

## WM2017 Conference Panel Report

### PANEL SESSION 79: Challenges and Lessons Learned in Radioactive Waste Packaging, Transportation, Compliance and Receipt

Co-Chairs: **Christopher Brandjes**, *Ameriphysics*  
**Paul Jones**, *Ameriphysics*

Panel Reporter: **Michael Snyder**, *Sustainable Storage Systems, 3S*

#### Panelists:

1. **Dennis McGuinness**, *Sales Engineer, Paragon D&E*
2. **Scott Dempsey**, *Vice President Business Development, MHF Services*
3. **Robert Strang**, *Vice President Business Development, DAHER-TLI*
4. **Michael Snyder**, *US Sales and Global Strategy, 3S*

About 50 people attended this panel session which focused on the progress of radioactive waste, packaging and transportation issues in the United States. The session consisted of four panelists, from worldwide companies, presenting up to date information on their individual perspectives of the real-life challenges and lessons learned to ensure compliance when packaging and transporting waste. Each presentation was followed with a short question and answer period. The participants provided their perspectives and suggestions on how to increase efficiencies through eliminating inconsistencies between specifications and other requirements to provide products and services at a reasonable cost, and enhance communication to enable better service.

#### **Summary of Presentations**

**Dennis McGuinness** showed a short five-minute film which briefly showed Paragon's capabilities and product line. He explained the problems the company has experienced with document control during production of the 9979 Type AF waste package for the DOE which requires between 140,000 and 280,000 documents to complete during the fabrication. Paragon is "paperless" so they've had to work with the DOE to establish a server used for document control. He compared this to the work that Paragon performed in the past to produce parts for the Space Shuttle which required far less paperwork to complete.

**Scott Dempsey** summarized the capabilities and experience that MHF Services, an *EnergySolutions* company, has in packaging, transporting and disposing of radioactive wastes. **Mr. Dempsey** made a good point that *actual* Type A / IP2 package testing may be required in the future per 49 CFR 173.465 instead of modified mechanical engineering testing permitted by 49 CFR 173.461 and how this will affect costs and timing for packaging designs.

**Robert Strang** provided some background on DAHER group and its international presence as a service provider to the nuclear industry. Specifically, **Mr. Strang** presented information on Electronic Logging Devices (ELDS) that are used by road transporters to assure real time federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) compliance by monitoring allowed driving and rest hours, times for pickup and drop-offs and road speeds. The ELDs were first used in December 2016 and are replacing manual entered information on Record of Duty Status logs.

## WM2017 Conference Panel Report

**Michael Snyder** presented some experience with waste packaging issues including water in water packages and out-of-compliance dose rates on packages upon facility receipt. **Mr. Snyder** also presented information on large component shipments and discussed the key steps to ensure successful transportation.