

Spent Fuel Handling Tool

Framatome's Spent Fuel Handling Tool helps you improve efficiency by reducing operator fatigue through improved ergonomics, saving time by enhancing water clarity, and eliminating unlatching risk with a gripper mechanical interlock.

Challenge

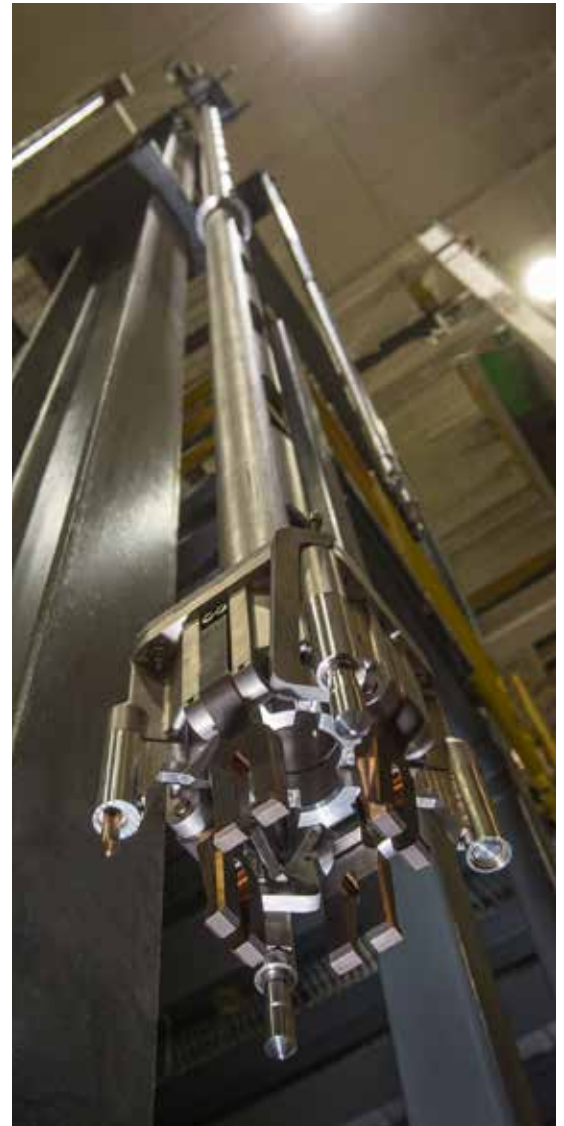
The spent fuel handling tool is utilized in a variety of different fuel movement activities, including core offload/reload during a refueling outage, fuel shuffles in the spent fuel pool, new fuel receipt and dry cask loading. But flanges on legacy tooling can create water clarity issues, leading to significant lost time. Legacy tooling design requires physically straining manual actuations from a prone position, several hundred per outage, contributing to operator fatigue and adverse schedule impacts.

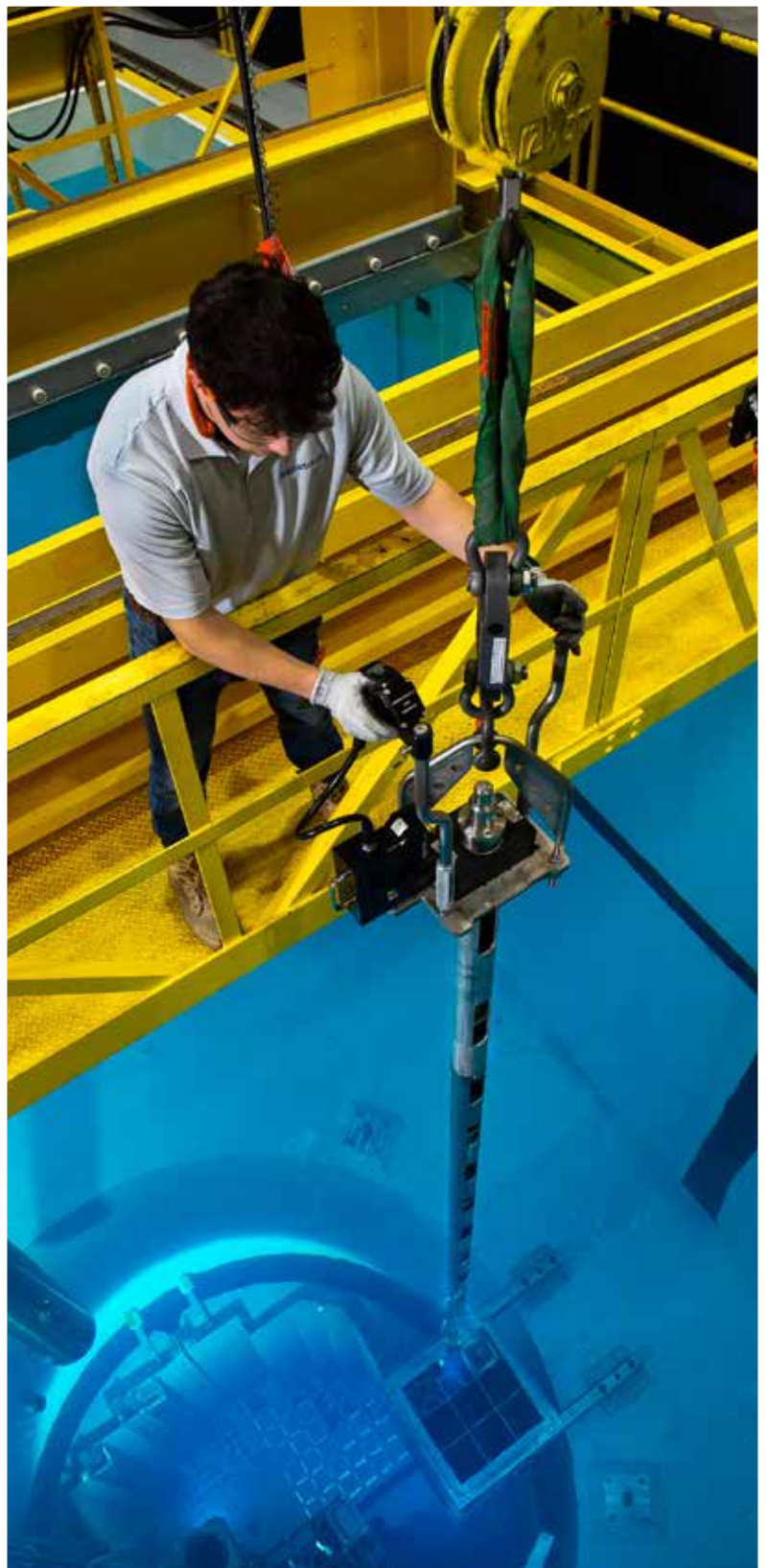
Solution

Framatome's new tool design improves on existing tooling by incorporating successful and unique features from our vast portfolio of long handle tooling. Improved ergonomics allow the tool operator to operate the tool from a standing position, reducing operator fatigue. The flanges are positioned to stay below or above the spent fuel pool water level, minimizing disruptions in the water surface, contributing to better water clarity and increasing efficiency. A gripper mechanical interlock locks the tool in either latched or unlatched position, eliminating the possibility of inadvertent unlatching from a fuel assembly during a fuel move.

Customer benefits

- Repeatable offload/reload time savings
- Improved ergonomics, reducing operator fatigue
- Improved locking capability
- Improved water clarity
- Simplified operation
- No periodic maintenance





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