

WORKING GROUPS

The major professional work of the CRCPD is accomplished through committees and task forces. These working groups address the specific components of radiation protection issues facing State and local radiation protection programs.

Examples of issues that are addressed are diagnostic x-ray quality assurance and equipment standards, quality

mammography, the use of radioactive



materials in medicine and industry, radon in homes and other buildings, environmental monitoring, nuclear reactor emergency planning and response, the use of lasers and microwave equipment, electric and magnetic fields from high voltage transmission lines, concentrated naturally occurring radioactive material, radioactive waste, and transportation of radioactive materials. Recent critical emerging issues include homeland security, computed tomography scanning, and orphan sources.

These working groups normally produce guidance documents that can be used by State and local programs in carrying out their responsibilities. A significant guidance document of this type is the *Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation (SSRCR)*, a dynamic document that is being constantly reviewed and revised. Most States have adopted the language of these suggested regulations, thus providing for better uniformity in the regulatory community.

CRCPD PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the documents provided by the various working groups discussed above, CRCPD also publishes the:

- *NEWSBRIEF* (bimonthly in electronic format),
- Proceedings of annual meetings,
- *Directory of Personnel Responsible for Radiological Health Programs* (annually).

ANNUAL MEETING

CRCPD organizes and hosts annually the National Conference on Radiation Control. This meeting is designed to provide the participants with the most up-to-date information on the constantly changing radiation protection issues. Participants include staff from State and local radiation control programs, individuals from Federal agencies, representatives from various professional and international organizations, as well as the general public.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CRCPD offers special programs and services to assist State and local radiation control programs:

- Comprehensive reviews of State radiation control programs, with recommendations on areas for improvement,

- Accreditation of regional instrument calibration laboratories, and
- Testing of industrial radiographers (IR) through the Texas IR Examination.

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Office of the Executive Director (OED) conducts the day-to-day administrative functions and operations of the CRCPD. The OED, with offices in Frankfort Kentucky, includes an Executive Director and a small professional staff.

OED provides many services to the members including:

- Developing and coordinating the National Conference on Radiation Control and the National Radon Conference,
- Managing all fiscal duties and responsibilities,
- Preparing, editing, and publishing all CRCPD technical publications,
- Developing and publishing the *NEWSBRIEF*,
- Posting radon information to <www.radonleaders.org/discuss/blogs>, and
- Managing administrative responsibilities including travel authorizations and airline reservations for official CRCPD travel.



CONFERENCE OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS, INC. (CRCPD)

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

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CRCPD DESCRIPTION

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, non-governmental, professional organization whose primary membership is comprised of radiation professionals in State and local government that regulate the use of radiation sources. However, any individual with an interest in radiation protection may become an Affiliate or International member.

HISTORY

The need for protection of individuals from radiation exposure can be traced back to the turn of the 20th century, soon after the discovery of the x-ray and radioactivity. Prior to World War II, radiation protection guidance was provided through communications among the radiation users and their professional organizations. In the late 1940s a few States and local governments established limited radiation protection programs.

In 1959, Congress amended the Atomic Energy Act, authorizing States to assume regulatory control for certain types of man-made radioactive materials, provided the State desiring to assume such authority had an adequate program to protect the public health and safety. As of September 2008, 35 State programs have assumed this authority. Such States are called "Agreement States," as they have a written agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.



In the early 1960s, many States had comprehensive radiation control programs. Such programs typically included:

- Regulating the use of diagnostic and therapeutic x-ray equipment,
- Monitoring the environment,
- Regulating the use of Atomic Energy Act radioactive material, and
- Regulating naturally occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive material.

At the time when early State and local radiation control programs were developing, similar activities were developing at the Federal level. As a result of these many and varied State, local, and Federal programs and activities in radiation control, most of which were being developed independent of each other, it became clear that unless some effort was made for uniformity there would be inconsistencies and conflicts of rules and regulations throughout the country regulating radiation users.

As a result of these identified needs, CRCPD was originally established in 1968 for two primary purposes:

- To serve as a common forum for the many governmental radiation protection agencies to communicate with each other, and
- To promote uniform radiation protection regulations and activities.

OBJECTIVES

Currently, the four major objectives of the organization are to:

- Promote consistent radiation protection practices,
- Provide leadership in radiation issues,
- Improve efficiency in providing radiation protection, and
- Enhance relationship with members.

ORGANIZATION

The governing body of the CRCPD is a Board of Directors with seven members. This Board is composed of State and local members from across the United States. The Board:



- Establishes policy;
- Establishes working groups, appoints members, and provides charges to these groups;
- Provides direction and guidance to the Executive Director; and
- Provides general oversight of all CRCPD activities.

CRCPD works in partnership with experts from numerous Federal agencies. Some of these agencies include:



- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
- Department of Energy,
- Department of Homeland Security,
- Department of Transportation,
- Environmental Protection Agency,

- Federal Emergency Management Agency,
- Food and Drug Administration Center for Devices and Radiological Health,
- Food and Drug Administration Office of Regulatory Affairs,
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,
- National Institute of Standards and Technology, and
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

MEMBERSHIP

There are six classes of CRCPD membership. These are:

- **Director Members:** directors of State and local radiation control programs,
- **Associate Members:** staff of State and local radiation control programs,
- **Affiliate Members:** individuals with an interest in radiation protection and the activities of the CRCPD,
- **Emeritus Members:** individuals who have been a CRCPD member and who have been recognized for outstanding service in the field of radiation protection,
- **Honorary Members:** individuals designated by the Board of Directors as having distinguished themselves in radiation protection, and
- **International Members:** individuals employed in radiation protection programs from other nations.