



Belsim S.A.
Rue G. Berotte, 29A
B-4470 St Georges sur Meuse
BELGIUM

Tel.: +32 4 259 88 88
Fax: +32 4 259 88 89
E-mail: info@belsim.com
<http://www.belsim.com>

GKN Success Story

GKN stands for Gemeinschaftskernkraftwerk Neckar GmbH.

Here below, a translation in English is reproduced of a letter in German, sent by GKN to Belsim S.A. This letter dated 25.04.2003 was signed by MM. Grauf and MM. Steckenborn.

The English translation has been provided by Jürgen Böger from GKN.

Belsim is happy to warmly thank these three members of GKN, for their testimony.

Datenvalidierung

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Dear Dr.Lousberg,

GKN, operating a nuclear power station consisting of two units in the area north of Stuttgart, installed the software package of VALI III in 1998 in his unit II supported by BTB-Jansky for installation, modelling, first evaluation as well as training and quality assurance.

Beside an improved diagnosis of the behaviour of the components, the objective was to reduce the uncertainties of the measurements due to the systems related to safety and to get a closer knowledge regarding the precise disposal of performance. For the disposal of performance of a nuclear power plant is related to safety, the safety authority (Ministry for environmentals and traffic (UVM) of the state of Baden-Württemberg) accompanied by their inspecting consultant (TÜV-Südwest) have been in charge to re-examine in a large and long time taking administrative and technical procedure, even before VALI III could be used for calibration on measurements related to performance and power production.

After this detailed examination and the certification by VDI 2048, the approval for the use of VALI III in GKN unit II was granted in October 2002 by the authorities .

After the outage of 2002 the calibration on the feed water mass flow measurements has been supported by VALI III the first time. The more precise calibration possibility led to a reduction of the before necessary conservatives by the mass flow determination. This results to an increase of thermal reactor power of the unit and therefor increased the electrical power outlet of 15MW in average.

So VALI III not only led to an improved plant diagnosis but even improved on economics (total expense of approximately 15 Euros per installed electrical kilowatt).

VALI III will also be installed in the Unit GKN I.

Best regards

Gemeinschaftskernkraftwerk Neckar GmbH