

Nuclear Knowledge Management: The GRS Realisation

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Knowledge has become a crucial factor in our information society in deciding whether companies will last into the future. The aim of knowledge management is to promote systematically the acquisition, use, and distribution of knowledge in an organisation and to initiate measures for improving the knowledge processes. It therefore has a strategic significance for corporate decisions. The GRS faces the challenge of helping to shape the status and use of science and technology even in conditions in which many experts are retiring for age reasons. Knowledge management makes an essential contribution here. Methods and tools of knowledge management that support these activities will be outlined in the final paper.

It will show also the ways of how systematic knowledge management in the GRS and its integration into projects is being performed. The approach of knowledge management for strengthening this factor consists in systematically analysing the knowledge-related processes in the identification, acquisition, sharing, distribution, use, retention, and growth of knowledge and in developing methods with the aim of managing knowledge processes better in the company. Advanced information technology enables knowledge-orientated methods (“enabling technologies”) to be supported and put to good practical use. The acute lack of newcomers in the field of nucleartechniques and the narrowing financial situation are strengthening the GRS approach.

To show the operational actions of knowledge management in a complete form a knowledge model has been introduced at GRS that puts the different fields of action into context with the normative and strategic goals. That model will be presented.

A further section will illuminate the supporting means for practical knowledge management, whether these are procedures for the daily work or tools like the GRS Portal, the Document Management System or tools for online collaboration. Under its caption “project oriented knowledge management”, the embedding of these means for support and realisation of projects will be shown.

Also the developments in the area of meta knowledge and knowledge representation by means of formal methods and supporting tools will be investigated.

Basic and advanced training is of fundamental significance to the retention of competence and transfer of knowledge. The basic training concept developed for newly appointed staff will be discussed. It is modular in construction and provides the possibility of setting individual priorities. GRS also disposes advanced training courses in an attractive range on specific subjects for inhouse use and for other organisations.

The last point covers an outlook on future steps to be made for the practical use of knowledge management activities in house, for example the human resources management, as well as on the efforts to be made for the integration of knowledge management beyond the GRS scope for a wider use between companies and other institutions in the international and world wide context.