

CONVERDYN WEB Wire – July 2005

An up-to-date information bulletin on the nuclear fuel cycle

Our Mission: We will be the premier provider of nuclear fuel cycle services with customer satisfaction as our primary focus – Unique, Innovative and Successful.

July 21, 2005

UF₆ Cylinder Valves

On Wednesday July 20, 2005 Honeywell's Metropolis conversion facility filed a report with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as required under 10CFR21 Reporting of Defects and Noncompliance. The full report is available on the NRC website: www.nrc.gov

In summary the report states that during a review of quality records for installation of valves in natural UF₆ cylinders it was determined that the torque reading during valve installation was not being recorded as required under one of the parameters in the ANSI N 14.1 standard, but the other parameter regarding minimum thread engagement for the valves was met. Even though both parameters are required by the Honeywell procedure, Metropolis was using only the thread engagement for determination of proper valve installation. No full cylinders with questionable valve installation have been shipped since this date.

Honeywell and ConverDyn have informed all enrichment locations of this situation. The appropriate action will be taken regarding these cylinders after discussions with the parties involved and based on additional Honeywell steps to determine the correlation between thread engagement and torque.

While ConverDyn does not currently anticipate any major disruptions to cylinder shipping schedules from the Metropolis plant, this situation is being monitored closely, especially with respect to cylinders en route.

ConverDyn will keep all enrichers and customers informed of further developments on a timely basis.

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