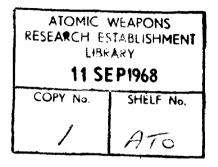
#### REFERENCE COPY

# ATOM

Number 143 / September 1968



MONTHLY INFORMATION BULLETIN OF

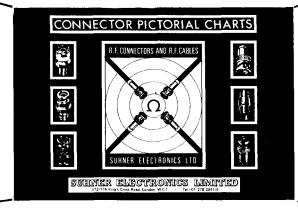
THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY

Page 245 In Parliament
 247 Prospects for nuclear energy in Western Europe: illustrative power reactor programmes
 255 Scientific and Technical News Service

## SUMMER ELECTRONICS

37 individual Connector Pictorial Charts giving illustrations, descriptions, U.S. Mil. Numbers and equivalent NATO Numbers, where applicable. Your Free Copy gladly sent on request.

Ξ:



Covering BNC, TNC, N, C, UHF, HIGH VOLTAGE, BNC Crimp, TNC Crimp, Miniature Connectors, Range-to-Range

Adaptors,

Banana Adaptors,

Terminations, etc.

172/176 KING'S CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.1.

Name of Company or Establishment:	Please send me Copy/Copies of your Publication	SEND FREE OF CHARGE TO:
Address:		444
for the attention of:		Tel. No.
Department:		Ext.



H.M. Government Contractors

## SUHNER ELECTRONICS LIMITED

172/176 King's Cross Road, London, W.C.1.

Tel.: 01-278 2941/6

Precision R. F. Connectors and Cables

Dear Sir(s),

## Re: New Suhner Electronics Publication. 'CONNECTOR PICTORIAL CHARTS'

May we have the pleasure of sending you a free copy of our NEW 'CONNECTOR PICTORIAL CHARTS' Publication, which contains 37 individual Pictorial Charts, giving illustrations, descriptions, U.S. Military Numbers and equivalent N.A.T.O. Numbers, where applicable.

Our 'CONNECTOR PICTORIAL CHARTS', Publication covers the following Connector types:

BNC, TNC, N, C, UHF, UHF TWIN, UHF TWIN POLARISED, BNC HIGH VOLTAGE, C HIGH VOLTAGE, NC HIGH VOLTAGE.
RANGE TO-RANGE ADAPTORS, BNC CRIMP, TNC CRIMP, BANANA ADAPTORS, BNC TERMINATIONS, MINIATURE CONNECTORS.

Additional copies gladly sent on request.

Always with pleasure at your service,

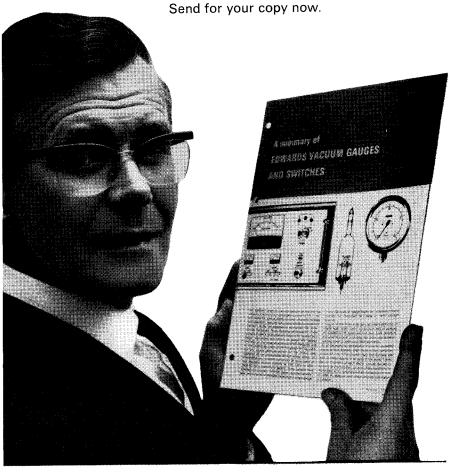
We are.

Yours faithfully,

SUHNER ELECTRONICS LTD.

#### BUSY?

You're the very man we had in mind when we prepared this SUMMARY—8 pages of potted information on EDWARDS VACUUM INSTRUMENTATION—including a bit about our 3 new star gauges. ★
Send for your copy now.





Pirani-Penning Gauge Model 4: replaces the Edwards Model 2A Pirani-Penning. A wide range instrument featuring multiple outputs for process control applications. No bridge voltage setting is required. Range: 3 to 10 ftor.



Penning Gauge Model 7: replaces the Edwards Model 7: Penning. Features robust, easily cleaned, series 6 gauge head. No bridge voltage setting is required. Range: 10-2 to 10-6 torr.



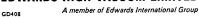
Pirani Gauge Model 9: is an entirely new instrument designed specifically to provide multihead vacuum measurement at lower vacua. Features three-range scale with automatic range switching and fully stabilised bridge voltage.

Range: 500 to 10\*3 torr.



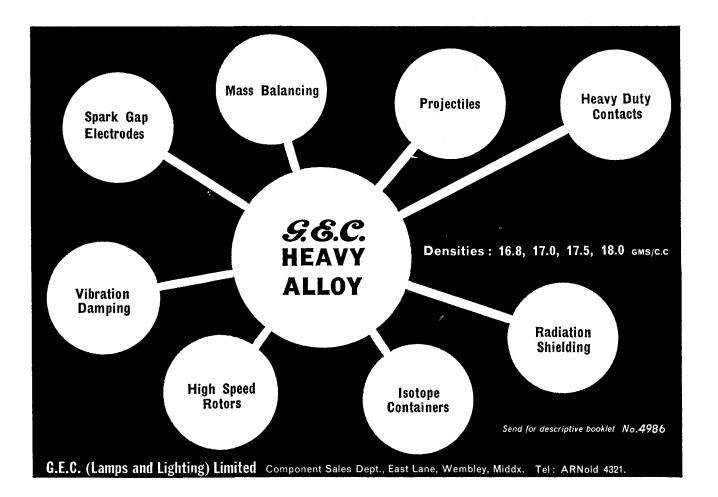
**EDWARDS** 

#### EDWARDS HIGH VACUUM LIMITED

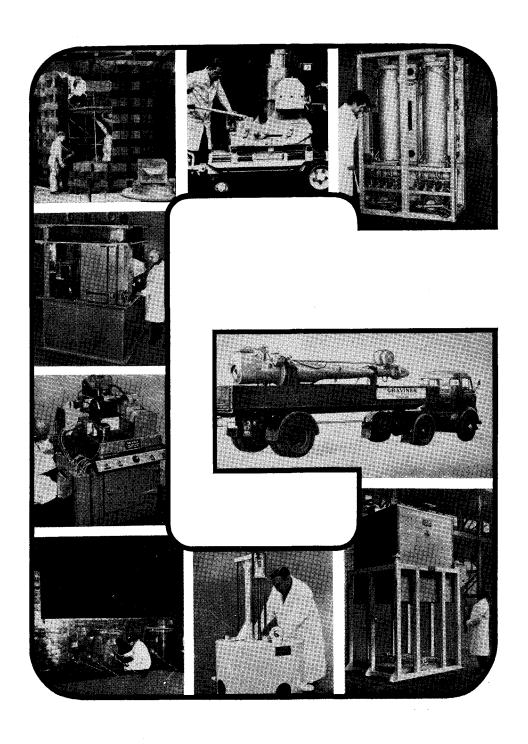




MANOR ROYAL CRAWLEY SUSSEX ENGLAND
Telephone: Crawley 28844 Telex: 87123 Edhivac Crawley



>



### GRAVINER MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.

(GOSPORT DIVISION) GOSPORT HAMPSHIRE ENGLAND
TELEPHONE FAREHAM 2511/5 TELEX 86152

## **ATOM**

MONTHLY INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY

#### NUMBER 143

September 1968

Contents

#### P. 245 In Parliament

- 247 Prospects for nuclear energy in Western Europe: illustrative power reactor programmes
- 255 Scientific and Technical News Service

#### **ATOM**

monthly bulletin of the U.K.A.E.A. is distributed to the staff of the Authority, to similar organisations overseas, to industrial firms concerned with the exploitation of nuclear energy, to the Press and to others to whom a record of information of the work of the Authority may be useful. Extracts from U.K.A.E.A. material from the bulletin may be freely published provided acknowledgment is made. Where the attribution indicates that the source is outside the Authority, permission to publish must be sought from the author or originating organisation.

Enquiries concerning the contents and circulation of the bulletin should be addressed to

Public Relations Branch.

#### U.K.A.E.A.

11 Charles II Street London sw1

Telephone 01-930 6262

Information on advertising in ATOM can be obtained from

#### D. A. Goodall Ltd.

Room 276, 6th Floor Empire House St. Martin's-le-Grand London EC1 Telephone Monarch 0577/8/9

#### IN PARLIAMENT

#### Kincardine and Hunterston A power station unit costs

17th July, 1968

MR. EADIE asked the Secretary of State for Scotland what is the latest estimate of the cost per unit of electricity sent out from the high-pressure section of the Kincardine coal-fired power station; and what is the latest estimate of the cost of electricity from the Hunterston A nuclear power station.

Mr. Ross: I am advised by the South of Scotland Electricity Board that the average cost of electricity sent out from the high-pressure section of the Kincardine coal-fired station in 1967-68 was 0.83d. per unit and from Hunterston A during the same year 1.01d. per unit. Capital costs of nuclear plant are depreciated over 20 years, and of conventional plant over 25 years.

#### Computer industry

18th July, 1968

MR. PALMER asked the Minister of Technology if he will give a breakdown of the figure of £11-6 million for the total of Government support for the computer industry.

Dr. Bray: The figure of £11.6 million was composed as follows:

S.R.C.	£m.
Research grants in computing science	
(including allocation for awards to	
September, 1968)	2.5
N.R.D.C.	23
(Excluding £4m. lent to I.C.T.)	3.0
Mintech	
Advanced Computer Technology Pro-	
ject (authorised ceiling to March,	
1969)	2.6
Atlas C.A.D. Centre, Cambridge	2.5
University Research Contracts	0.5
U.K.A.E.A. sponsored work (mostly	
Aldermaston Project for the Applica-	
tion of Computers to Engineering)	
Government expenditure in direct sur	
of computer manufacture since the begin	ining
of computing has been as follows:—	mant
Com- S mitted to	
Through N.R.D.C. $formula fill fill fill fill fill fill fill fi$	5:60
Advanced Computer Tech-	3 00
	1.08
	0.04
8.86	7.72

\*Expenditure.

The above refers to expenditure in direct support of the computer manufac-

turing industry, either by way of capital assistance or support for research and development. It does not, however, include the cost of work in Government establishments, expenditure on computer development purely for military purposes, nor the cost of any support on projects aimed at furthering the application of computers, nor purchases of computers.

The main items of expenditure by the Ministry of Technology in support of projects aimed at furthering civil applications of computers are the following:

	Com-	Spent
	mitted	to date
	£m.	$\pm m$ .
Computer Aided Design		
(Cambridge)	2.50	0.58
Contracts with Universities	0.30	0.15
Aldermaston Project for the		
Application of Computers		
to Engineering (A.P.A.C.E.)	0.35	0.11
Cold Rolling Mill Automa-		
tion (jointly with A.E.I.		
and Imperial College)	0.28	0.02
Warehouse Automation		
(C.W.S.)	0.15	
N.C.C	1.59	1.14
	5.17	2.00

Neither set of figures above includes expenditure on computers or computer projects by Research Associations, either from their own funds or by way of capital grants from Mintech.

#### 300 GeV nuclear accelerator

22nd July, 1968

Mr. Fortescue asked the Minister of Technology what studies he has made of the implications for British nuclear technology of the decision to withdraw

British participation from the proposed CERN 300 GeV nuclear accelerator.

The Minister of State, Ministry of Technology (Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu): The decision not to participate was taken only after the most thorough examination of all relevant factors, including the industrial implications of the project.

Mr. Fortescue: Does the Minister agree that without a healthy foundation of fundamental research applied research cannot exist at all, and that ultimately the whole work of his Department depends on full participation by British scientists in fundamental research on a European or even a world scale?

Mr. Mallalieu: Fundamental research is vitally important, but it is a question of priorities.

#### A.W.R.E. projects

22nd July, 1968

SIR H. LEGGE-BOURKE asked the Minister of Technology if he will make a further statement on the figures relating to rechargeable and non-rechargeable projects undertaken by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment under Section 4 of the Science and Technology Act, 1965, including those conducted under special Ministerial approval.

Mr. Wedgwood Benn: The following table gives revised figures relating to expenditure or rechargeable work at the Atomic Weapons Research Establish-

The other data given in my Written answers to the hon. Member on 13th May remain unchanged.

		Ex	pendi†ure	Est mated
A p proximate			to 31st	Expenditure
Date Started	Description	Ma	rch. 1968	1968-69
			£'000	£'000
April, 1963	Space Technology		305	250
October, 1966	A.P.A.C.E		133	185
April, 1963	M.O.H. Medical Engineering and Services		139	180
April, 1963	The Home Office—various forensic science p	ro-		
	jects		186	55
October, 1966	Mintech—Advanced Computer Interconnection	ons	76	65
August, 1967	M.P.B.W.—Glass Fibre Reinforced Plaster		14	25
October, 1966	M.O.H.—R & D on Dental Materials		24	20
April, 1963	Other Civil Work for Government Department	nt*	463	180
April, 1963	Minor Works for Universities, Industry, etc†		94	40
	Total‡	1	,434	1,000

<sup>\*</sup>Includes 8 contracts in hand over £5,000 each. †Includes 2 contracts in hand over £5,000 each.

None of the above projects forms part of any international project.

<sup>‡</sup>Figures of expenditure cover full cost, including depreciations and similar notional overheads. Full cost is recovered from all customers.

## Prospects for nuclear energy in Western Europe: illustrative power reactor programmes

Some comments by P. J. Searby, Economics and Programming Branch, U.K.A.E.A., on a report by a Study Group of E.N.E.A.

#### History

At the end of 1964, shortly after the Third Geneva Conference, the Steering Committee of the European Nuclear Energy Agency (E.N.E.A.) set up a Study Group on "Nuclear energy as a long term resource in Western Europe". It was considered that a common study of such problems as the availability of nuclear raw material reserves and possible longterm energy demands, including the anticipated contribution from nuclear reactors of various types, could provide an agreed set of assumptions valid for the Western European region as a whole which might prove useful for future planning on a national basis in E.N.E.A.'s member countries.

The author of this note has been a member of this Study Group since shortly after it was set up, and is thus not in a position to express an unbiased view of the extent to which the Group's activities have justified the Steering Committee's decision to set it up. The Group has, however, not been idle. With the assistance of the Working Parties it has set up, it has produced authoritative estimates of the resources and price category of uranium and thorium minerals in the world (excluding U.S.S.R., China and Eastern Europe), and obtained general agreement on the characteristics of power reactors, both current and envisaged in the foreseeable future. The estimates on mineral resources were first published in August, 1965<sup>1</sup>, and have since been revised (in collaboration with I.A.E.A.) in a report published in December, 1967<sup>2</sup>. The work on establishing agreed power reactor characteristics was first published in September, 1966<sup>3</sup>. The object of this report was to provide data suitable for establishing the fissile material and fuel cycle requirements of a nuclear power system over a long period of time. This was facilitated by the setting up of five groups, each concerned with a particular reactor system, who endeavoured to collate the data available and agree on a single recommendation as to the data to be used for a particular reactor type. The different reactor data were published in a standard form to facilitate future long-term studies and the report included a prediction of the nuclear load growth in Western Europe from 1970 to 2009.

The latest report from the Study Group<sup>4</sup> brings up-to-date, where necessary, the data in the 1966 report on "Power Reactor Characteristics", and then aims to go one step further and to illustrate, on the basis of these data, some of the long term effects which could result from the eventual application of nuclear reactor technology along broad alternative lines of growth over the next forty years. Obviously there must be an appreciable element of speculation over any conclusions to be drawn from a study covering such a long period in the future, but studies of this nature are clearly required in forward planning and this particular report is a good illustration of the international co-operation within E.N.E.A. It must be appreciated, however, that although the hypotheses and assumptions employed in the calculations are generally recognised as being realistic in the light of present-day knowledge, the report is concerned mainly with only one of the factors determine the performance of a nuclear reactor—i.e., the utilisation of fissile material—and ignores the most important factor concerned with the establishment of particular reactor types, which is clearly the achievement of minimum costs of electricity generation.

#### Nuclear demand forecast

The nuclear demand forecast for Western Europe used in the report is given in Table 1. Specific assumptions were made for the types of reactor installed to provide the 1970 capacity of 10 GW(e) (1 GW = 1,000 MW) and the

1975 estimated capacity of 40 GW(e). Allocation of fixed reactor types from 1975 onwards was not considered appropriate and the report concentrates on the comparison of alternative reactor programmes beyond this date. Furthermore, the nuclear demand situation beyond 1980 was considered to be equally uncertain and this led to the adoption of high, mean and low demand programmes with the range of uncertainty increasing with time. This wide variation in possible demand by the end of the century and beyond seems essential in view of all the uncertainties on the rate of growth of demand for energy in Western Europe and the extent to which (taking account of costs, etc.) this demand will be met by nuclear means; it thus provides perhaps the most important of the variants which the study considers.

#### Illustrative reactor programmes

Though the "reactor mix" up to 1975 can be guessed with reasonable accuracy. it is clearly impossible to select the correct mix for Western Europe for the remaining 35 years up to 2010. The report, therefore, considered, for comparative purposes only, twenty-one possible reactor mixes from 1975 onwards. Ten of these cases postulate the installation of single power reactor types for the 35-year period covering both uranium and thorium reactors, and allowing for either the "export" or recycling of plutonium. All of these clearly depict hypothetical situations, but they give a measure of the effects of an overwhelming preponderance of any one reactor type and some indication of the material savings to be made by recycling plutonium when no plutonium-fuelled breeder reactor is available, as well as acting as a base line to illustrate the benefits of the fast reactor or thorium breeder introduced in later cases. Because precise data relating to the recycling of plutonium in LWR's and HWR's were not available, several simplifying assumptions were necessary concerning the uranium and separative work savings due to the use of plutonium. For the LWR, these were that natural uranium requirements would be reduced by 150g, and separative work requirements by 200g. S.W. for each gram of plutonium 239 equivalent recycled. In the HWR case, some data were available and these were in good agreement with a saving of 150g. natural uranium per g. Pu-239 recycled.

The remaining eleven cases attempted to cover the more complex and likely situations where the overall power requirements would be met by two or more reactor types. These, of course, required adoption of further simplifying assumptions relating to the date of introduction of particular types of advanced reactors, the allowable rate of build-up of fast reactors on their first introduction and the minimum level of plutonium stocks needed to maintain the programme. For computing purposes, therefore, it was assumed that fast breeders or converters would not be introduced before 1980, and liquid fuelled reactors not before 1990, whilst the plutonium stockpile was never allowed to fall below 15 tonnes.

Apart from the simplifying assumptions mentioned above, three further major assumptions, which radically affect the results and conclusions of the exercise, were adopted for the main calculations in the study:

- (i) it was assumed that no nuclear stations needed to be withdrawn from service (being then replaced by more advanced designs) throughout the period considered, even though this meant in some cases a working life of 35 years or more;
- (ii) reactor parameters were kept constant from 1975 onwards (i.e., no development potential was allowed for); and
- (iii) all reactors would operate in a given year at the average load factor shown in Table 1 (i.e., no attempt was made to apply an order of merit for operation).

The effect of these on the results is discussed later in this article.

Although the twenty-one cases considered do not exhaust all possibilities or, indeed, represent, apart from the multi-reactor strategies, anything approaching reality, the overall results from these cases and interpolation between the results gives a good indication of the potential of practical programmes.

#### Computer techniques

The bulk of the computing work for the study was carried out under the guidance of the Swedish and Dutch mem-

Table 1—Nuclear demand forecast for Western Europe (July, 1967)

	High GWe	Mean GWe	Low GWe	Mean load factor
1970	10	10	10	0.80
1975	40	40	40	0.80
1980	110	110	110	0.80
1985	242	230	218	0.77
1990	432	392	352	0.73
1995	656	580	504	0.68
2000	978	800	622	0.67
2005	1,350	1,060	770	0.65
2010	1,800	1,350	900	0.65

bers of the Study Group though some Italian results are also reported. It is now planned to carry out some calculations using the U.K. Discount programs; these will enable useful comparisons to be made and should make it easier to carry out new calculations relaxing the unreal assumptions on load factor and plant life referred to above.

#### Discussion of results

#### Uranium requirements

The results clearly demonstrate that the introduction of advanced converters or breeders achieves a major reduction in uranium requirements over the 40-year period. Fig. 1 (which is derived from Table 5 and Fig. 2 of the E.N.E.A. report) compares the estimated total uranium requirements up to 2010 A.D. for a number of illustrative cases:—

- (a) Continuation of "proven reactor" types only after 1975—the figures are not very different whether the system adopted is AGR or LWR.
- (b) As (a) but recycling the plutonium produced.
- (c) Introduction of a good advanced converter—a natural uranium heavy water reactor is taken as the illustration because it has the lowest uranium consumption, but the figures are not very different for an enriched heavy water reactor (e.g., S.G.H.W.).
- (d) Introduction of fast reactors from 1980 (subject to the availability of

plutonium) supplemented as necessary by either continued installation of proven reactors or by an advanced converter using heavy water as moderator.

The figures are given both for the high growth assumption and the low growth assumption. It will be noted, as the E.N.E.A. report points out (paragraph 46), that on the assumptions used the natural uranium heavy water reactor with plutonium recycling needs less uranium up to 2010 than the adoption of fast reactors with either AGR or LWR to complement them. However (quite apart from the cost factors not considered in this report) it would be wrong to deduce too much from any single set of figures of this type. As is shown in the report (Fig. 4), the trend of annual uranium requirements is very different in the different cases and, except for the high growth cases, annual requirements of uranium at the end of the period under consideration are less for the fast reactor plus proven reactor case than for advanced converters with plutonium recycling. Thus the fact that the investment in fast reactors provides for a continuing improvement in the overall utilisation of uranium (thanks to its breeding characteristics) is already being reflected in annual requirements. (Not to take advantage of the possibilities that breeding presents would be to deny to the future a large part of the benefit from the fission reaction that earlier generations will

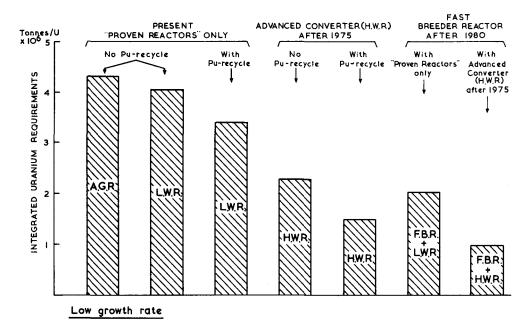
already have enjoyed.) Moreover, as the report itself stresses, actual programmes in Western Europe will be more complex than the illustrative cases studied, and significantly lower requirements can be achieved by a judicious blend of fast reactors with both proven reactors and advanced converters.

For these reasons the report is careful

to supplement its discussion on total uranium requirements over the period with a discussion of annual requirements. To illustrate the effect on these of different assumptions the report discusses a number of programmes in which a proven reactor type (the LWR was in fact chosen) was:—

(a) the only type installed after 1975;

#### High growth rate



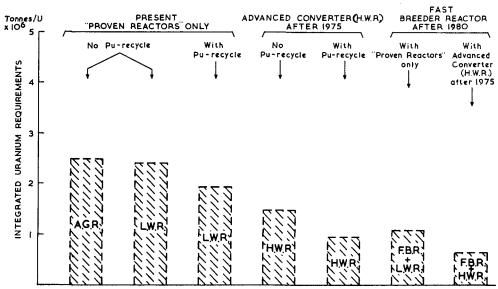


Fig. 1. Integrated uranium requirements to 2010.

- (b) accompanied by fast breeders from 1980—subject to plutonium availability;
- (c) replaced by fast breeders plus fast converters from 1980, the fast converters (initially fuelled with U-235)

being installed and fuelled with U-235 for so long as plutonium requirements limited the introduction of fast breeders.

Fig. 2 (derived from Figs. 3, 4 and 5 of the report) shows the effect both of

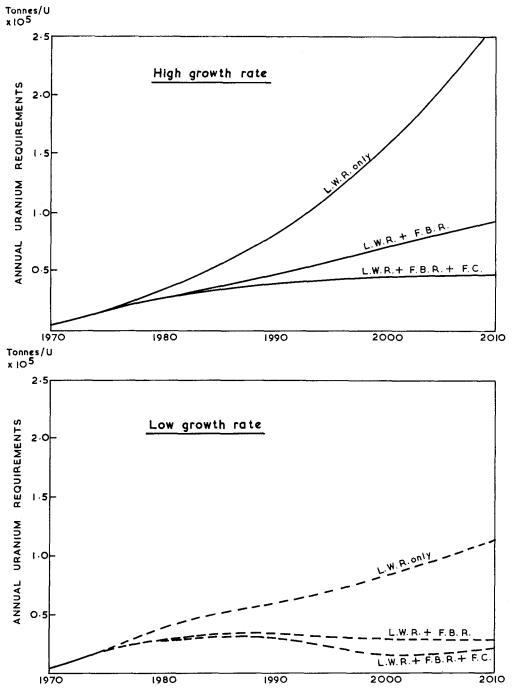


Fig. 2. Annual uranium requirements—illustration of effect of alternative assumptions.

variations in the assumed growth of demand and in types of reactor installed. A much more comprehensive presentation of these effects, for a larger number of illustrative reactor programmes, is given in Fig. 4 of the report. Both figures show that while a continuing increase in demand for uranium into the 1980s is highly probable there are many factors which will slow down and perhaps halt that increase in demand during that decade. However, we do not find, in any of the illustrative programmes considered. any rapid subsequent fall-off in demand for uranium such as has sometimes been predicted. This is partly due to the simplifying methods adopted for this study in relation to life-time, load factor and technical advance. However, some appropriate allowance for these factors can be made where appropriate, i.e., where on the basic assumptions of the study plutonium stocks start to accrue in the 1990s. by (for example) assuming the replacement of the earliest stations (with their heavy annual consumption of uranium) by up-to-date fast reactors fuelled with the surplus plutonium. Allowing for this would lead to a reduction in demand but the figures show that this would be gradual and occur over a long enough period to enable uranium producers adequately to plan the production capacity to match forecast needs. The figures in the study suggest (see paragraph 50) that the most these factors would in practice do would be to reduce uranium requirements for the year to 2010 to about half the level reached in 1990—say 20,000 tons of uranium metal a year for Western Europe compared with the figure of 40,000 tons a year which may be a reasonable estimate for a number of possible programmes in about 1990. These forecasts of the trend of demand will, of course, as the figures show, depend to a considerable extent on the assumptions made regarding the demand for electricity and, in particular, the characteristics of the breeder reactors which are introduced; it would appear that the particular sets of assumptions which at one time led to fears of a sharp collapse in the market are no longer regarded as being within the probable range of uncertainty.

#### Requirements for fuel services

Similar comparisons can be made of

the requirements, for different illustrative programmes, for separative work (to provide enriched fuel) fuel fabrication plant and reprocessing plant. Not surprisingly, the general trend of requirements for fuel services follows closely the annual requirements for uranium though there are important differences of detail for individual programmes which can be studied in the detailed Appendices prepared as part of the study and to be issued separately. These Appendices also contain a wealth of valuable information on thorium requirements and plutonium stocks appropriate to the cases under consideration. Some of these figures are also given in the main report but space does not permit any discussion here of the figures, though further study both within E.N.E.A. and by individual countries will undoubtedly be well worthwhile.

The report gives particular attention to the requirements for diffusion plant and notes that, in addition to the obvious effects on capacity required if natural uranium reactors are introduced in quantity, there are important consequences in cases where a fast converter (capable of being operated on plutonium, once plutonium supplies are adequate) is included in the programme. Fig. 6 of the report shows that in certain circumstances if the rate of growth of nuclear installation is high the introduction of fast converters can significantly improve the utilisation of enrichment plant, but if the rate of growth is low a fast converter would increase requirements for separative work in the short term but soon lead (because the fast converter could be switched over rapidly to plutonium fuelling) to an under-utilisation of this capacity. This is an interesting conclusion, but perhaps needs to be tested against alternative assumptions to check whether it is valid generally or is dependent on particular features in the assumptions used or the techniques of analysis adopted.

#### Sensitivity analysis

The basic cases considered above made some attempt to allow for uncertainties in estimates of forward nuclear capacity by taking into account three alternative levels of demand. In addition, it was also thought advisable to test the sensitivity of the results to deviations in reactor characteristics from the reference assumptions

used. The reactor parameters selected for this sensitivity analysis were: increased rating in converters and fast breeders (resulting in reduced inventory requirements); increases and decreases in the breeding/conversion of ratio breeders and thorium reactors, and hence in fissile material production from such reactors; delays in the introduction of fast breeders, fast converters and liquid fuelled reactors; increase in out-of-pile residence time for fast reactor fuel; varying load factors; and simultaneous application of all the favourable variations.

Apart from some brief comments in the main report, the analysis on the above lines has, as yet, only reached the stage of tabulating (in the separately available Appendices) the rather large number of results, with a few illustrative figures given in Table 5 of the main Report. Much work still needs to be done and it is hoped that the Study Group will be able to assess these results in more detail. possibly extending the analysis if this seems justified, and perhaps issuing a separate report detailing their findings. While it is therefore premature to draw any definite conclusions from these results, some mention should be made of the material now made available; some tentative comments based on material may be appropriate. These comments are based on the results, given in Table 5 of the Report, of the deviations in total uranium requirements to the year 2010, which arise from the variations in assumptions considered:—

- (a) Increased converter rating (+24%) has only a minor effect on requirements except for the A.G.R. and the thorium reactor cases.
- (b) Increased rating in fast breeders (+30%) has a marked effect which averages a reduction of about 20%-30%.
- (c) A 5-year delay in introduction of the fast breeder increases demand up to 15% in most cases but is particularly serious where plutonium production from thermal reactors is high (e.g., from Magnox).
- (d) Making allowance for the operation of different types of reactor at different load factors (order of merit operation) can reduce requirements by up to 20%—this appears to be of least significance in the case of

- LWRs, which implies that in the simplified cases discussed above the LWR looks better (relative to other types) than it would be in reality.
- (e) Simultaneous application of all favourable variables could give a reduction in requirements of at least 20% and up to 50% in some cases.
- (f) Running through all the results is an indication that the medium programme is in some way out of line with the high and \*low programmes with respect to the effect of changes in parameters—this will need further detailed investigation.

#### Conclusions

Though this is made quite clear in the E.N.E.A. report it should again be stressed that the results given in the report, some of which have been reproduced here, are *illustrative* figures based on a simplified form of analysis and clearly defined assumptions which are recognised as arbitrary and themselves also oversimplified. Any conclusions drawn from the figures must therefore be carefully qualified and interpreted, but they will, it is believed, help in an appreciation of the possible trends in requirements for fuel plants in Western Europe.

As already pointed out, the report notes that although the study has concentrated on requirements for fuel and fuel plant it is not designed to suggest that minimisation of these requirements should be adopted as the decisive criterion for policy; minimum costs of generation can be expected to be the paramount consideration. However, it is useful to be able to examine in a wider context than an individual national programme the effect of possible developments both in demand for nuclear power and in the development of both proven and the more advanced reactor systems.

To the author it has also been valuable to participate in this completely international study which has undoubtedly enabled those participating to obtain a better appreciation of the viewpoint of their colleagues from other countries, and the factors which underlie those points of view. While recognising that there are

\* It should be noted that some of the results for the low growth cases are spurious since the analysis adopted could not reoptimise in cases where plutonium stocks were being built up.

limits to the areas in which completely free and uninhibited international collaboration is possible, the author hopes that there will be scope for continued discussion in these areas of long-term planning and techniques of analysis which could be beneficial to all taking part.

#### Acknowledgments

Though the U.K. participants in the discussions leading up to the Study Group's published reports have been the author and Dr. M. Davis (as Chairman of the Working Party on Uranium and Thorium Resources and also a participant in the Working Group carrying out the studies referred to above), considerable assistance to the U.K. representatives has been given by other members of the Authority in the course of this study. The author and Dr. Davis would like, therefore, to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution made by Mr. J. A. Chitty and Mr. D. A. Roper (of the Economics and Programming Branch, London Office), and by members of the Central Technical Services at Risley under Mr. C. E. Iliffe. Their assistance, both in the presentation of the detailed data required for the study and in the subsequent analysis, has been invaluable.

#### References

- 1 "World Uranium and Thorium Resources". E.N.E.A. August, 1965.
- 2 "Uranium Resources: Revised Estimates". E.N.E.A. and I.A.E.A. December, 1967.
- 3 "Power Reactor Characteristics". E.N.E.A. 1966.
- 4 "Hustrative Power Reactor Programmes". E.N.E.A. May, 1968.

#### Radiological protection

A course on "Radiological Protection in Industry and Research" will be held by the University of Manchester Radiological Protection Service from 16th to 20th September, 1968.

The course is intensive and covers the basic principles and practice of radiological protection and also offers practical experience in the design of radiation facilities.

For further information apply to J. C. Collins, University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, Radiological Protection Service, P.O. Box 88, Sackville Street, Manchester M60 IQD, Tel. Manchester Central 3311, Ext. 361.

### A.E.A. Reports available

THE titles below are a selection from the August, 1968, "U.K.A.E.A. list of publications available to the public". This list is obtainable free from the Librarian, A.E.R.E., Harwell, Didcot, Berkshire. It includes titles of all reports on sale, translations into English, books, periodical articles, patent specifications and reports which have appeared in the published literature. It also lists the Depository Libraries in the U.K. and the countries with official atomic energy projects which receive copies U.K.A.E.A. unclassified reports.

#### AEEW-M 813

The Condensation of Sodium Vapour Bubbles. By A. M. Judd. May, 1968. 17 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

#### AEEW-M 824

The U.K.A.E.A. Nuclear Data Library, February, 1968. By D. S. Norton. May, 1968. 23 pp. H.M.S.O. 4s.

#### AEEW-R 602

Corrections for Frequency Domain Transformations of Winfrith Binary Cross Correlator Responses. By J. D. Cummins. April, 1968. 11 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

#### **AERE-M 2005**

The Results of a Year's Experience of a New Programme for Plutonium-239 Urine Sampling and Analysis. By J. D. Eakins and S. Knight. June, 1968. 7 pp. H.M.S.O. 1s. 9d.

#### **AERE-R** 5390

Measurement of Cooling-Water Flow at Eggborough Power Station. By M. A. J. Aston, I. S. Boyce, W. E. Clark, C. G. Clayton, G. V. Evans and R. Spackman. June, 1968. 32 pp. H.M.S.O. 4s. 6d.

#### AERE-R 5631

The Application of Photo-Lithographic Techniques to the Doping of Semi Conductors by Ion-Implantation. By D. N. Osborne. June, 1968. 10 pp. H.M.S.O. 1s. 9d.

#### **AERE-R** 5676

Accuracy of Open Channel Flow Measurements Using Radioactive Tracers. By D. B. Smith, P. L. Wearn and T. V. Parsons. June, 1968. 17 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

#### **AERE-R** 5732

A Non-Destructive Measurement of the Fluctuations in Area Density of a Graphite Block Using a 147 MeV Proton Beam. By R. A. Bell, P. J. Clements and A. Langsford. May, 1968. 8 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

#### **AERE-R** 5749

The Reduction of X-Ray Proportional

Counter Background by Pulse Shape Discrimination. By G. F. Snelling. May, 1968. 13 pp. H.M.S.O. 4s. 6d.

AERE-R 5778

The Harwell Scattering Law Programme. Frequency Distributions of Moderators. By D. I. Page and B. C. Haywood. May, 1968. 35 pp. H.M.S.O. 5s.

AERE-R 5793

Chaffer. A Computer Programme to Evaluate Thermodynamic Data for Chemical Reactions Over a Range of Temperatures. By R. A. Huber. June, 1968. 20 pp. H.M.S.O. 3s.

AHSB (RP) R78

The Applications and Interpretation of ICRP Recommendations in the U.K.A.E.A. By H. J. Dunster. June, 1967. 19 pp. H.M.S.O. 3s. 6d.

TRG Report 1293(S)

Contribution to the Theory of Deformation and Fracture. By J. H. Gittus. 1966. Reprinted 1968. 31 pp. H.M.S.O. 5s.

TRG Report 1523(S).

A Nomogram for the Prediction of Extrusion Pressures in the Simple Hydrostatic Extrusion of Round Bar Through Conical Dies. By P. J. Thompson and P. R. C. Daniels. 1968. 9 pp. H.M.S.O. 3s.

TRG Report 1662(W)
Experiments on the Thermal Bowing of Single Rods Supported at Several Axial Positions, By A. C. Rapier and T. M. Jones. 1968. 11 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

TRG Report 1669(C)

The Determination of Hydrogen in Irradiated Zirconium Alloys. By M. E. Lambert and J. A. J. Walker. April, 1968. 5 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s.

TRG Report 1686(R)

The Design, Commissioning and Operation of the S.G.H.W.R. By H. Cartwright. 1968. 5 pp. H.M.S.O. 1s.

TRG Report 1692(R)

Experience with and Potential of the Steam Generating Heavy Water Moderated Reactor in the U.K. By G. R. Bainbridge. 1968. 7 pp. H.M.S.O. 4s.

TRG Report 1694(R)

Nuclear Fuel Supply by the U.K.A.E.A. By G. R. Bainbridge. 1968. 2 pp. H.M.S.O. 2s. 6d.

TRG Report 1695(R)

Nuclear Power Development Prospects in the Nineteen Seventies. By G. R. Bainbridge. 1968. 13 pp. H.M.S.O. 6s.

CLM-R 93

Some Observations on the Outgassing of Stainless Steel Following Different Methods of Cleaning. By R. S. Barton and R. P. Govier. March, 1968. 15 pp. H.M.S.O. 3s.

#### U.K.A.E.A. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL NEWS SERVICE

#### High purity compounds for Europe

With more than 25% of its professional staff involved in checking purity and with an ability to supply more than 94% of orders from compounds held in stock. The Radiochemical Centre has become established as the most reliable source of tritium and carbon-14 labelled compounds. The Centre also offers a greater range of compounds of high specific activities than any other organisation.

These facts were stressed at the exhibition associated with the Annual Congress of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies, in Prague, 15th-20th July.

Organic compounds labelled with carbon-14 and tritium are widely used as tracers, which provide methods of extreme sensitivity for studying chemical reaction mechanisms and physico-chemical transfers involved in biochemical systems.

In much of this work compounds of very high specific activity (that is, compounds having radioactive a high proportion of the atoms that could be radioactive) are particularly valuable, as they detected and measured extremely small quantities and at very great dilutions. The labelled carbon content of many of the Centre's carbon-14 compounds closely approaches theoretical maximum.

More than 800 carbon-14 and tritium compounds are held in stock by the Centre at Amersham. Only the most highly purified material is accepted into stock and to ensure this the most searching analytical techniques are applied. A comprehensive programme of periodic reanalyses ensures that material received by the user is of high quality.

A unique range of over 300 compounds labelled with isotopes other than carbon-14 and tritium is also offered.

The Radiochemical Centre has 28 years' experience in the processing and sale of radioisotopes. In 1967, it sent out 75,000 consignments, doing business with most countries, and its current catalogue offers more than 2,000 items. Copies are available from The Radiochemical Centre, Amersham, Bucks., England.

12th July, 1968

### A.E.R.E. Post-Graduate Education Centre

THE following courses are due to be held at the Post-Graduate Education Centre, A.E.R.E., Harwell, Didcot, Berks. Further information and enrolment forms can be obtained on application.

#### **Radiological Protection**

30th September to 4th October, 1968 4th to 8th November, 1968 24th to 28th February, 1969 9th to 13th June, 1969

This short course aims to give users of radioactive substances and radiations in industry, research or teaching a broad introduction to the principles and practice of radiological protection, with a strong emphasis on practical considerations. Fee: £40 exclusive of accommodation.

#### Critical Path Methods

8th to 11th October, 1968

This course is intended for staff of graduate standard who are or will become users or managers of the system rather than for mathematicians already working in the field. Lectures are given by managers who have first hand experience with the system. Harwell has developed its own C.P.M. computer programme (CAP-STAN) details of which will be given during the course. Fee: £30 exclusive of accommodation.

#### **Medical Radioisotope Generators**

15th to 17th October, 1968

Arranged in collaboration with the Radiochemical Centre, Amersham, this course aims to give users and potential users of radioisotope generators practical experience of established and newly introduced systems. Fee: £24 exclusive of accommodation.

#### Commissioning, Use and Maintenance of Reactor Instrumentation

21st October to 1st November, 1968
This course is intended for commissioning, operation and maintenance engineers working on nuclear reactor instrumentation. Participants should have some knowledge of the basic principles of nuclear reactions and reactors, electronics and the measurement of physical quantities. Fee: £80 exclusive of accommodation.

#### Process Instrumentation

21st October to 1st November, 1968 10th to 21st March, 1969

This course is intended for graduates who are working on the instrumentation of process plant, nuclear reactors and scientific apparatus or who have a direct interest in the subject. A visit will be arranged to a process plant or a power station where modern control techniques are being applied. Fee: £80 exclusive of accommodation.

#### **Introduction to Production Control by Computer**

30th and 31st October, 1968 4th and 5th December, 1968 31st March and 1st April, 1969

A new system of production control (WASP) which ensures better loading of machine tools has been devised at Harwell. The course will show how "WASP" may be used on its own, or in conjunction with other computer control systems. Fee: £25 exclusive of accommodation.

#### Magnet Design

18th to 22nd November, 1968 14th to 18th July, 1969

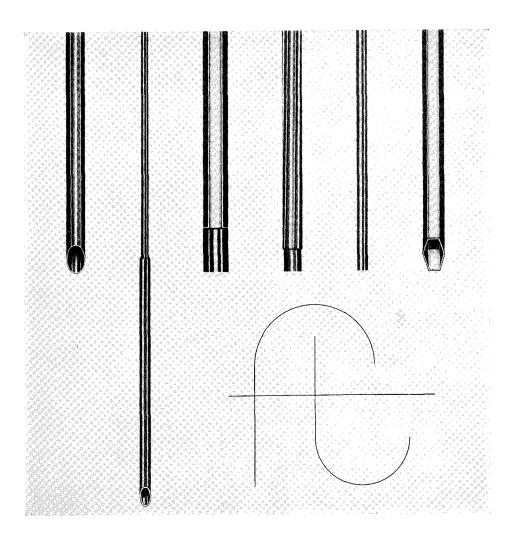
This course is intended to be suitable for both design engineers and scientists with or without experience in the field.

It will cover basic theory, magnetic materials, Fabry factors for coils, forces on coils, digital and analogue computation and computer calculations; field-measurement techniques, technology of low temperature and cryogenic magnets, practical winding design and construction techniques, superconducting magnets and pulsed magnets. Fee: £40 exclusive of accommodation.

#### Seminar on Harwell's Multi-access Computing System

10th and 11th December, 1968

The objective of the seminar is to describe and discuss the multi-access computing facilities developed at Harwell for use on the IBM system/360 computer. The system is designed to operate efficiently with conventional batch-processing. Participants will be given the opportunity to use it. Lectures will describe how it is implemented, giving particular emphasis on what is required for similar systems to be implemented on other computers. Fee: £16 exclusive of accommodation.



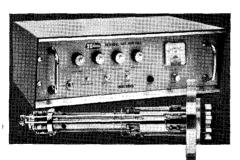
## FINE TUBES for finest tubes... fast for the nuclear industry

Fine Tubes supply the U.K.A.E.A. with fuel element can tubing used in their research reactors at Windscale, Dounreay and Winfrith. These are made to the Authority's rigid specifications in Vacuum Melted 20/25Nb steel, Modified AISI 316L, Double Vacuum melted AISI 304, Nimonic PE16 and many other analyses.

Plain, finned, stepped cylindrical and hexagonal can tubing made by Fine Tubes is fully inspected, and non-destructively tested for flaws to the highest specifications for fuel cans, BCD, instrument tubing and heat-exchangers. Fine tests for fine tubes!

#### **FINE TUBES**

Fine Tubes Limited · Estover Works Crownhill · Plymouth · Devon Tel: Plymouth 72361/3 · Telex: 45252 If you want a British
quadrupole mass
spectrometer providing
residual gas analysis in all
types of vacuum systems,
that is light, compact,
bakeable, with fast response,
good resolution and
linear mass number
spectrum display—



## Say hello to the CENTRONIC Q806!

Mass Range: 1-100 a.m.u. in one range Sensitivity (partial pressure): better than 10-12 Torr

for nitrogen Resolution: Better than 80

Bake-out temperature: at least 400°C 
Vacuum Range: 10.4 Torr and lower

Fully descriptive leaflet available on request

#### CENTRONIC 20TH CENTURY ELECTRONICS LTD

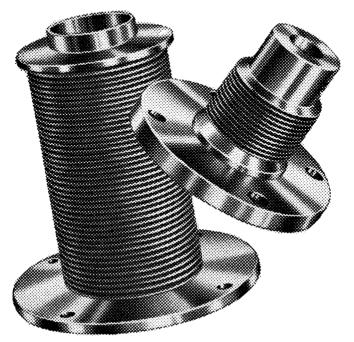
Centronic Works, King Henry's Drive, New Addington Croydon, CR9 OBG, England. Telephone Lodge Hill 2121 A/7/68

## GAMMA Irradiation

A service for industry, hospitals and research The Wantage Research Laboratory of the UKAEA provides an economic and efficient service of gamma irradiation for a wide range of products either in small quantities or on a commercial scale.

Further information is available from the Irradiation Service Office, Wantage Research Laboratory, UKAEA, Wantage, Berks. Tel. Wantage 2911, Ext. 200

## THESE ARE EDGE-WELDED BELLOWS



## ADVANTAGES OVER CONVENTIONAL BELLOWS

lower spring rates—more movement—greater flexibility—reduced size—optional material—greater strength Manufactured by using special welding techniques—made in sizes and materials to customers' specifications.

#### **QUALITY CONTROL**

All bellows leak checked to mass spectrometer standards using helium search gas.

## PALATINE PRECISION LTD

STATION ROAD, STROOD, ROCHESTER, KENT (OME4) MEDWAY 77545

## LEICESTER REGIONAL COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Applications are invited for 1968/69 Session for:-

DEGREE & HND COURSES
IN

#### **APPLIED CHEMISTRY**

Specialising in

#### **RADIOCHEMISTRY**

Applicants with an appropriate ONC can be considered

Further details from: The Registrar. Dept. RY.

Leicester Regional College of Technology.

P.O. BOX 143. Leicester.

#### Mössbauer Sources

Cobalt 57/Iron 57 in palladium, or platinum, iron and stainless steel

Tin-119m/119 as stannic oxide or tin metal

Also metal foils and iron compounds in plastic discs as absorbers. A number of other sources are under development.

Write for further details to:



The Radiochemical Centre

Amersham

## Compton

## oil-free compressors



#### COMPRESSION

Oil-free compressed air for many industrial and scientific processes which demand a pure air supply. Equally suitable for the oil-free compression of gases or indeed any compressor duty within the capacity of our range.

Unique COMPTON diaphragm principle completely seals the compressor giving absolutely oil-free operation.



#### CIRCULATION

COMPTON Compressors are leak free - due to the diaphragm - no shaft seals or pistons - and so are Ideal for gas circulation duties. We can offer pumps to meet a wide range of flow-rate and pressure requirements. Stainless Steel Gas-Contacting parts available if needed.



#### **EVACUATION**

Single and multi-stage vacuum pumps are available from the COMPTON range. An important advantage is that the discharge can be piped away or recirculated if required.

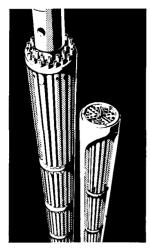
The COMPTON range of compressors has been developed from long experience and combine many unique features. We invite customers to give us details of their requirements. Standard units are tabled and illustrated in our bro

#### **DAWSON McDONALD & DAWSON LTD**

COMPTON WORKS, ASHBOURNE, DERBY DE6 1DB Telephone (ODE 55) 3184

## ukaea nuclear fuels

### **Broad spectrum...**



#### **Manufacture**

- ★ Uranium oxide fuel for gas or water-cooled power reactors
- ★ Uranium metal fuel for power reactors
- ★ Fuel for materials testing and research reactors
- ★ Plutonium fuels
- ★ Uranium oxide powder or pellets to specification and enrichment required
- ★ Other uranium compounds supplied in small or large quantities

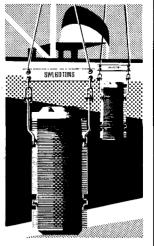
ukaea's large scale production facilities give lower fuel costs and are backed by extensive development and technical services. Advice on fuel management schemes is provided.



#### Reprocessing

- ★ Rapid turn-round ensuring minimum hold-up of valuable materials
- ★ 98.5% recovery of plutonium and uranium guaranteed
- ★ Products in form of nitrate, oxide, metal or hexafluoride as required.
- ★ Uranium product blended to specified enrichments

nlinen operates reprocessing plant which can treat 2000 tonnes annually of natural or low enriched irradiated uranium metal or oxide fuels. The service is completely flexible and able to meet reactor operator's individual needs.



#### **Transport**

- ★ Transport of new and irradiated nuclear fuels
- ★ 'Door to door' transport service by land, sea and air as required
- ★ Special containers designed
- ★ Full compliance with international safety regulations
- ★ Complete responsibility taken for route planning, insurance indemnities and customs clearances

\*ukaca\* pioneered overseas transport of irradiated fuels and has accumulated extensive knowledge and experience in all aspects of nuclear materials transport.

## Fully integrated...

From receipt of uranium concentrate *ukaca* operates its own factories for all fuel cycle manufacturing and processing operations—feed materials preparation, enrichment, fuel element fabrication and assembly, reprocessing.

Full integration leads to:(a) Lower prices (b) Superior technical service (c) Greater customer convenience. Advice on operating and fuel management problems is available based on ukaea's own practical reactor experience.

## ukaea

#### **UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY**

Commercial Director, Production Group, Risley, Warrington, Lancashire.

UK64F

## The Component Buyer's Guide to an Easy Life



Representing
A.E.I. Semiconductors
A. H. Hunt (Capacisors)
Automat
Avo
Belling & Lee
Dubilier
Electrolube
Elma
Elliot Automation
(Micro-Electronics) Ltd.
International Rectifier

Keyswitch Relays Mallory Mullard Omron Painton Raaco Rendar SGS-Fairchild Weller Electrics Welwyn

This catalogue has been produced by a group of people who really understand the problems and requirements of the component buyer. Listed in over two hundred pages is one of the most comprehensive ranges of components available from one distributor, and embraces all the leading manufacturers. Don't be put off by distance, we can give the service. Telephone or Telex and you will have the goods in your hands the next day; couldn't be quicker if we were just round the corner.

This plastic bound catalogue is available free of charge to all bona-fide industrial or educational establishments. Please fill in attached reply coupon.





A.C. Farnell Ltd

81 Kirkstall Road, Leeds 3 'Phone Leeds 35111 (10 lines) Telex 55147

ı	
	Company
ı	
İ	Address
1	
i	
1	Name
i	Title
	M2.