Research Reactors in Argentina

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Research Reactors

- Many different types:
 - Different uses
 - From Watts to hundreds of MW
 - From tens to hundreds of million dollars
 - Different layouts
 - Different fuels
 - Different coolants, temperatures and pressures
 - Most important, different uses!



Uses of Research Reactors

- Education and training
- Single purpose:
 - Radioisotope production
 - Beam research
 - Material testing
- Multipurpose:

– RI production and/or beams and/or material testing

Prototypes, including critical facilities





Critical Assemblies in Argentina

-		RA-0	RA-2	RA-4	RA-8
	POWER (W)	1	1	1	10
	TYPE	TANK	TANK	HOMOGENEOUS	TANK
	UTILIZATION	TEACHING AND TRAINING	RA-3 FACILITY	TEACHING AND TRAINING	CAREM FUEL TEST
	FUEL	UO2	UAL	UO2	UO2
	FUEL ELEMENT	RODS	MTR	POLIETYLENE PLATES	RODS
	ENRICHMENT (%)	20	90	20	1.8 AND 3.4
2	EXC. REACTIVITY	0.40 \$		0.4 \$	NOT DEFINED
	STATUS	OPERATIONAL	DECOMMISSIONED	OPERATIONAL	EXTENDED SHUTDOWN
S.	PLACE	UNIVERSITY - CÒRDOBA	CONSTITUYENTES ATOMIC CENTRE	UNIVERSITY- ROSARIO	PILCANIYEU ATOMIC CENTRE
	CRITICALITY	1970	1966-1983	1971	1998

INV/AP

Research reactors in Argentina

+				
		RA-1	RA-3	RA6
PO	WER (Kw)	40	10 000	1 000
ΤY	PE	TANK	TANK	TANK
UT	ILIZATION	RESEARCH, TRAINING, BNCT, MATERIAL TEST	RADIOIS. PRODUCTION, RESEARCH, AXA	RESEARCH, TRAINING, AxA, BNCT
FU	EL	UO2	UO2, USI3	UO2
FU EL	EL EMENT	RODS	MTR	MTR
EN	RICHMENT	20	20	90
RE	CTIV. CESS	1.5 \$	8\$	2 \$
ST	ATUS	OPERATIONAL	OPERATIONAL	OPERATIONAL
PL	ACE	CONSTITUYENTES ATOMIC CENTRE	EZEIZA ATOMIC CENTRE	BARILOCHE ATOMIC CENTRE
CR		1958	1967	1982

AP

RP-0 Critical Assembly

Location: Lima, Perú

Use: training, basic research, Main characteristics: 10 W, pool type, MTR fuel, H₂O

In operation since 1978 with rod fuel; changed in 1991 to MTR fuel





NUR Research Reactor

Location: Alger (Algeria) Use: training, basic research, neutron activation analysis, neutron radiography, Main characteristics: 1000 kW, pool type, MTR fuel, H₂O

In operation since 1989





RP-10 Research Reactor

Location: Huarangal, Perú

Use: training, basic researce activation analysis, neutron radiography, radioiosotope production

Main characteristics: 10000 kW, pool type, M

In operation since 1989



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ETRR-2 Multipurpose Reactor (Egypt)

International Bid -5 firms Power = 22 MW Operating since 1998 Radioisotope Production, R&D, Training, Industrial Services, Materials Testing





1998: The largest turn-key industrial export -paid in cashin Argentina's history

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ETRR-2 Multipurpose Reactor (Egypt)

February 1991: **Tender submission** September 1992: **Contract Signed** March 1993: Start of Civil Works December 1995: **Tank Installation** September 1996: **Clean Reactor Hall** September 1997: Commissioning March 11, 998: **Full Power**





JIAP

Australia - OPAL Project

- Contract: July 2000
 - Award: Via intl. bid (AECL, TECHNICATOME, SIEMENS)
- Budget: \$200 MM USD
 - Name: OPAL
- Location: Sydney, Australia

20 MW

- Power:
- Customer: ANSTO
- Objective: Replacement for HIFAR Worldclass neutron reso
- INVAP:

Worldclass neutron research Radioisotope production MAIN CONTRACTOR, responsible for Engineering, Manufacturing, Construction, Installation, Commissioning

Commercial in Confidence

Ansto

N/AP





Multipurpose!



November 3, 2006, First Full Power



RA-10, the future

- RA-3 is getting old
- Radioisotope production is an on-going business for Argentina
- The government has approved the funding for a new research reactor for RI production, material testing and beam research.
- Argentina and Brazil governments are exploring the idea of building two similar reactors, one in Argentina and one in Brazil.



Other projects

- The interest in research reactor has reborn with the revival of nuclear energy.
- Radioisotope production reactors are old everywhere and need to be replaced.
- Several countries have approached INVAP interested in new research reactors.

 Private investors have shown interest in dedicated radioisotope reactors.

