

A career in the nuclear sector, Yes-You-Can !

Wim Uyttenhove

*SCK·CEN, Belgian Nuclear Research Centre
Delft University of Technology*

wim.uyttenhove@sckcen.be

- How did I arrive in the nuclear sector ?
- Is there a typical career path in the nuclear sector?
- Is BNEN an added value for my professional career ?
- Is there a future after Fukushima?



Electromechanical Engineer, Ghent University (2004)



Traineeship in nuclear safeguards
at EU's JRC Ispra (Italy)

Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering (BNEN)
at SCK-CEN (2005)



Safety engineer for
analyses and inspections
at AVN (2005-2008)

Research Engineer and PhD Fellow
at SCK•CEN (2008-...)



- Research Engineer @ the VENUS facility at SCK·CEN
 - After licensing & commissioning, experimenting on a unique ADS
 - Project management for the European FREYA FP7 project
 - Teaching for GDF Suez
- PhD Fellow at the Delft University of Technology
 - PhD Topic: On-line subcriticality monitoring
- Past Chairman of the Belgian Nuclear Society – Young Generation (YG) Network
 - Working in the communication group
 - Belgian representative in the European YG network
- Program Chair of the International Youth Nuclear Congress (IYNC2012) in Charlotte (NC, USA)

- Courses in the different engineering disciplines of the nuclear sector
- Broad overview on the nuclear field
 - allowed me to switch from nuclear mechanics to the nuclear reactor physics domain
 - teachers from different universities and companies
- Open door to an (inter)national network
- A required degree for certain safety or management functions in your further career in the nuclear sector

Working in the nuclear sector today ?

- You will arrive in a multidisciplinary sector including different aspects of all engineering disciplines
- BNEN makes you a broad oriented nuclear engineer
- The future of nuclear energy is not black or white
 - International sector
 - Different applications of the nuclear science and technology
 - Particular “nuclear population chart” with ageing experts

Finally some personal viewpoints

- Independent of the future of nuclear energy, this engineering discipline offers you a challenging job in different domains.
- Think out of the box in this particular sector
 - Capital-intensive sector needs innovative approach from young professionals
 - Put yourself in question from time to time
- Communicate in a rational way, it is part of your job
 - Don't try to convince people
 - Don't say you are perfect
 - Be proud of your job
- Safety first !



Copyright © 2009 - SCK•CEN

All property rights and copyright are reserved.
Any communication or reproduction of this document, and any communication or use of its content without explicit authorization is prohibited. Any infringement to this rule is illegal and entitles to claim damages from the infringer, without prejudice to any other right in case of granting a patent or registration in the field of intellectual property.

SCK•CEN

Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie
Centre d'Etude de l'Energie Nucléaire

Stichting van Openbaar Nut
Fondation d'Utilité Publique
Foundation of Public Utility

Registered Office: Avenue Herrmann-Debrouxlaan 40 - BE-1160 BRUSSEL
Operational Office: Boeretang 200 - BE-2400 MOL