
Spain: SUSI submarine robot enables successful visual inspection at Ascó Nuclear Power Plant

Framatome has successfully performed a complete visual inspection of the tube bundle top structure of a steam generator in the Spanish nuclear power plant at Ascó Unit 2.

Framatome's team used the well-proven underwater inspection submarine system SUSI. This small, remote-controlled submarine navigates the primary circuit as well as the steam generator's secondary side of nuclear power plants and is equipped with technology for various applications. Such inspections aim at confirming the system integrity and the safety of the plant's operation.

"This success shows our ability to perform complex inspections in nuclear power plants of all designs, anywhere in the world. Moreover, it is an important step in strengthening our presence in the Spanish market", said Catherine Cornand, Senior Executive Vice President of Framatome's Installed Base Business Unit.

Framatome draws on 40 years of excellence in steam generator services for any reactor designs in more than 45 nuclear power plants worldwide.

The Spanish nuclear power plant Ascó is operated by ANAV, Asociación Nuclear Asco-Vandellos. It consists of two pressurized water reactors. Asco 1 started operating in 1984 and has an installed net capacity of 1031 MWe, while Asco 2 started in 1986 with an installed net capacity of 1027 MWe.

Framatome is a major international player in the nuclear energy market recognized for its innovative solutions and value-added technologies for designing, building, maintaining, and advancing the global nuclear fleet. The company designs, manufactures and installs components, fuel and instrumentation and control systems for nuclear power plants and offers a full range of reactor services.

With 14,000 employees worldwide, every day Framatome's expertise helps its customers improve the safety and performance of their nuclear plants and achieve their economic and societal goals.

Framatome is owned by the EDF Group (75.5%), Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI – 19.5%) and Assystem (5%).

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