Safety Characteristics of ITER First Fusion Machine Undergoing Full Nuclear License

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china eu india japan korea russia usa





The ITER tokamak* is an experimental nuclear fusion reactor

ITER will generate 10 times more energy than it receives.

Input 50 MW - Output 500 MW

It is a necessary step on the way to commercial nuclear fusion energy.

Will demonstrate the availability and integration of technologies essential for a nuclear fusion reactor

* Toroidal Chamber, Magnetic Coils



Outline

- Introduction
 - Fission, Fusion, Plasmas
- Fukushima Accident and Fusion
- ITER safety features
 - General safety objectives
 - Risks
- ITER Accidental analysis
 - Radiological consequences
- Nuclear licensing process
- ITER Status
- Summary

Fusion in ITER Plasma

Donut Shape Plasma

V:	830m ³
R/a:	6.2m/2m
Vertical elongation:	1.85
Triangularity:	0.45

Density: $10^{20} m^{-3}$ PeakTemperature:17 keVFusion Power:500 MW

Plasma Current :15MAToroidal field:5.3T



D₂,T₂ Fuel

Blanket: neutron absorber

Power Plant Li-->T High temperature

Divertor: particle and

heat exhaust

Physics



Plasma physics

Maxwell's equations Electromagnetic Physics







Confinement quality and Q

Temperature (T_i): 1-2 × 10⁸ °C (10-20 keV)

(~10 × temperature of sun's core)

- Density (n_i): 1 × 10²⁰ m⁻³ (~10⁻⁶ of atmospheric particle density)
- Energy confinement time (τ_E): few seconds (plasma pulse duration ~1000 seconds)

Fusion power amplifi	cation:	$Q = \frac{Fusion \text{ power}}{Input \text{ power}} \sim n_i T_i \tau_E$
"Scientific breakeven"	Q = 1	(JET)
"Self-heated plasma"	Q ~ 10	(ITER)
"Power Plant"	Q ≥ 30	(DEMO)



The Fukushima Daiichi acccident

Plant Design



Schematic of ITER in-vessel component cooling system



Fuel

Fission Reactor Vessel



Fusion Vacuum Vessel



Uranium isotopes

grams of gas Hydrogen isotopes

The Fukushima Daiichi Incident

2. Accident progression

Unit 1 und 3

- Hydrogen burn inside the reactor service floor
- Destruction of the steel-frame roof
- Reinforced concrete reactor building seems undamaged
- Spectacular but minor safety relevant





Can anything like that happen in ITER (Fusion) ?

- NO chain reaction to be stopped.
- NO fuel to melt:
 - Vacuum Vessel essentially empty
- Low after heat
 - NO from fuel.
 - Only in structures
 - Very large structures
 - Large cryogenic exchange surfaces



Is ITER a nuclear installation?

• The nuclear classification of ITER is due to:



Tritium inventory

4 Kg (nuclear fuel for ITER)

Radioactive waste

Very low (52%), low (39%) and medium activity/long life (9%)

≥ 30.000 Tons

(operation+dismantling)

The radioactive inventory classifies ITER in France as a BASIC NUCLEAR INSTALLATION

ITER has two safety functions:

Confinement radioactive materials
 Limitation of radiation exposure

- There is no safety function associated to:
 - Control of the fusion reactions.
 - Power dissipation (cooling systems)

ITER General Safety Objectives

Normal Operation comprising events and plant conditions planned and required for ITER operation, including some faults or conditions which occur as result of ITER experimental nature

Normal situations	As low as reasonably achievable, and in any creations there. Maxin Incidents, or deviations from Avera event sequences or plant of to occur one or more time	Releases less than the limits authorised for the installation onditions not planned but likely nes during the life of the plant		
Incidental situations	As lov case Accidents, comprising postulated event sequences or conditions not likely to occur during the life of the plant			
Accidental situations	Take into account the constraints related to the management of the accident and post- accident situation	No immediate or deferred counter-measures (confinement, evacuation) <10 mSv No restriction of consumption of animal or vegetable products		
Situations beyond design basis				
Hypothetical accidents	No cliff-edge effect; possible counter-measures limited in time and space			

Confinement of radioactive inventory

- Confinement is the most important safety function
 - Basic targets of confinement
 - Prevent spreading of radioactive material in normal operation
 - Keep radiological consequences in off-normal conditions within levels below the safety objectives
 - Confinement function is achieved by a coherent set of physical barriers and / or auxiliary techniques
 - First confinement system designed to prevent releases of radioactive materials into the accessible working areas



• Second confinement system prevents releases to general public and the environment

Vacuum Vessel and associated components



mass 5000 tonnes

PLASMA AND SAFETY ITER – DESIGN OF VV V.S ELECTROMAGNETIC LOADS



Safety Analysis

Internal Risks

- Internal fire,
- Internal explosion,
- Thermal deviations
- Plasma transients,
- Internal inundation,
- Missile effects,
- Whipping pipe,
- Mechanical risks,
- risques chimiques
- Magnetic and electromagnetic perturbations

External Risks

- Seismic,
- Extreme climatic conditions, like hot weather, extreme cold, rain, snow, wind and lightening,
- External inundation,
- External fire,
- Plane crash,
- Accidents associated to the industrial environment and transport routes, mainly external explosions,
- Accidents in a nearby installation at the site of CEA Cadarache.



Taking into account the full characteristics of the site

- > Meteorological conditions : similar to those of Cadarache
- Hydrological Parameters : works designed for a hundred-year flood with margin
- Hydrogeological Parameters Many studies on piezometric aquifers (Cretaceous Miocene / Pliocene) year flood level centennial with confidence interval 95%: 305 m NGF,
 - platform level: 315 m NGF => no risk of external inundation,
- Geological Parameters : Many studies on the characterization of the site (Cretaceous and Miocene), no specific tectonic detected
- Seismic parameters : consideration of the SMS to the rock (5.3) and a low frequencies paleoseismic plus margin (7)
- > Point zero chemical and radiological : no anomalies detected

What are the effects of an earthquake on ITER?

10

⁵seudo-vitesse (cm/s)

Spectres de reponse - 5 % d'amortissement

2001-01 : Cadarache - SMS et naleoseisme

Seismic parameters: >SMS to the rock (5.3) >low frequencies paleoseismic plus margin (7)

Seismic design and application: ≻nuclear building design 10⁰ 10¹ 10^{2} 10 Frequence (Hz) >~500 seismic pads >tokamak complex mainly reinforced concrete >safety equipment qualification >automatic shutdown of plasma >combustible gases removed from VV within several minutes >plant systems are isolated >majority of inventory is placed in safe storage; remainder is confined and isolated within the process >residual heat is removed via natural convection

Hydrological Design : > works designed for a hundred-year flood with margin

Hydrogeological Parameters :

- > 100 year flood level with confidence interval 95%: 305 m NGF
- platform level: 315 m NGF
- > site drainage exceeds the exceptional storm rainfall by 20%

Tsunami consideration :

because of the inland location, distance from major bodies of water, and elevation above see level tsunamis are not a concern for ITER

Therefore there is no credible risk of external inundation

Basic assumption of unlikely event:

- > seismic event followed by
- Failure of Serre-Ponçon Dam

Response to seismic event

- > safe state
- > plasma shut down
- > inventory placed in safe storage
- > plant systems isolated
- inventory placed in safe storage
- \succ all within minutes of initiating event
- > residual heat removal by natural convection

Centenial flood of Durance - failure of the Serre-Ponçon dam

- > maximum flood level: 265 meter above sea level
- First raft of nuclear buildings: 298 m ASL
- > exceptional rain flood level: 305 m ASL
- > nuclear building constructed on a second raft at 315 m ASL

Earthquake followed by exceptional flooding is neither probable nor problematic.

Tokamak Complex

- Main characteristics
 - Tokamak Complex includes Tokamak, Tritium and Diagnostics buildings. These buildings form a monolithic structure.
 - All buildings are reinforced concrete structures except the structure that supports the metal roof of the hall handling Tokamak Building is composed of a metal frame
 - Joint type bracing walls and columns / beams





Complex stands on ≈ 500 seismic isolators

Design Basis Accidents

			Large DV ex-vessel
V1	In-vessel FW pipe leakage		coolant pipe break
X6	Heat exchanger leakage	X5	baking (controlled releases
X1	Loss of divertor heat sink	70	means through the stack
X2	Pump trip in divertor HTS		and releases shall be
T1	Tritium process line leakage		multiplied by filtering factor)
L1	Loss of off-site power for 32 hours	X8	Port Cell (normal operation)
V2	blackout for 1 h in Hot cell		baking valves close
	Multiple FW pipe break		Stuck divertor cassette and
	Multiple FW pipe break + 10 DV	E1	failure of cask
	pipes break		Failure of transport hydride
	Loss of vacuum through one	T2	bed
V3	V V/cryostat penetration line (500 MW/)		Isotope separation system
	Loss of vacuum through one	13	failure
	VV/cryostat penetration line (700	Τ4	Failure of fueling line
	MW)		Leak of tritiated water from
X3	Pump seizure in divertor	Т5	mbo
X7	Heat exchanger tube rupture	M1	Toroidal field coil short
7.0	Large VV coolant pipe break		Arc near confinement
	(ACP mass is reduced 100	M2	barrier
X4	times: it is lower than in FW/BLK	C1	Crycolal an ingress
	loop by factor 100)	C2	Cryostat water ingress
	baking	C3	Cryostat helium ingress
			Loss of confinement in hot

H1

cell

Magnets Safety



Magnets - Unprecedented Size and Performance



Is there an impact on the 1 st confinement barrier credited in ITER safety analysis?

the first confinement is the vacuum vessel and contains 1 ton of activated dusts and 1 kg of tritium

□ Is there an impact on the last confinement barrier credited in ITER safety analysis through the anchorage of the coils to the civil work?

On **major part of t**he last confinement barrier is the basemate where anchorage ensured the support of the magnets systems, the VV and the cryostat ✓ A postulated event (DBA) is a full terminal short of a TF coil (TF coil short):

two ground faults in the coil busbar circuit : one on side of the TF coil, while undergoing a fast discharge, plus the failure of the monitoring systems to detect these faults.

 Substantial local plastic deformation can be expected to occur in the TF case (in the shorted coil and the adjacent coils) and intercoil structures.

- There may be a loss of cryostat vacuum due to thermal shield damage.

➔ However, gross structural failure is not predicted. There is no impact of magnets on the vacuum vessel and no radiological consequences are predicted

IS THERE AN IMPACT ON THE FIRST CONFINEMENT BARRIER?

- ✓ Another postulated event is an arc inside a PF/CS coil (Arc near confinement barrier).
 - The arc develops as a result of a failure (or inability) to discharge the coil when a quench occurs.
 - The quench will propagate slowly and local conductor melting followed by the development of arcs, is likely.
 - The melted material produced by the coil internal arcs may not be contained by the thin coil casing and would probably be spread over components in the cryostat in the vicinity of the shorted coil. It is possible that external arc energy associated with the coil short is sufficient to melt the conductor of the superconducting busbars

Cause local melting around the cryostat feed-throughs. However, no radiological consequences are predicted.

THINK ON THE NON-IMAGINABLE ACCIDENT TO CHECK OUR MARGIN?

✓ FUKUSHIMA event pushes us to check for this non plausible accident what could the remaining safety margin

✓ A BDBA scenario is postulated and it is not derived from any identified mechanism by which a magnet failure could initiate

Damage to vacuum vessel and cryostat resulting in large holes large holes, 1 m² created simultaneously in VV and cryostat

Radiological consequences very limited (0.14 mSv, 2.5 km)
 No countermeasure for the public

Minimizing the potential for damage

- The potential for a magnet fault to lead to damage to confinement has been minimized by their design.
- Magnet systems incorporate multiple monitoring and protection systems in the design.
- Two of these detection and protection systems are designated Safety Important Class (SIC) as they provide the following safety functions:
 - TF coil quench detection
 - Fast discharge of TF coil stored energy

IS THERE AN IMPACT ON THE LAST CONFINEMENT BARRIER CREDITED IN ITER SAFETY ANALYSIS THROUGH THE ANCHORAGE OF THE COILS TO THE CIVIL WORK?

- The two main tokamak components (VV and magnetic coils) rest on the cryostat pedestal ring. The pedestal ring is supported by the building basemat.
- The magnets gravity support system consists of columns made up of flexible compression plates resting on the pedestal ring and resisting vertical and toroidal movements.
- Each PF coils are connected directly to the TF magnet assembly.
- The VV thermal shield is attached to the TF coil system.
- The in-vessel systems (blanket modules, divertor) are directly supported by the vessel.
- The cryostat is supported by the basemat.
- The tokamak building is supported by the basemat.











- A fast discharge of the PF and CS coils (MFDI) is defined as a category I event
- A fast discharge of all coils (MFDII) is defined as a category II event

Load Case	Load Combination	Combination Category	
1	$DL + SL1 + VDE_{TM}$	Category III	
2	DL + SMHV + Cr ICE II	Category III	
3	DL + SMHV + Cr ICE III	Category III	
4	DL + SL2 + Cr ICE II	Category IV	
5	DL + SL2 + Cr ICE III	Category IV	
6	$DL + VDE_{wc}$	Category IV	
7	$DL + VDE_{WC-D}$	Category IV	
8	DL + Cr ICE II	Category II	
Table 1 – Load Cases			

→ MFDI and MFDII are not designing loads for the anchorage on basemat

➔ No impact on civil work

CONCLUSIONS

- The coils are not SIC (not credited in safety analysis)
- The Instrumentation of the coils is SIC (TF quench detection)
- The fast discharge units are SIC
- TF coils : gross structural failure is not predicted. There is no impact of magnets on the vacuum vessel and no radiological consequences are predicted
- PF/CS coils : cause local melting around the cryostat feed-throughs. However, no radiological consequences are predicted
- MFDI and MFDII are not designing loads for the anchorage on basemate, no impact on civil work

Accident study

Design basis accident generating the most significant doses to the closest people



Guillotine rupture of the largest pipe of the divertor cooling system during its phase of drying

Relief

panel opens ✓ Releases come from the pressurization of while P > the chamber containing a portion of the 0,2 MPa cooling loops and from the opening the discharge value for a few seconds

The accident "envelope" leads to 18 µSv to the most nearby person (Chateau de Cadarache), taking into account inhalation and ingestion of contaminated.

The dose is mainly due to the discharge through the chimney of activated corrosion products (over 90% of dose)

Loss of vacuum through one vacuum vessel penetration line plus 2 hours blackout and in-vessel FW coolant leak

Multiple failure of first wall cooling loops inside vacuum vessel together with failure of both windows in an RF heating line ("wet bypass") Multiple failure of the first wall cooling loops inside vacuum vessel together with a failure of Fusion Power Termination System

FW Ex-Vessel Loss of Coolant with Failure of Fusion Power Termination System

Hydrogen and dust explosion in the vacuum vessel

Damage to VV and cryostat resulting in large holes of 1 m²

Large VV ex-vessel coolant pipe break plus loss of flow in all intact PHTS loops

Cryostat water and helium ingress (2600 kg of He)

Confinement Failures in the Tritium Plant

Fire in the T-plant

Hydrogen Deflagration and Detonation in the Tritium Plant

Fire in the waste processing area plus propagation to buffer storage room in the hot cell

"Wet By-pass Scenario"



- ANNUAL DOSE IN NORMAL CONDITIONS < 10 μSv at 200 m Long term < 3μSv
- MAXIMUM DOSE IN DESIGN BASIS ACCIDENT < 100 μ Sv at 200 m Long term < 17.6 μ Sv
- DUST EXPLOSION IN VACUUM VESSEL
 BEYOND DESIGN ACCIDENT
 332 μSv at 200 m Long term < 200 μSv
 - OTHER BEYOND BASIS ACCIDENTS ALSO SHOW LOW IMPACT AND NO "CLIFF EDGE" EFFECT:
 - ✓ Fire in tritium plant following failure of fire protection provisions: Maximum public dose 1.1 mSv (short term, 200m).

Long term: 200 µSv

 ✓ Worst event ("wet bypass"): max dose 4 mSv (short term, 200m), Long term: 130 µSv





Definition of the stress test

- The "stress test" is a targeted reassessment of the safety margins of nuclear facilities in the light of the events which occurred at Fukushima: extreme natural events challenging the facility safety functions and leading to severe accident.
- The reassessment consists
 - In an evaluation of the resistance of the nuclear facility when facing a set of extreme situations
 - In a verification of the preventive and mitigation measures chosen following a defense-in-depth logic (noting any potential weak point and cliff-edge effect): initiating events, consequential loss of safety functions, severe accident management
- In these extreme situations, sequential loss of the lines of defense is assumed, in a deterministic approach, irrespective of the probability of this loss

Definition of the stress test

- The objective is
 - To evaluate the robustness of the defense-in-depth approach,
 - To evaluate the adequacy of current accident management measures,
 - To identify the safety improvements, both technical and organizational (such as procedures, human resources, emergency response organization or use of external resources)
 - To describe the conditions for sub-contracting (the nuclear operator has to keep the complete control and responsibility of the facility safety)

Technical Scope

- Initiating events conceivable at the facility site:
 - Earthquake,
 - Flooding,
 - Other extreme natural events.
- Consequential loss of safety functions:
 - Loss of electrical power (including station black out),
 - Loss of the ultimate heat sink,
 - Combination of both.
- Severe accident management issues
 - Means to protect from and to manage loss of core cooling function,
 - Means to protect from and to manage loss of cooling function in spent fuel storage pool,
 - Means to protect from and to manage loss of containment integrity.

ITER is successfully making the transition from Design to Construction

- Going from developing requirements to detailed designs
- Going from R&D to large-scale prototypes
- Going from prototypes to large-scale manufacturing
- Beginning construction

Status of the Project



As of May, 72 PAs signed out of 126 76.81 % of value achieved (2250.04 kIUA)







As of now,72 PAs signed with a total value of 2250.041313 kIUA out of a total In-Kind project value of 2929.32591 kIUA; representing 76.81 % of value achieved. The current forecast based on SMP data indicates that over 20 PA are scheduled to be signed in 2012

ITER Site in September 2011

CEA Cadarache Site

ITER Temporary Headquarters





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Swiss Nuclear Forum, Lausanne 31 May 2012

Construction Status at Cadarache











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Site Construction Progresses (1)



Site Construction Progresses (2)



Construction site



Site Progress Highlight

On Wednesday, 18 April, ITER Director-General Osamu Motojima and F4E Head of the Site Laurent Schmieder pressed the switch. The 493rd and last seismic pad was installed in the Tokamak Seismic Pit





Progress on TF Coils - Japan



Completed one third scale 3-turn winding trials at Toshiba

Winding Support Jig

Photos: JAEA and Contractor Toshiba

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Winding & Bending Rollers

Progress on TF Coils - EU



Photos: F4E & Contractors SIMIC, CNIM and Le Creneau Radial plate welding mock-up at SIMIC (Powder hipped segments joined by narrow gap TIG welding)

TF & PF conductor activity underway in Hefei, China



TF Conductor Production



TF Qualification Sample Summary



Over 40% of required 450t of Nb₃Sn strand has been produced around the world

 Stepping up to 100 tons/year, an increase of two orders of magnitude from previous Nb₃Sn worldwide production rate



TF Strand Production Dashboard

TF Strand Production Summary

In-Vessel Components - Divertor

In the current ITER baseline:

CFC at the strike points, W on the baffles through the H and D phases

All-W from the start of DT operations

Divertor:

- 54 Divertor cassettes
- High heat flux components capable of 10MWm⁻² in stationary operation and 20MWm⁻² transiently

w - "reflector plates"

DIVERTOR

N

W

Status of W Technology R&D in EU



2000 cycles at 15 MW/m² on W





Unirradiated - 1000 cycles x 20 MW/m² – no failure

200°C, 0.1 and 0.5 dpa in tungsten - Successfully tested up to 18 MW/m²

Most of all the W repaired monoblocks behaved like not-repaired ones

Vacuum Vessel



Vacuum Vessel is a double-walled stainless steel structure

- 19.4m outer diameter, 11.3m height, 5300 tonnes
 - provides primary tritium confinement barrier

Large Scale Mock-Ups of Vacuum Vessel and Thermal Shield



Inboard segment of a VV sector





Korean Domestic Agency is verifying the manufacturing design and fabrication methods

Photos: KO DA

How safe is ITER? A Fukushima-like accident is impossible in ITER

The fusion reaction is intrinsically safe - Any disturbance will stop the plasma

- Runaway reactions and core-meltdown impossible
- Cooling is not a safety function: if power is lost, heat evacuation happens naturally
- Fuel inventory is very small: less than one gram of fuel is reacting at any given moment in the reactor core.
 - No long-lived/high activity radioactivity.
 - Induced, not intrinsic.
 - No materials with proliferation concerns.
- No climate-changing emissions.
- Important safety margins for external risks (earthquake, flooding...)

Thank you for your attention

