

SPACE OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM (B6)
Human Spaceflight Operations (1)

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Abstract

The nuclear power industry has recognized the need for broad-based operations standardization, and assessment in its market. The Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) was established in 1979 by the U.S. nuclear power industry in response to recommendations by the Kemeny Commission Report, following the investigation of the Three Mile Island Unit 2 event. INPO conducts plant evaluations at nuclear sites and identifies both strengths and areas for improvement which are intended to be shared with other nuclear sites as a method to share best practices and common weaknesses. INPO sets performance objectives, criteria, and guidelines industry-wide for nuclear power plant operations, and is intended to promote operational excellence and improve the sharing of operational experience between nuclear power plants. INPO is funded entirely by the U.S. nuclear industry. There are many providers of nuclear power allowing this industry self regulatory operations role.

Within the human space transportation industry, the government could provide this operations role until the commercial crew industry is large enough to be self sufficient. A government paid but industry provided Independant Safety and Certification Advisory function could provide this service.