



Update...

A Word from the Chair...

EFCOG Chair, Michael Lempke
Huntington Ingalls Industries

Thank you for all of your hard work during this challenging time.

EFCOG continues to appreciate the partnership between our member companies and the Department of Energy (DOE) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) to address all facets of the COVID pandemic, from implementation of vaccine and testing protocols to contract language and sharing of lessons learned. As we work to implement a vaccine mandate across the complex, that partnership will be more important than ever to ensure we continue to safely and securely deliver on the vital missions at each of our sites and projects.

Beyond our partnership with DOE/NNSA on COVID issues, EFCOG has been working on a number of specific tasks in support of our strategic priorities:

1. Safe, Secure and Effective Operations
2. Ensuring the Long-term Availability of Critical Equipment, Supplies and Infrastructure
3. Assuring that Projects are Completed on Cost and Schedule
4. Recruit, Develop and Retain a talented, diverse workforce to Ensure Future Mission Needs are Met

Specifically, we have put a strong focus on our Supply Chain initiative, establishing a core task team and four sub-teams to address a number of areas including expanding the pipeline of vendors, including outreach to minority and other companies around the DOE sites, and methods to streamline the procurement pipeline for critical supply elements. In partnership with NNSA, our group is also specifically targeting the procurement of gloveboxes to support pit production and other ongoing missions.

In addition, another Board-level task team is focused on completing non-nuclear projects at lower cost. EFCOG is reviewing lessons learned from the NNSA pilots of non-nuclear, commercial-like projects (parking decks, administrative buildings, etc.) to identify opportunities for reducing cost and schedule associated with these projects. The outcome will be a recommended 413 tailoring strategy that could be used at all sites to execute this suite of projects consistently across DOE/NNSA.

Another area of interest is our work to improve rigor conduct of operations. EFCOG is examining the use of a Board-level team to partner with NNSA and DOE on a Con Ops review that would follow up on areas identified by the NNSA review and identify recommendations on how these areas can be addressed. Stay tuned for more on this over the coming months.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the new dates for the National Cleanup Workshop, now scheduled for Dec. 7-9 in Alexandria, Va. EFCOG worked with the Energy Communities Alliance and DOE to postpone the September event to ensure we could safely gather in person, which is a priority for all of us. For more information, visit www.cleanupworkshop.com.

Thank you for all that you do every day to protect our workforce, improve safety, security and quality, and meet critical mission milestones.

FEATURED WORKING GROUP REPORT

Safety Working Group (SWG)

Chair – Jan Preston, Fluor

Vice Chair – Patricia Allen, Savannah River Remediation

Secretary – Frances Alston, BWXT

DOE Liaison – Garrett Smith, Director, AU-30 Office of Nuclear Safety

EFCOG Board of Directors Sponsors – Jack Craig, Atkins/Mark Whitney, Amentum

Overview

The participants of the Safety Working Group, its Sub-Groups, and Task Teams continued to be on the front lines of the EFCOG member companies' efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Amidst these challenges, including the restrictions on face-to-face collaborations, the SWG Sub-Groups and Task Teams continued to execute their annual plan commitments to the greatest extent possible. In addition, they contributed to addressing many special requests for subject matter expertise inputs from DOE/NNSA, EFCOG, and their parent companies. Highlights of some of the efforts of the Safety Working Group's Sub-Groups and Task Teams are provided below.

Recent Working Group Activities

Engineering Practices (EP) Sub-Group

- The Engineering Practices (EP) Sub-Group (including the Fire Protection Task Team):
 - Completed the Code of Record Best Practice (Best Practice #247) and published it on EFCOG's website in April 2021.
 - Supported issuance of E-SG-QA-PEQ-2021-01, *EFCOG White Paper – Benchmarking of Engineered Procurement Effectiveness Elements*, Revision 0, in June 2021.
 - Is on track to publish Conduct of Training as a Best Practice, including a crosswalk with DOE requirements, by the end of FY2021.

Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Sub-Group. All ISM Sub-Group Task Teams met virtually at least monthly.

- The ISM Sub-Group's Contractor Assurance System (CAS) Task Team issued a Best Practice – "*Guidance for Collaborative Reviews of Contractor's Mission Governance & Contractor Assurance System (CAS) Performance.*"
- The ISM Sub-Group's Human Performance Improvement (HPI) Task team issued a Task Sheet and Best Practices for a Portable HPI Lab Platform.
- The ISM Sub-Group's newly re-established Work Planning & Control (WP&C) Task Team developed and issued:

- WP&C Pre-work Checklists – These checklists provide options for a standardized approach to evaluating work activity readiness
- WPC Field Assist Visit Checklist – This checklist is used to provide guidance and support to implement standard processes, approaches, and documentation to the WP&C process.
- WP&C Metrics

Laser Safety Task Team (LSTT); Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group

The Laser Safety Task Team continued its focus on developing safe work practices for DOE/NNSA and academia in the area of laser safety. LSTT has been active in these areas:

- Developed a Laser Near Miss & Accident Database in Microsoft Access that contains Lessons Learned and ORPS reports from 1999 to present. This allows for trending of accidents from year to year. The database will be uploaded to the LSTTT website once fully beta tested.
- Completed a benchmarking study on Class 1 laser enclosures across 15 DOE Labs. A Class 1 Enclosure Checklist was developed, and a presentation created to be presented at the 2022 International Laser Safety Conference.
- Developing a white paper, as requested by AU-11, to provide recommendations to meet the reporting requirements of FDA Notice 25. This is part of a Policy Clarification #D20-09-001, submitted by Idaho Operations Office. The report is scheduled to be completed by 10/01/2021.

Radiological Protection Task Team (RPTT); Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group

The RP Technical Task Team has accomplished the following:

- Establishment of a sub-team that is on track to provide AU-11 a recommendation paper on the adoption of International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) Lens of the Eye dose limits;
- Continued assistance to the DOE National Training Center (NTC) in their effort to build consistent radiological worker training programs, which resulted in updates to the DOE Core Rad Worker Training course and associated RadWorker Training Handbook;
- Held discussions on rolling the AMUG (Air Monitoring Users Group) under the RPTT as a sub-committee in the same manner as the RPTT did with HPIC (Health Physics Instrumentation Committee). A draft AMUG charter has been written and will be discussed/voted on at the October meeting;
- Incorporated RP lessons learned from RPTT member sites and sharing (at each RPTT meeting) at least two lessons learned, which are presented by RPTT members.
- Captured and shared COVID-19 radiological lessons learned at AU-11's request, which were subsequently disseminated to RP organizations across the complex.

Electrical Safety Task Team (ESTT); Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group. The Electrical Safety Task Team continued to make progress though FY2021:

- The format of monthly calls, meetings and continued efforts has been modified to keep members engaged. An example of this change is having guest speakers prominent in the industry engage with the ESTT. In July, ESTT hosted 6 industry expert presentations; this effort may be continued in the future if feedback from members is positive.

- Issued best practices with a focus on the important and highly hazardous areas in LOTO, Utility, and Underground Installations.

DOE Standards/Handbooks Revision Reviews:

- The Regulatory & Enforcement Technical (R&ET) Sub-Group Steering Committee reviewed the DOE Office of Enforcement’s (OE) draft update to the Safety & Security Enforcement Coordinator Handbook. The update incorporates input from a joint OE and RETSG committee identified to determine the path forward for enforcement guidance supplements.
- The ESTT (Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group) supported the update of DOE-HNBK-1092-202 for AU-11; it is expected this will be issued in FY2022. Revising this critical handbook has been a major focus of the TT; the revision took 5 years to complete and issue to DOE for use across the DOE complex.

Recent Sub-Group or Task Team Meetings

- The EP Sub-Group hosted a virtual all sub-group meeting on August 5, 2021. The agenda included status reports on in-process initiatives/commitments, remarks from DOE regarding priority and emerging activities, and reports from engineering and fire protection professionals around the complex regarding challenges and opportunities.
- The ISM Sub-Group and Quality Assurance (QA) Sub-Group cooperatively led Joint Virtual ISM/QA Fall and Spring Meetings with over 300 remote participants.
- The R&ET Sub-Group participated in two virtual meetings originated by the Office of Enforcement in October 2020 and June 2021.
- The ESTT (Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group) held its Winter meeting and Summer Workshop virtually, turning out products and sharing with the complex, including the new DOE liaison;

Upcoming Sub-Group or Task Team Meetings

- The R&ET Sub-Group intends to conduct a virtual meeting on November 4, 2021 to work on deliverables.
- The QA / ISM Team Sub-Group Operational Meeting is scheduled for November 1-4, 2021; over 80 participants have registered to date.
- The Worker Safety & Health Sub-Group Meeting (all Task Teams) is scheduled for October 25-28, 2021.

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>The National Cleanup Workshop</i>	December 7-9, 2021
--------------------------------------	--------------------