AREVA
forward-looking energy

Sampling Strategy for Environment and Waste

With over 10 years' experience in environmental sampling and analysis plans, the team at AREVA RMC offers unique expertise and support to waste management activities, using established tools and methods for accurate and effective data collection and sampling. Applied to a range of projects across the industry, including waste characterisation, site de-licensing and UK CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear) exercises, we offer our clients the confidence to make decisions based on reliable and defensible data.

Our planning and characterisation experience ranges from single tanks through to whole facilities

Systematic Planning for Data Collection
As the cornerstone of any sampling or data collection project, systematic planning facilitates a comprehensive investigation that allocates project time and resources in a pertinent and appropriate way. The process establishes robust acceptance criteria for the collection, evaluation, or use of data, to ensure it is of the correct type, quality and quantity and that data is appropriately assessed, accounting for inherent uncertainties. Our planning methods fit the requirements of current UK industry regulations, and are a concrete and transparent way to demonstrate compliance

A Robust Methodology
Adopting the US Environmental Protection Agency's 7-step Data Quality Objectives (DQO) methodology, AREVA RMC offers a fast, cost-effective approach to meeting regulatory and client requirements, whilst minimising the time spent gathering data and assessing information. DQO is based on a scientific method, requiring clear objectives from the outset of a project, and a demonstration of acceptable results. Furthermore, it promotes communication between all departments and individuals involved in the decision-making process.

Using the DQO methodology we have worked on projects ranging from a single tank through to a whole facility. And our team has produced a range of detailed reports and dose justifications, guidance and policy documentation for de-licensing, sampling and analysis plans, along with data processing and assessment. We also attend and participate in a number of regulatory meetings, academic conferences and UK CBRN activities.

Our Tools
To support the DQO process, our team also has expertise in the use of the Visual Sample Plan (VSP) software. This tool allows sites to be visualised and displays proposed sample locations. Statistical parameters and sampling regimes can easily be changed and re-visualised, allowing comparison of a number of sample plan designs in order to achieve the optimal solution to your requirements. The trade-off between costs and effort with the level of confidence in the decision making can be clearly displayed in line with the need for transparency required by the DQO process.

The software is particularly suited to geographically complex scenarios such as:

- Delicencing of nuclear licenced sites;
- Decommissioning of industrial sites;
- Remediation of contaminated Land;

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- Response and Recovery of Chemical/ Biological/Radiation Terrorist Event;
- Footprint Reduction and Remediation of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Sites

With the use of DQO and VSP, AREVA's systematic planning team can offer a defensible and unambiguous approach to clients' data collection and evaluation activities.

Why choose AREVA RMC?

- With a member of our team appointed by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) as the only UK based beta tester for the software, AREVA RMC is at the forefront of its development in line with UK usage and requirements;
- Recognised expertise in the DQO methodology and VSP support tool;
- Experienced in communicating with the full range of stakeholders, from sample collection operatives to regulators;
- A professional service working in line with time and cost parameters;
- Skills and capabilities across radioactive waste management, waste characterisation, statistical analysis, radiochemistry, radiation protection and conventional hazards.

Following on from advising on sampling and assay our services do not end there. We can offer further complimentary services in the field of compliance, waste strategy, waste led decommissioning operations through to expert advice on packaging and logistics resulting in the removal of waste from your site.

Using DQO and VSP we offer a defensible and transparent approach to data collection and evaluation activities

The VSP output is simple, clear and visually appealing
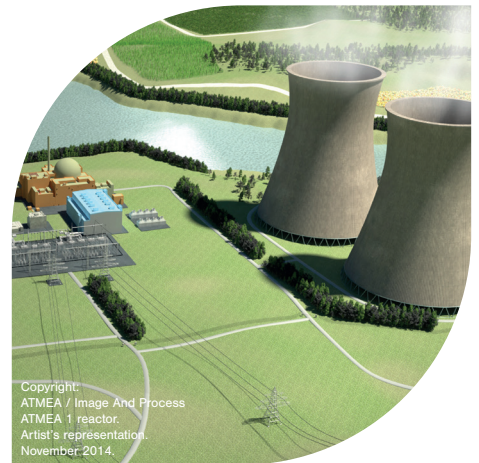
Our Training Offer

In addition to our wide range of project expertise, our team has also delivered a number of training courses in DQO and VSP for clients across the private and government sector. This includes a 5-day DQO and VSP course and a 2 Day DQO methodology course; other courses are available on request. The training is delivered by experts in the field, and comprises both detailed presentation and case studies alongside interactive, hands-on exercises.

Want to find out more?

For further information please contact your local office:

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AREVA RMC Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of AREVA and is a specialist consultancy to the UK nuclear industry. With a track record of over 30 years, it is the use of our knowledge and experience which provides the value.