

Contact

Society for Radiological Protection

DS009
Dartington Hall
Dartington
Devon TQ9 6EN

Tel: 01803 866743
Fax: 08442 724892
Email: admin@srp-uk.org

Web: www.srp-uk.org

[Responders should be aware that the Sectorial Committee is NOT legally able to offer Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) or Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser (DGSA) type advice for the storage and transport of radioactive materials as required by the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 or Road Transport Regulations to any specific individual or organisation.]

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Sectorial Committee for the transportation industry,
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Role of the Society

The SRP is exclusively concerned with radiation protection. Its membership exceeds 2000, comprising Fellows, Members, International Members, Graduates, Associates, Students and Affiliates.

It is a Chartered Society and its objective is to promote the science and art of radiation protection and allied fields for the public benefit. It achieves this by means of meetings, conferences, lectures and publications, with emphasis on those subjects which contribute to the knowledge and practice of radiation protection.

The Society has an official publication, *The Journal of Radiological Protection*, which is published quarterly and supplied free to members.

The SRP is the UK Associate Society of the International Radiation Protection Association. Details of membership of the SRP and further information about any of the matters in this leaflet may be obtained from the SRP Administrative Office.

SRP Activities include:

Scientific meetings, Journal, Newsletter, Networking, Bursaries, E-mail discussion groups, continuing professional development scheme, Administration of Chartered Radiation Professional



The Society for Radiological Protection

Work with ionising radiation - Radiation issues in the Transport Industry



Radiation issues in the transport industry

Most UK industries utilize ionising radiations in the form of radioactive materials and/ or X-rays at some point in their production process or services offered. The number of radiation applications is often large and the variety of uses remarkable and will always require the transportation of individual or bulk quantities of this equipment between manufacturers, suppliers and consumers. Examples in the transport industry range from specialist transport companies carrying items such as radiation gauges, smoke detectors, and analytical equipment or radioactive waste for incineration or burial, to scrap metal and waste haulers inadvertently carrying radioactive materials, to small taxi firms carrying radioactive medical products short distances.

Employers have a duty to protect their employees and other persons against the radiation hazards from such sources, and to comply with relevant health, safety and environmental legislation. However, some individuals and employers are involved in the transportation of radioactive materials and are unaware or confused about the most appropriate form of radiation protection relevant to them. Others find it difficult to apply these safety principles to their specific equipment/ process.



Examples of such issues are:

- Unaware of the regulations or the specific requirement of the regulations relating to the transport and storage of radioactive materials.
- Difficulties complying with various legislation when transporting portable equipment around the premises and between premises.
- Insufficient information from the consignor about how the company goes about ensuring the protection of its employees.
- Not understanding how to do a radiation risk assessment for transport operations.
- What contingency plans should be in place for a transport accident? Should the driver have a radiation monitor available to him/her in the vehicle?
- Not knowing what radiation safety and warning systems are needed to comply with the regulations.
- Not knowing how often radiation protection arrangements should be reviewed.
- How to ensure the appropriate level of security of radioactive materials during transportation and storage.
- Difficulties finding a suitable Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) and/or Dangerous Goods Safety Adviser (DGSA) for Class 7 materials.
- Employee concerns about working with radiation and radiation exposure.



The SRP has a number of Committees representing different radiological interests and of relevance to the transport industry sector is the **NON –NUCLEAR INDUSTRY SECTORIAL COMMITTEE**. This Committee is made up of radiation protection professionals who represent a significant array of radiation users and regulators who try to provide assistance and/ or representation to the transport sector wherever issues such as those above are raised. If readers feel that some of the above issues are relevant to them or have other radiation associated issues they would like to raise then please feel free to contact the Committee by telephone, letter or email to the contact address below. The SRP is a registered charity promoting radiation protection and so a charge is not made for assistance it is able to provide.

All issues raised will be confidential and the Committee will not be making competitors and/or the regulators aware of them without the stakeholders' consent (unless the Committee agree that one or more individuals may be at serious radiation risk). Stakeholders may, if they wish, raise issues anonymously.

