Installing a Log Channel at the Reed Research Reactor

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Background



Reed was awarded a DOE Grant in 2014

- Replace the pump
- Replace resin beds
- New log channel
 - Expand Lab experience
 - Operator Confidence

Wide Range Logarithmic Monitor TR-10

- Source Range Level
- Source Range Period
- Wide Range Level
- Wide Range Period
- Power Range Level
- Ordered in Dec 2015



May 2016

- Our auto water fill malfunctioned over Memorial Day weekend
 - The water got into the stands to the fission chamber and % power detector
 - With help from Steve Smith, we did a systematic repair starting at the console.
 - Pulled the detectors from the core.

- In Oct. the detectors were reinstalled.
 - A UCI was donated from Oregon State
 - UC Irvine donated a CI
- The log channel failed again
 - NOV
- No operations until the new fission chamber and log channel are installed.

Staffing Challenges and Morale

- Qualified staff
 - Two operators went to OSU twice to stay in regual
 - No Reactor Operator exams May 2017
 - Insufficient time from install to exam date for required reactivity manipulations
 - SRO exams in pushed to July 2017
 - Downstream impact when there will be few SRO candidates due to the 1 year requirement

- How do you keep a training program going with no reactor.
 - Frontload the training program with lectures and labs that do not require operations
 - FAKE OPERATIONS
 - Yellow stickie notes on the console
 - What happens next?

Delivery 4/18/2017





Pool Install





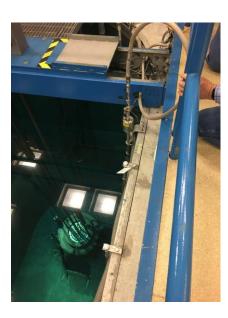




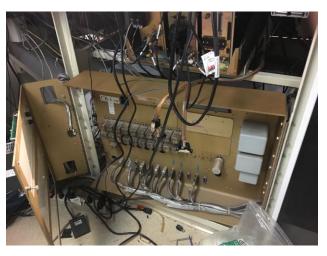
Connections

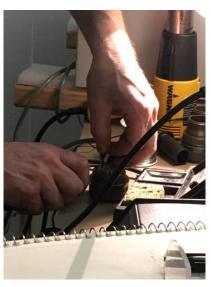






Console Install

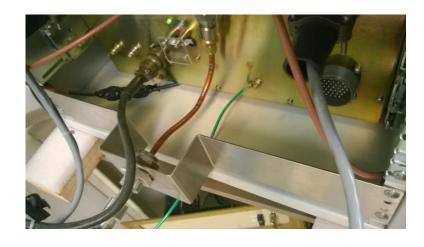






Fine Tuning and Calibration





Advantages of the new channel

- Pressure Tight Detector Assembly
 - Learned from post Three
 Mile Island Reg Guide 1.97
 experience in power plants
- Noisy Environment
 - Triaxial shield carried to cabinet
 - ► EMI/RFI Test Pedigree
 - Cabinet grounding issues
 - ► AC Power noise in console



Normal Operations

- Since the installation
- Six SRO exams (July10-14)
- 10 individuals back in requal
- RO and SRO exams scheduled in Oct.
 - Candidates who were set for May 2017
 - Training will be resumed in the fall

