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Transportation and Storage A Mature Industry in an Evolving Environment

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This paper will show how transport of radioactive materials for the power fuel cycle and intermediate storage of spent fuel serves the industry and its drive to cost reduction while maintaining impeccable safety and security.

It will first give an overview of the well proven systems at work today. In particular, it will review how they combine procedures, training, maintenance, and system engineering to produce an unequalled record of safe operation.

Then, through analysis of recent past challenges and new ones, it will explain how the transport industry reacts, anticipates and keep up the record: contamination on some spent fuel transports and up coming new regulatory requirements.

With regard to cost reduction, the paper will show examples of how integrating transport considerations early in a project, overall economics can be improved. It will also demonstrate how, on the spent fuel intermediate storage field, search for optimised solutions lead to improved technical and cost performance of such systems.

As a conclusion, the paper will underline the necessity of joint working of operators and transports in order to guaranty excellent safety and security, with a focus on economic optimisation of their strongly interfaced activities.