

Below Core Plate FOSAR & Inspection Tooling

Simplified solution to locate and retrieve foreign material below the core plate without affecting outage schedule

Challenge

An increase in fuel failures related to foreign material has led to increased costs, dose and outage schedules. Industry available Foreign Object Search and Retrieval (FOSAR) tooling is limited in its ability to effectively identify and remove foreign material.

Solution

Advances in technology support an evolved solution for higher radiation tolerant cameras and increased retrieval capabilities. Framatome's below core plate FOSAR toolkit was specifically developed to address the challenges identified in IER 19-6. The toolkit includes several high-definition cameras and multiple long-handled retrieving tools. Our innovative design incorporates the ability to easily access below the core plate and become proficient at locating and removing debris in restrictive environments.

To optimize the toolkit's effectiveness, Framatome also designed a mock-up to support training in a real life environment. In addition to providing opportunities for simulated real life training, the mock-up provides Framatome's team the opportunity to become familiar with the FOSAR tooling being used in confined geometric locations.

Customer benefits

- Ability to withstand high radiation environments and reduce required time/dose during FME retrievals
- Able to pick up smaller size debris in a restrictive environment using inspection cameras and articulating guides
- Easy to deploy, operator friendly, and highly successful at locating and removing the unwanted foreign material (FM) from your systems
- Simulate situations encountered in the field to allow an all-encompassing training approach with Framatome's full-scale mock-up
- Address challenges identified in IER 19-6 on below core plate foreign material



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