

## A WELL-PACKAGED STANDARD

Risktec is continuing to work with leading packaging company Rexam plc (see RISKworld issue 3) in the development of its Safety Management System (SMS) both at corporate and site level.

A compliancy analysis of site systems against the OHSAS 18001 specification for occupational health and safety management systems has recently been completed at plants at Limmared in Sweden and Milton Keynes in the UK.

Although not yet formally released as a standard, OHSAS 18001 is compatible with ISO 9001 (Quality), and ISO 14001 (Environmental) management system standards, and is becoming accepted as a means of integrating quality, environmental and safety management systems.

The key features of OHSAS 18001 are:

- It was developed in response to industry demand.
- It presents a structured approach for delivering health and safety performance improvement.
- It promotes benchmarking of SMS development.

For more information, contact Tim Storey or Lesley Rawlinson.

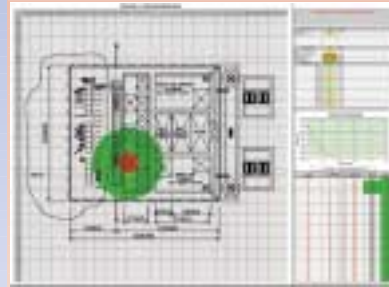


## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

In response to increasing client demands for facility layout studies at the conceptual design stage, Risktec has developed a Layout Assessment Tool.



Application of safety principles during the development of concept design is one of the key strategies for reducing risks as low as is reasonably practicable. The appropriate locating of potential sources of hazard leading to events such as fire, explosion or gas dispersion, can help to reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas, such as accommodation blocks, offices and fire fighting systems.



The tool maps the frequency and consequences of hazardous events onto the facility layout and calculates hazard levels at defined locations. Hazard source and target locations can then be readily altered to optimise layout.

One of the main benefits of the tool is that 'real time' hazard assessments can be conducted during team layout reviews to support decision making by the project.

So far, the tool has been successfully used to aid safety case and design development, including:

- Option studies for temporary refuges and escape, evacuation and rescue provisions.
- Optimisation of concept and detailed design.
- ALARP assessment.

For more information, contact Rob Steer.

## NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY - THE NEW DNA FOR THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY?

With the publishing of the draft "Nuclear Sites and Radioactive Substances" Bill, the impact of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) in managing the nuclear legacy in the UK is becoming clearer.

The role of the NDA from April 2005 will be to provide the overall management and direction for legacy clean-up, developing a coherent strategy whilst making the best use of available skills and resources. To achieve this it will work in partnership with the site licensees, who will be responsible for doing the work, and the nuclear regulators.

Initially the NDA will have responsibility and financial control for the nuclear liabilities of the UKAEA and BNFL. However, the clear intent of the Bill is that over time the NDA will take responsibility for all Public (or Crown) owned nuclear liabilities and those that are privately owned. In the latter case, the NDA will take over the Governmental undertakings with respect to the decommissioning of British Energy's nuclear power stations. It is also expected that the NDA will be responsible for the decommissioning of Ministry of Defence sites, including those associated with the

strategic deterrent and the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Programme.

Like the Strategic Rail Authority, the NDA's work will be largely franchise management of site operators or site licensee companies, who will have an incentivised 5 to 10 year contract to perform and drive forward clean-up of each site. The NDA will consist of 100-200 staff at headquarters in West Cumbria, with up to another 100 at NDA site offices around the UK.

Whilst the current site licensee companies will be the main contractors, competition will be encouraged to stimulate innovation and raise safety and environmental standards, so some sites may have new operators in 2005. The security of the supply chain and skill base will also be fostered by requiring the site licensee companies to subcontract large, discrete projects and develop local supply chains around each site.

The NDA has a vast, steadily increasing scope of work to manage. The challenge will be to engage the best minds in the industry without losing sight of its commercial or strategic goals.

For more information, contact Greg Davidson

