

# **NUCLEAR RESEARCH AT INP-ALMATY:**

# Science, Technology, Safety, Security, Cooperation

9<sup>th</sup> APCTP-BLTP JINR Joint Workshop at Kazakhstan *Almaty, June 27 – July 4, 2015* 

Petr Chakrov Institute of Nuclear Physics Almaty, Kazakhstan



# **INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS** in nuclear research infrastructure of Kazakhstan

### 2015





Staff: 650, including 70+ doctors and candidates of science

#### MAIN SITE:

- Alatau, 20 km far from Almaty BRANCHES:
- Astana
- Aksay
- Azgir







# **INP BASIC FACILITIES**

- Research Reactor WWR-K
- Critical Assembly
- Cyclotron U-150M
- Linear Tandem Accelerator UKP-2-1
- Heavy Ion Cyclotron DC-60
- Electron Accelerator ELV-4
- Under construction: cyclotron Cyclone-30











ОРИОН РЕГИСТРАР, Инк., АҚШ Тіркеу Куәлігі

Қазақстан Республикасы, Алматы қ., Ибрагимов 1 көшесінде орналасқан

Қазақстан Республикасының Индустрия және жаңа технологиялар министрлігінің Атом энергиясы комитетінің «Ядролық физика институты» шаруашылық жүргізу құқығындағы республикалық мемлекеттік кәсіпорнының

#### САПА МЕНЕДЖМЕНТІ ЖҮЙЕСІ

#### NCO 9001:2008

сапа стандарты бойынша ОРИОН РЕГИСТРАР багалауынан өтіп, оның талаптарына сәйкес екендігін осы қуәлікпен рәсімдейді.

Бұл САПА МЕНЕДЖМЕНТІ ЖҮЙЕСІ келесі жұмыстарға қолданымды:

Ядролық зерттеулер. Ядролық технологияларды әзірлеу және қолдану.

Тіркеу мерзімі: 27.07.2011 – 26.07.2014 Тіркеу шарты бойынша бул мекеме өз жүйссін стандарт талаптарына сай және жасалынған өзгертулерге байланы таккаттамасыз етуі тиіс, ал ОРИОН оған тиісті бақылауды жүзеге асырады.

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15/08/2013

Orion Registrar, Inc. \* Arvada, Colorado \* PO Box 745070 \* 303-456-6010 \* FAX 303-456-6681

# **INP ACTIVITIES**

• Basic research

• Applied research



Technology development

• Designing

• Production

and Services















# **Nuclear Physics**

- Investigations of nuclear reactions mechanisms and structure of light and mean nuclei in range of low and mean energies
- Investigations of exchange reactions and radiative capture for astrophysical applications and thermonuclear fusion
- Investigations of inclusive cross-sections of nuclear reactions, related to development of accelerator-driven nuclear systems (ADS)
- Investigation of trans-uranium elements fission



<sup>40</sup>Ca

# **Solid state physics**

- Radiation physics of solids, computer simulation of radiation effects
- Radiation material science
- Ion beam modification of materials
- Ion-plasma synthesis of exotic alloys, superconductors, semiconductors
- > Proton-conducting oxides



Hyperfine interactions in investigations of surface layers









# **Reactor investigations**

Tritium release rate, Ci/s

- Physics of nuclear reactors
- Nuclear safety
- Irradiation testing of nuclear materials and components
- Reactor technology for medicine and industry





Elapsed time, days

T/C

### International research projects at WWR-K reactor

- High-birnup irradiation test of lithium ceramics for fusion reactor blanket
- Irradiation tests of differential transformers for fission products
  pressure gages
- Comparative irradiation tests of various grades beryllium
- High-burnup tests of HTGR fuel
- Irradiation tests of oxidation-resistant graphite
- Comparative study of radiation resistance of US and Russian stainless steels
- Comparative testing of technologies for medical radioisotopes production developed in Kazakhstan and Japan
- Development of technology for neutron transmutation doping of silicon

# Radioecology

- Complex radiological investigation of contaminated territories, establishment of radiological monitoring systems
  - 456 nuclear explosions at Semipalatinsk testing site
  - 32 nuclear explosions at other sites (including 23 at sites currently controlled by INP)
  - BN-350 fast breeder reactor (under decommissioning)
  - 5 research reactors and critical assemblies, 4 operating, 2 in INP
  - Uranium mining and processing
  - Natural radionuclides from extraction of petroleum
- Radiation and hydrochemical monitoring of the transbondary rivers
- INP operates the largest and most capable radionuclide analysis laboratory in the region
- Development and application of technologies for cleanup of contaminated territories and equipment





#### Ensuring of radiation safety of "Lira" facilities at Karachaganak oil-gas-condensate field in West Kazakhstan

\* 6 large cavities created in 1980s by nuclear explosions at a depth of ~1000 m







- \* under INP supervision since 1998 (Aksay branch)
- investigations and permanent monitoring
- radiation safety control
- equipment maintenance
- decommissioning planning







## TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRY AND MEDICINE

Radioisotopes production and application

Radiation processing and radiation sterilization

Nuclear-physical methods of analysis











#### **RADIOISOTOPE PRODUCTS FOR INDUSTRY**

#### SEALED GAMMA-SOURCES <sup>192</sup>Ir, <sup>124</sup>Sb, <sup>60</sup>Co, <sup>204</sup>TI, <sup>109</sup>Cd

- industrial radiography (NDT)
- control of technological processes (nuclear gages)
- instruments calibration

#### ISOTOPE MARKERS <sup>60</sup>Co

• depth marking during wells logging

#### BULK-SOLUTIONS <sup>57</sup>Co, <sup>109</sup>Cd

• export









#### **RADIOISOTOPE PRODUCTS FOR MEDICINE**

#### FOR DIAGNOSTICS

- Radiopharmaceuticals with <sup>201</sup>Tl, <sup>99m</sup>Tc, <sup>131</sup>l, <sup>67</sup>Ga
- Portable <sup>99m</sup>Tc generator
- Diagnostic kits (under trials)
- <sup>68</sup>Ge (under development)

#### FOR THERAPY

– Radiopharmaceuticals with <sup>131</sup>I, <sup>153</sup>Sm, <sup>177</sup>Lu (pre-clinical and clinical trials)

#### **RADIOISOTOPE TRACERS**

 Solutions <sup>85</sup>Sr, <sup>134</sup>Cs, <sup>60</sup>Co, <sup>131</sup>I for ecological and biomedical investigations











#### SUPPORT OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT IN KAZAKHSTAN

- Supply of radiopharmaceuticals
- Engineering support for establishment of nuclear medicine centers
  - Designing
  - Equipment installation
  - Commissioning



- Maintenance of cyclotrons and radiochemical equipment
- Import, transportation and storage of radioactive sources
- Disposal of radioactive waste
- Staff training and certification in radiation safety

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE AND BIOPHYSICS CENTER in the Institute of Nuclear Physics



- New radiopharmaceutical production facility (cyclotron, clean rooms, hot cells)
  - Radiation sterilization facility
    → INP, to be completed in 2015
- Clinical complex
  - $\rightarrow$  Ministry of Health

- Production of radioisotope products for medicine
- Development and testing of new radiopharmaceuticals
- Radionuclide diagnostics
- Radionuclide therapy
- Staff training



## **RADIATION TECHNOLOGIES**





#### Radiation sterilization

- syringes, bandages, cotton wool, disposable clothing, tissue, catheters, gloves, vials...
- Polymerization, radiation cross-linking
  - hydrogel dressings for medicine
- Ion- track membranes







## **ION-TRACK MEMBRANES**

Astana branch of INP DC-60 HEAVY ION CYCLOTRON, designed and manufactured in JINR, installed in 2006



Irradiation of polymer film by accelerated heavy ions with specified parameters, export sales

Development of purpose-designed membrane filters (water cleanup, medicine, microbiology)

Production of nano-sized metal structures using the track membranes











Growing market Innovative products New wide area for R&D

# Minimization of highly enriched uranium at INP' WWR-K reactor

- Repatriation of spent HEU reactor fuel to Russian Federation
- Down blending of fresh HEU materials to LEU
- Conversion of the research reactor and critical assembly from HEU to LEU fuel
- Development of non-HEU radioisotope
  production

### **Repatriation of spent HEU reactor fuel**



Phase 1: 2008 – 2009 Phase 2: 2014 Phase 3: 2017







# **Down blending of bulk HEU to LEU**

- Shipment of HEU material from INP to Ulba plant (East Kazakhstan)
- Down blending at Ulba plant, LEU return to INP





# **WWR-K reactor conversion to LEU fuel**



# **WWR-K reactor conversion to LEU fuel**

Irradiation trial of 3 LEU lead test assemblies in WWR-K reactor was performed in 2011-2013, post-irradiation examinations in 2014

Modification of reactor systems will start in August, 2015

Conversion is to be completed early in 2016

The same LEU fuel is used for conversion of the Critical Assembly at INP

# **Development of non-HEU <sup>99</sup>Mo/**<sup>99m</sup>Tc production

- Natural Mo (n,γ) <sup>99</sup>Mo 1,1 Ci/g
- No processing of irradiated Uranium
- Central "Gel"-generator since 2001
- Portable "Gel"-generator since 2011 (1 Ci/generator at the end of production)
- Proven pharmaceutical quality
- New generator production GMP facility to be completed in 2015





# Establishment of Nuclear Security Training Center at INP

to train personnel of nuclear organizations and state authorities in

- Physical protection of nuclear facilities and nuclear materials
- Control and accounting of nuclear materials
- Counter nuclear smuggling



#### **2015** status:

- Detailed architectural/engineering design is under state review
- Development of training curriculum
- Pilot courses already started

# **INP international collaboration**

#### • R&D:

- Basic nuclear physics
- Material science
- Radioecology
- Radioisotopes
- Ion-track membranes
- HEU minimization, conversion to LEU
- Nuclear Security
- Education and Training
- Research institutions in CIS, Europe and Japan
- US national laboratories and universities
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- Joint Institute of Nuclear Research (Dubna)
- International Science and Technology Center
- Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia
- APCTP !



Thanks for your attention

# and have a great week in Almaty!

