The qualified expert: competences, training and experience requirements

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Content :

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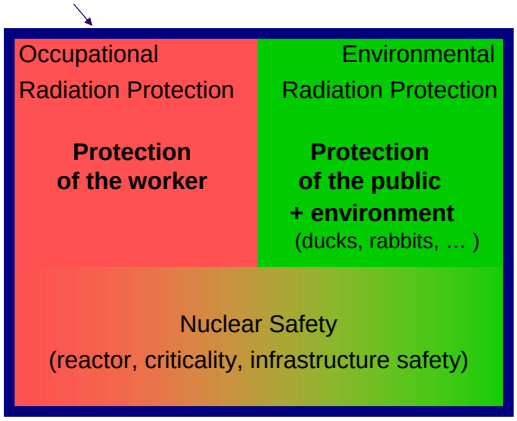
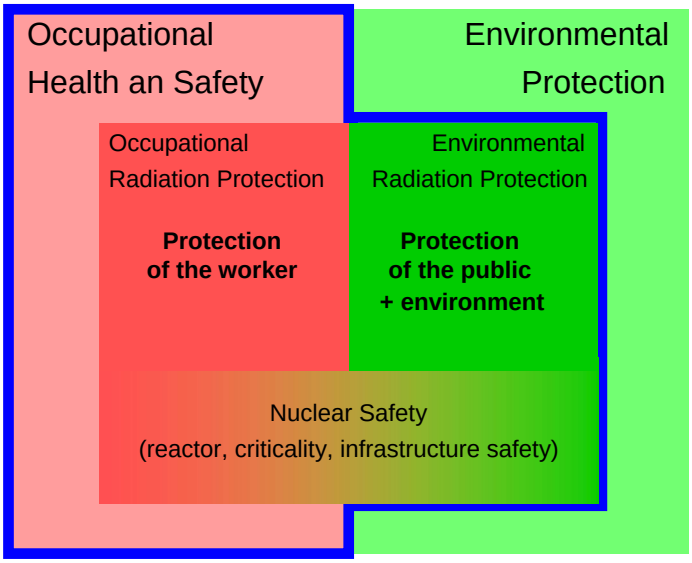
1 Competences

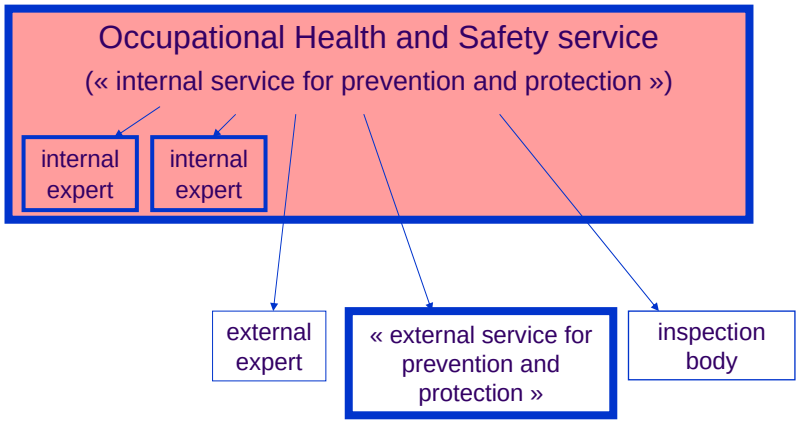
« HEALTH PHYSICS » service



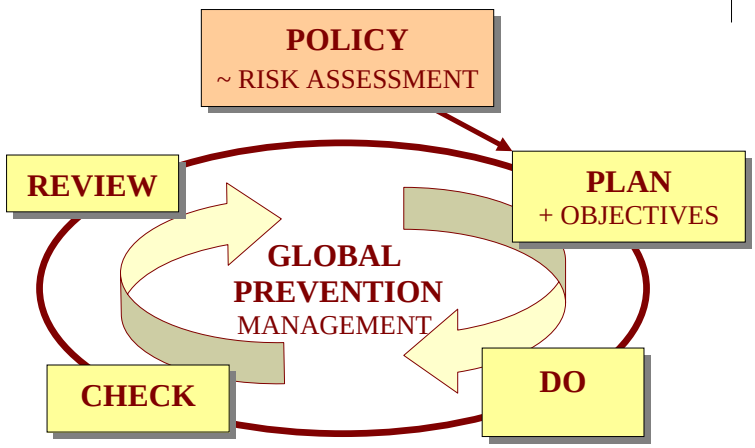
1 Competences



☞ *Delegation of expertises*



☞ *Common management*



2 Basic training

Belgian regulation requests (for « health physics expert ») :

- training in radiation protection (120 h)
- training in nuclear safety (~ installation)

Problem : full-scope training ?

☞ *Possibility for a modular 'training file' presented to assessment committee*

☞ *Requirement : trainings to be concluded by exam or evaluation by a jury*

3 Experience

Experience should be important aspect for recognition of experts

In regulatory framework experience is only vaguely addressed

- ☞ *Experience requirements should be more explicitly defined*
- ☞ *Suggestion :*
  - *3 years for 'class 1' installations*
  - *1 year for 'class 2' installations*

4 Continuous training

Assessment systems for continuous training:

(1) allocation of '**points**' ~ followed training

(2) organisation of **refresher courses + exam**

(3) assessment based on an **application file**

(1) allocation of '**points**' ~ followed training :

- ☺ Pure quantitative appraisal (objectivity)
- 😐 Quick 'processing' of application files
- ☹ 'Scoring' becomes motivation

(2) organisation of **refresher courses + exam** :

- ☺ Objective and controllable
- ☹ Difficult to establish refresher courses enough focussed on real necessities experts

(3) assessment based on periodic introduction of an **application file**

= current system in Belgium, nomal periodicity = 6 years

- *Should be maintained, but formalised (structured)*
  - *Subjects to be covered :*
    - *regulation*
    - *fundamentals of the radiation protection*
    - *ALARA and prevention in radiation protection*
    - *radiation measurement techniques*
    - *contamination-risk assessment*
    - *environmental aspects*
    - *social and ethical aspects*
  - *Minimum time spent on training (external & internal)*
- *Appraisal by assessment committee*

5 Conclusions 1/2

- radiation protection and nuclear safety must be seen in broader frame of management of health, safety and environmental issues; but *delegation* to qualified experts in specific *competence areas* must be possible
- appraisal of *basic and continuous training* by assessment committee, based on both *quantitative as qualitative criteria,* with enough flexibility to deal with specificities
- *experience* requirements to be more emphasised

5 Conclusions 2/2

In Europe : various systems in place for QE
(different qualification criteria, different competences)
→ towards harmonised system ?

- each country could designate 'assessment body' to judge on equivalence of an application for QE
- assessment should be realised in a pragmatic and flexible way
  - limit the expertise to specific area, installation or period of time
  - base assessment on quantitative and qualitative criteria and have possibility to impose additional specific courses
  - consider also experience requirements
- working rules of 'assessment body' should be rather uniform over Member States ; could be mapped out by E.C.