The Challenge

There is a growing need for outsourced services at many nuclear sites to cope with peaks of demand as well as to reduce the overhead burden on the site operator. Essential services thus remain an integral part of the site operations but need to be both independent and reliable. Such operational services could range from management of category one facilities, operating a waste treatment plant for a fixed duration or providing a permanent on-site active laundry service.

The increasing trend of outsourcing services and the difficulty of managing peaks requires the availability of skilled, nuclear trained and security cleared staff, to avoid a potentially costly and frustrating situation.

Our Solutions

A complete range of services

With its multidisciplinary teams, Nuvia manages the operation of nuclear facilities and supporting units, offering its customers equipment control and operation, maintenance, project supervision, and the shared objectives of reliability and safety over a wide technical scope in order to optimise performance and profitability. We share with our customers the same exacting standards and determination in terms of safety, security and environmental protection.

Our Approach

Nuvia can offer a comprehensive range of operational support services encompassing most aspects of nuclear site operations through to task orientated delivery teams.

Nuvia is a specialist in the provision of short and long term teams who are willing to undertake both the challenging and sometimes more mundane but important activities that ensure the smooth and safe operation of a nuclear site. Nuvia’s operational staff have specific nuclear skills, are familiar with the majority of site rules and regulations and are fully trained in all activities they undertake.

Organisation

Our teams have worked alongside nuclear operators for many years and we have facilities close to the majority of major nuclear sites in the UK and France. We have a highly skilled and flexible workforce that can mobilise to assist clients at short notice.

All operational staff receive practical training in Nuvia’s in-house training schools. They are continuously monitored via a tutoring system, thereby ensuring a highly qualified workforce for the expert management and operation of our customers’ facilities and sites.

Training includes the ability to undertake work in tritium and alpha environments and Nuvia is regarded as a benchmark service provider in this demanding area of operation.

Highly trained, mobile and flexible teams

Nuclear Logistics

Nuvia provides comprehensive logistics support services for operations carried out on industrial/nuclear plants:
- Support for projects and operators
- Design and installation of static and dynamic containment devices
- Design and implementation of biological shields
- In situ decontamination of tools, equipment and reactor pools
- Lifting and handling including operation of forklifts, bridge and polar cranes and jib cranes
- Change rooms services
- On site transport
- On call support to site management

Highly trained, mobile and flexible teams

Facility Operation

The services provided by Nuvia’s teams include:
- Waste conditioning and processing plant
- Tool warehousing and maintenance
- Safety and radiation protection equipment warehousing and maintenance
- Management of radiological laundry services
- Coordination and scheduling of activities in conjunction with customers and other service providers including the management of subcontractors
- Site operations and maintenance eg demolition, cleaning, painting and refurbishment etc
- Decontamination operations including in situ, eg pond clean up
- Technical assistance eg dressing, biological protection

Waste Management

Nuvia provides waste management services, technical support, maintenance, nuclear logistics and unit operation, employing and optimising a range of processes (a total productive maintenance approach).
- Characterisation, conditioning, segregation, sentencing and transportation
- In cell repackaging
- Size reduction
- Monitoring of orphan wastes
- NORM descaling

Nuvia’s approach to waste management is to focus on waste minimisation for optimum packaging and disposal.
Cell operation of the T7 Workshop - AREVA NC La Hague

Since 2008, Nuvia has undertaken the cell operation of the Workshop T7 of the AREVA NC on the site of La Hague. Nuvia has the role of receiving and sorting the wastes arising from in-cell mechanical activities and more particularly from the process of vitrification. The wastes require sorting, decontamination and dismantling. Nuvia is also responsible for the conditioning and the disposal of the treated waste. This work is undertaken by highly qualified personnel and specialist tele-operators.

Operation of a tritiated waste facility - CEA Valduc

Nuvia undertakes the full management and operation of the tritiated waste facility from the sorting, volume reduction and characterisation of tritiated waste through to the dismantling of the glove boxes. To optimise the performance of the service and to guarantee the safety of the operators, Nuvia proposed a new method of working to make it possible to treat waste of all levels of activity. Nuvia’s services also cover the management of the waste store and radiological monitoring.

WETP: operation of ILW plant

Nuvia is the only private contractor in the UK to have designed, built, commissioned and operated an ILW waste treatment plant. Under contract to UKAEA (now RSRL) the plant processed over 300m$^3$ of ‘active’ sludge retrieved from four External Active Sludge Tanks (EAST) at Winfrith. Once in full production the drum processing throughput peaked at one hundred 500 litre stainless steel drums a month. In April 2010 the final drum - number 1068 - left the plant.

NORM descaling cleaning service

Nuvia designs, builds and operates NORM descaling plant and has many years’ international operational experience in dealing with contaminated plant and equipment. A purpose-built decontamination facility at Winfrith in Dorset uses an ultra high pressure water jetting (UHPWJ) system set within a bunded and ventilated ModuCon enclosure. The NORM scale is then sent for disposal as low level waste to LLWR in Cumbria. Nuvia also undertakes oil platform decommissioning studies and remediation of contaminated land and waste disposal operations.

Nuclear and industrial logistics - CNPE of Cruas-Meysse and Dampierre

Nuvia has the responsibility for nuclear and industrial logistics on the nuclear thermal power stations of Cruas-Meysse and Dampierre. Nuvia manages all the logistics of the maintenance works including coordination of decontamination activities, consignment of waste containers, control of the remote handling equipment and radiation protection. The contract also includes a total site laundry service including collection and distribution and the operation and maintenance of the laundry itself.