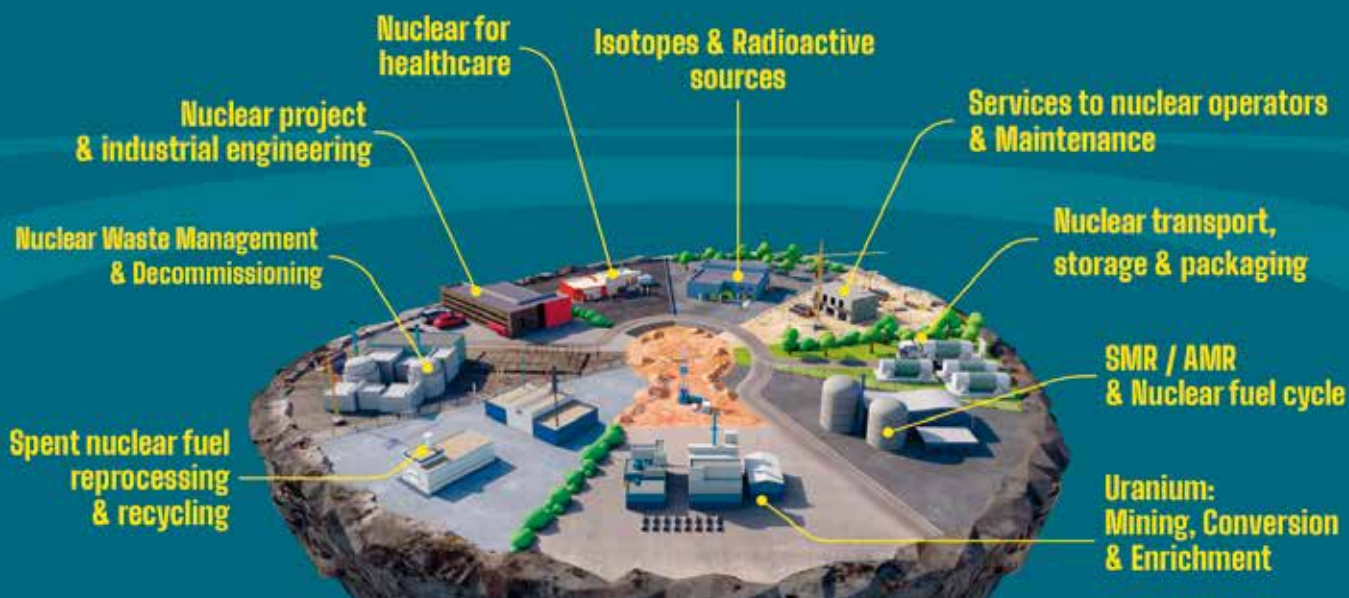


Keynote speech with Dr Lassina Zerbo, main stage, 17:00

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**inbrief**

NORDIC NEIGHBOURS JOIN FORCES WITH MOU

Three Nordic countries signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) yesterday at the show to promote joint activities and industrial capability building across their territories, enhance regional supply chains, and build an industry collaboration capable of addressing future needs of the European nuclear fleet. The agreement, signed between FinNuclear Association, NuclearSweden, and the Norwegian Nuclear Association, aims to strengthen their respective industries, enhance cooperation, and foster cross-border partnerships to accelerate capability-building and industrial development in the Nordic and European nuclear ecosystem.