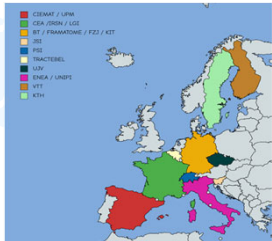



**SEAKNOT**

# SEvere Accident Research and KNOwledge ManagementT for LWRs

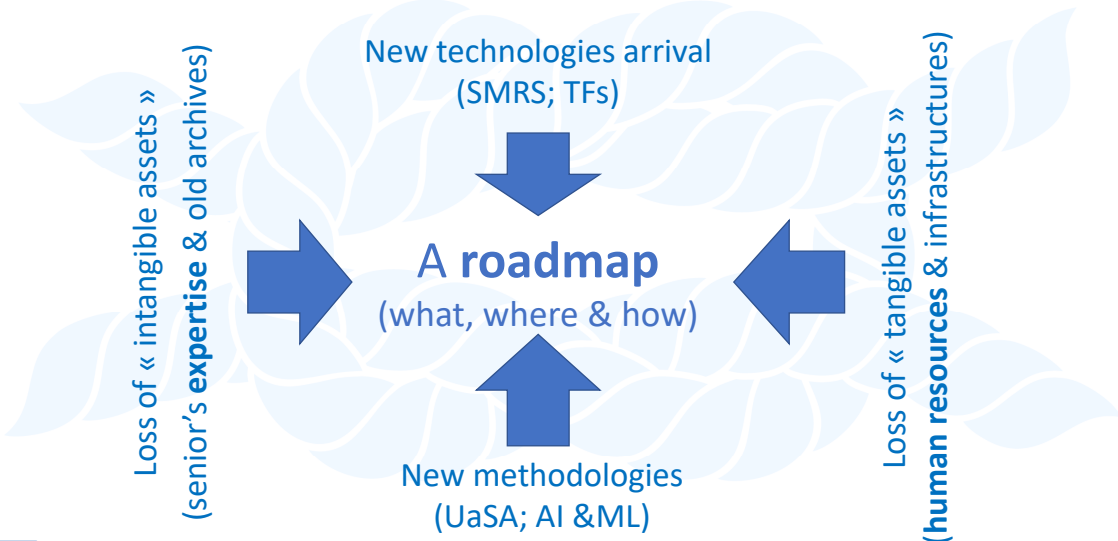
## SEAKNOT Project

**Luis E. Herranz**  
 Project Coordinator  
 Research Professor on Nuclear Safety  
 Luisen.herranz@ciemat.es

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## Motivation



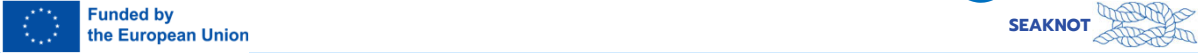
**A roadmap**  
(what, where & how)

New technologies arrival  
(SMRS; TFs)

New methodologies  
(UaSA; AI & ML)

Loss of « intangible assets »  
(senior's expertise & old archives)

Loss of « tangible assets »  
(human resources & infrastructures)



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## Ambition



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## SEAKNOT Distinctive Features

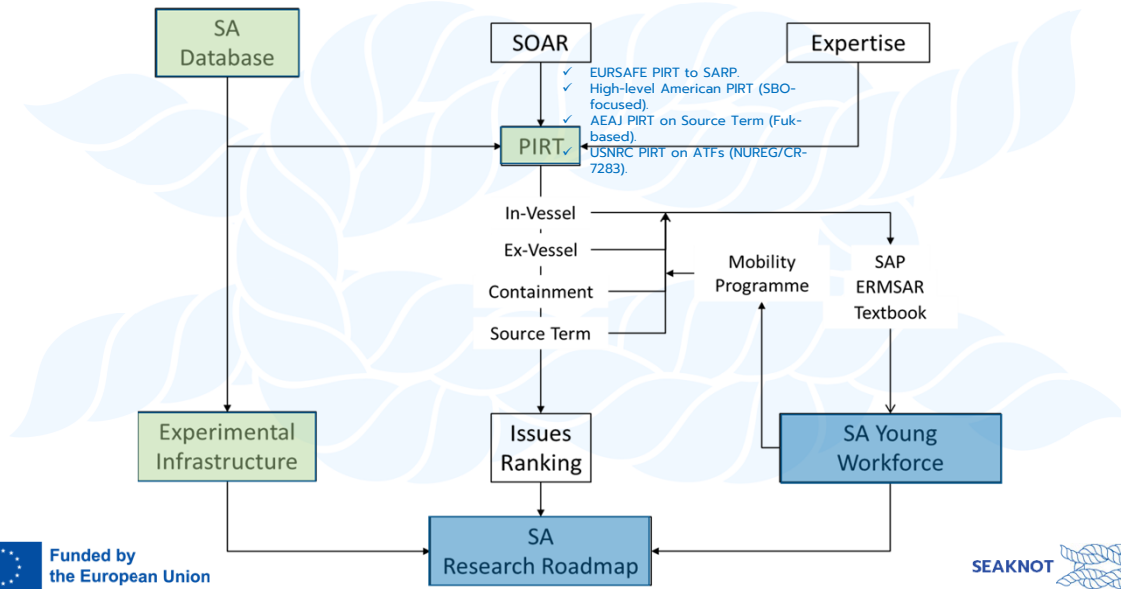
- « Shot » to the entire SA domain.
- Based on ROBUST BACKGROUND.
  - ✓ EURATOM (SARNET2, PASSAM, IVMR, ...)
  - ✓ H-2020 (MUSA, R2CA, AMHYCO; ...)
  - ✓ OECD/NEA (ESTER; THEMIS; FACE; ...)
  - ✓ IAEA/CRPs ...
  - ✓ Other national & international projects.
- Youngsters KNOT « sparkers ».
- « Minimum partners set ».
  - Multi-disciplinary
  - Organization diversity (industry; TSO; RC&U)
- Not a usual research project; other needs apply.
- Cost-effective » (2.3 M€).

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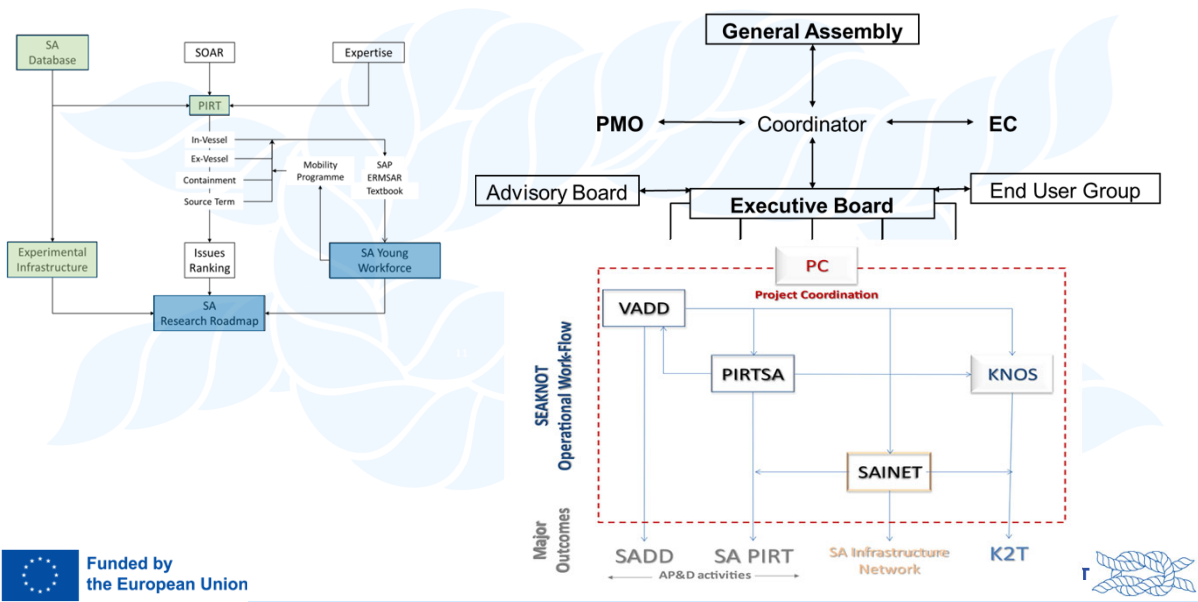
4

# SEAKNOT Methodology



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# SEAKNOT Methodology

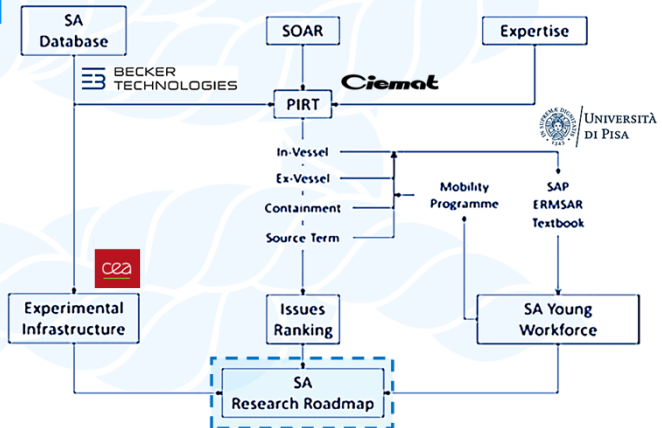


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## SEAKNOT Major Outcomes

### Roadmap for SA research over the next decade

- SA Phenomena Identification Ranking Table (SA PIRT)
- Validation SA Database Directory (SADD)
- Experimental infrastructure network (SAINET)
- Strengthening of young workforce (SA Textbook, SAP Course, ERMSAR, mobility grants...)



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## WP1 PIRTSA Objective

Ciemat

### Identify the major SA issues worth new R&D activities

- Developed by a critical assessment of existing SA knowledge
- Assess the knowledge gaps (data & models)
- Evaluate the safety significance

### Bases

- AEAJ PIRT on Source Term (Fukushima based)
- High-level American PIRT (SBO-based)
- From EURSAFE PIRT to SARP
- PIRT on SFP accidents (CSNI/WGAMA)
- running projects under several frameworks...

PIRT focus on LWRs but including SMLWRs and ATFs related aspects

- In-Vessel
- Ex-Vessel
- Containment
- Source Term

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## WP2 VADD Objectives



### **Review of SA experimental data used to develop and validate codes presently used to model SAs and support SAMGs**

- Critical analyses of database (incl. OECD, EU reports, etc.)

### **Creation of a SA Database Directory (SADD)**

- SADD will be a website analytical tool
- Future share outside the project also using external Knowledge Transfer Platforms, i.e., SNETP, IAEA or NEA
- Target: future expansions to accommodate new experimental data sources

VADD focus on LWRs but including SMLWRs and ATFs related aspects



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## WP3 SAINET Objectives



### **Assessment of EU experimental SA Facilities activities 2022-2030**

- Mapping of EU experimental facilities in operation
- Identification of EU experimental able to answer to experimental key needs
- Identify forthcoming needs

### **Creation of SAINET (Severe Accident Infrastructure NETWORK )**

- Outline means, recommendations and framework for the future research



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## WP4 KNOS Objectives



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- **Strengthen EU leadership on SA E&T**
- **Efficiently foster C&D activities of the whole project**
  - Two consolidated NUGENIA TA2 events:
    - **Severe Accident Phenomenology (SAP) Course**
    - **European Review Meeting on Severe Accident Research (ERMSAR)**
  - New edition of SARNET **SA Textbook**, with substantial additions from EU expertise and WP1 - WP3 activities
  - **Internal mobility program** for young researchers & students
- **Articulate means to update SA R&D agenda according to SEAKNOT outcomes**



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## The ROADMAP Core



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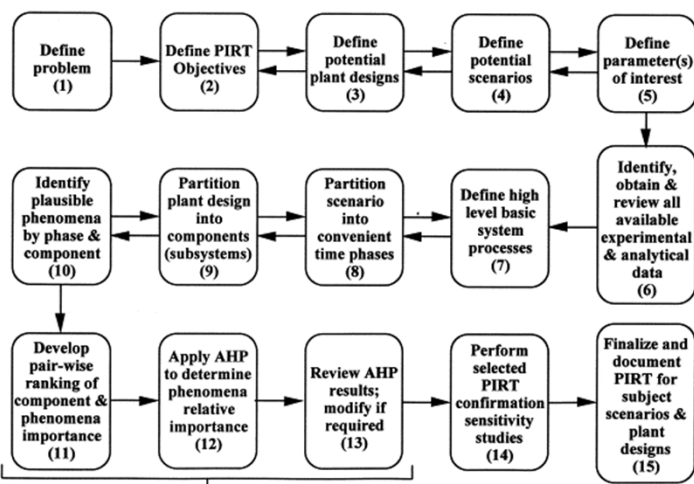
## PIRT: Background

- PIRT: Step 3 in CSAU (Code Scaling, Applicability and Uncertainty) Methodology. (BEPU application in safety analysis; USNRC,1988).
- PIRT: A way to set technical basis for experimental programs.
- PIRT: A means to establish computer codes phenomenological requirements.
- PIRT: A methodology broadly used in SA (... but adaptation required!).
  - “Development of the source term PIRT based on findings during Fukushima Daiichi NPPs accident”, 2015.
  - “PIRT: R&D Priorities for Loss-of-Cooling and Loss-of-Coolant Accidents in Spent Nuclear Fuel Pools”, 2018.
  - “Elaboration of a PIRT for the modelling of In-Vessel Retention”, 2020.



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## PIRT: Process Description



(1) Resources vs. efforts!

What problem must be solved to what level!

(2) Plant behavior! ← Guidance →

- SETs; IETs
- Code development
- Code uncertainty

(3&4) Relative importance = f (design; scenario)

(5) Primary evaluation criteria!

(6) Collective knowledge of SOA understanding.

(7) “Saving time”.

(8&9) Need to accommodate to SA (AM).

(10) Completeness (“what the team doesn’t know”).

(11-13) Ranking – Focused on (5) using (2).

(14) Confirmation of validity! (LongT Mob.)

(15) Documentation!

Ranking approaches, other than AHP, are available

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## PIRT: SEAKNOT Adaptation

**(1) Definition:** SA Research to be done in the coming 10 years.  
From the SOARS, PIRTs and SARPs + input from recent projects

**(2) Objectives:** External radiological impact (external measures excluded) → Source Term

- FP release
- Barriers impairment
  - Cladding (In-V)
  - RPV (In-V)
  - RCB (ExV; Cont.)



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## PIRT: SEAKNOT Adaptation

**(3) Plant designs:** PWR-W/VVER/BWR/WC-SMRs (SASPAM-Types I, II)  
(ATFs – near term; cross cutting considerations; high Bup & enrich.)

**(4) Scenarios:** Generic approach to phenomena: phenomena → Key scenarios (prf).



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## PIRT: SEAKNOT Adaptation

**(5) Parameters:** Main RN in terms of radiological consequences (I131; Cs137; Ru106; xxx?).  
Onset time; release activity rates; composition.

**(6) Data:** Collective expertise (6) – deep on subject; broad in approach (expt.; model; appls.)  
AB – Supplementary role (feedback).



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## PIRT: SEAKNOT Adaptation

**(7) High level features:** Bifurcation/disruption of accident progress.  
(Phasing / AMgmt).

**(8) Accident phases:** Alternate to the WP structure ... In-V + containment + Source Term  
Ex-V + containment & Source Term

(adopting this approach might require to check with EC PO; WP2)

**(9) Partition in components:** Attention in accidents phasing.

Ex. Ex-V Containment

- Sprays
- Spools
- PARs
- Fan coolers
- FCVS



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## PIRT: SEAKNOT Adaptation

- (10) Phenomena identification:** Based on “team satisfaction”  
from SOARs+PIRTS+Projects; plausibility!
- (11) Phenomena ranking:** Collective expertise (6)  
ABs – Supplementary role (feedback).
- (12) Sensitivity studies:** Inspiration for long-term mobility grants.
- (13) Documentation:** Full traceability: defensible/scrutinizable/complete.  
Feedback from EUG highly recommended (AB welcome)



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## PIRT Ranking

- **Safety significance** – Referred to the primary parameters of interest (5)  
Three levels: L/M/H
 

L:	Low
M:	Medium
H:	High
- **Knowledge/Understanding** – Data/Models/Uncertainties
  - a. Data: Existing & QVD (H); Existing, but no direct application VD (M); Non-existing (L)
  - b. Models: Existing in codes (H); Existing but highly uncertain (M); Non-existing (L)

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## PIRT Knowledge Ranking

		DAT		
		L	A M	H
MODEL	L	L (Unknown)	L (Qualitative understanding)	M (Bases for "known" set)
	M	L (Uncertain approximation)	M (Qualitatively assessed app.)	M (Soundly assessed app.)
	H	L (Uncertain model)	M (Qualitatively assessed model)	H (Known)

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## PIRT Ranking

		SAFETY		
		L	M	H
KNOWLEDGE	L	L	M <sub>2</sub>	H
	M	L	M <sub>3</sub>	M <sub>1</sub>
	H	L	L	L

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# The PUSH for K2T



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## SAP 2023 Course

- Held in Madrid at ETSII - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM)
- **27** professional + **33** Students participants
- **13** Lecturers + **2** UPM staff
- Organizations from 14 countries / 20 nationalities



ETSII - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid  
19-23 June 2023

**SAP 2023**

Severe Accident Phenomenology short course



Country	Professionals	Students	Lecturers
Belgium	1		1
Canada	2		
Czech Republic	3	2	
Finland	2	1	
France	4	1	4
Germany	4	8	2
Iran		2	
Italy	1	3	2
Mexico	1		
The Netherlands	1		
Slovenia			1
South Korea	4		
Spain	4 (+ 2 UPM staff)	15	3
Sweden		1	



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## SAP 2023 Course. Contents

- Severe Accidents (SA) in Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) Safety
- Historical Severe Accidents: TMI-2, Chernobyl, Fukushima-Daiichi
- In-vessel core degradation phenomena: early and late phases
- Early containment failure. Direct Containment Heating (DCH)
- Hydrogen risk
- Fuel coolant interaction (FCI) and steam explosions
- Ex-vessel phase. Corium spread; molten core concrete interaction (MCCI); coolability
- Source term: FP Transport in RCS and Containment. Source term chemistry
- Severe Accident computer codes & uncertainty quantification
- Safety assessment (PSA)
- Post-Fukushima safety improvements in Spanish NPP. Impact in SA phenomenology
- Radiological impact of SA
- Long-term Accident Management
- Decommissioning of SA damaged reactors
- New Design Features for Severe Accident Mitigation in Gen-III NPPs



SA considerations in Advanced and Small Modular Reactors: Issues, challenges and opportunities



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## SAP & SA Summer Camp 2025 at FZJ

**June 23-27 (SAP) and June 30-July 4 (SASCamp), 2025**

- ❖ SAP technical content similar to the SAP 2023
- ❖ FZJ on the logistics of both events (rooms & technical means available)
- ❖ **SA Summer Camp (SASCamp)→**
  - One topic per day (in-V; Ex-V; containment; ST; uncertainties).
  - "Instructors" pose a SA assignment to participants (agreed with SAP lecturers)
  - "Instructors" support the groups while "solving" the assignment.
  - **Not another SAP course or a SA code training**

**Tentative day structure**

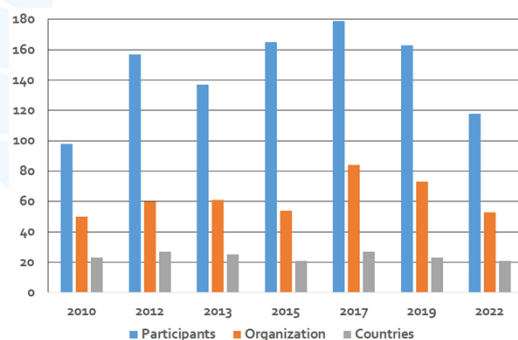
- 09:00 – 10:00 h – Fast topic review (20') and assignment proposal (25' – Q&A included).
- 10:00 – 13:00 h – Group work to work out the assignment
- 13:00 – 14:00 h – Lunch time
- 14:00 – 15:00 h – Work on material presentation
- 15:00 – 16:30 h – Joint Session & discussion (5 groups of 3-4 people)
- 16:30 – 17:00 h – Final discussion of the day (topic wrap-up)



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## EUROPEAN REVIEW MEETING on SA RESEARCH (ERMSAR)

- Unique international forum focused only on SA research
- Ten editions since 2005 – Next XI edition in 2024
- 2005 (CEA, Aix-en-Provence), 2007 (FZK, Karlsruhe), and 2008 (NRNE, Nesselberg) - FP6 SARNET
- 2010 (ENEA, Bologna) - 98 participants; 23 countries (8 non-EU countries)



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## EUROPEAN REVIEW MEETING ON SA RESEARCH (ERMSAR)

- 2012 (GRS, Cologne) **The first edition open to the international community**  
157 participants; 60 organizations; 27 countries  
**Recent progress & needs (Fukushima)**
- 2013 (IRSN, Avignon) 137 participants; 61 organizations; 25 countries  
**Syntheses of issues & R&D perspectives**
- 2015 (CEA, Marseille) 165 participants; 54 organizations; 21 countries (Japan, Russia, USA and Korea)
- 2017 (NCBJ, Warsaw) 179 participants (25% non-EU) ; 84 organizations; 27 countries
- 2019 (ÚJV Řež, Prague) 163 participants (19% non-EU) ; 73 organizations; 23 countries

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## THE 10<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN REVIEW MEETING ON SA RESEARCH (ERMSAR-2022)

- **First edition co-organized with NEA and IAEA.**
- **Locally organized by KIT:** An astonishing success!
- **Round numbers:** 120 participants; > 20 countries; > 50 organizations  
60 papers; 10 posters
- **Plenary sessions:**
  - International programs (NEA; IAEA; EC)
  - Fukushima XI years after (NEA)
  - New elements in the SA research domains
- **Dissemination:**
  - Proceedings (freely available)  
(snetp.eu/technical-area-2-severe-accidents)  
(DOI: 10.5445/IR/1000151444)
  - VSI: ANUCENE (since 2013 edition)
  - **Summary report (WGAMA)**



Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> European  
Review Meeting on Severe Accidents  
Research (ERMSAR2022)  
Severe Accident Research Eleven Years  
after the Fukushima Accident  
in memory of Martin Kissane

Karlsruhe, Germany  
May 16-19, 2022



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## THE 11<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN REVIEW MEETING ON SA RESEARCH (ERMSAR-2024)

- Framed within **EU SEAKNOT project** (SNETP/NUGENIA/TA2)
- **NEA** and IAEA expected to join as co-organizers
- May 13-16, 2024, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden
- **Key dates**
  - Abstract submission: September 30, 2023
  - Abstract acceptance notification: November 1, 2023
  - Full paper submission: December 30, 2023
  - Full paper notification: February 22, 2024
  - Full paper final submission: March 12, 2024



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## THE 11<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN REVIEW MEETING ON SA RESEARCH (ERMSAR-2024)

- **Technical Tracks**
  - In-vessel corium and debris coolability
  - Ex-vessel corium interactions and coolability
  - Containment behavior including H2 explosion risk
  - Source term issues
  - AM & consequences of SA for Gen II/III reactors
  - SA in innovative reactors, including SMRs
  - Other applications (fusion, interim storage, etc.)
- 20' presentations PLUS 10' for Q&A ("discussion driven").
- **"Open floor spirit"** in plenary sessions, round tables, sessions and conference wrap-ups
  - Discussing findings, brainstorming ideas & visions.
- **Current status (07.09.2023):** > 120 abstracts submitted!
- **Registration fee:** < 500 € (400 € for students).



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# THANK YOU!

## Get in touch for more information

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All of the reports of the project will be available for download on the SEAKNOT website: [www.seaknot-project.eu](http://www.seaknot-project.eu)

**Project coordinator:** Luis Enrique Herranz, CIEMAT  
Contact us: [contact@seaknot-project.eu](mailto:contact@seaknot-project.eu)

Follow us on LinkedIn!  
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Source Term

## The Source Term Integral

$$J_i(t) = \underbrace{\int_0^{t_f} e(t) \cdot dt}_{\text{Leak function}} \cdot \underbrace{I \cdot F \cdot F_i}_{\text{Release mode}} \cdot \underbrace{\int_0^t s(t') \cdot dt' \cdot \exp \left[ - \int_{t'}^t \epsilon(t'') \cdot dt'' \right]}_{\text{Probability of remaining airborne}}$$

The diagram illustrates the failure modes of a containment system. It starts with 'Containment Failure mode' which branches into 'Success' and 'Failure'. 'Success' leads to 'Leak tightness' (β) and 'Internal missile' (α). 'Failure' leads to 'Internal missile' (α). 'Leak tightness' (β) further branches into 'H<sub>2</sub> combustion' (γ) and 'Penetration' (ε). 'H<sub>2</sub> combustion' (γ) branches into 'Pressurization' (δ) and 'Penetration' (ε).

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