Challenges and Opportunities on the Path to LEU Conversion

R.W. Brown
Government Affairs & Strategic Alliances
Curium, St. Louis, MO, USA

ABSTRACT
Conversion from the use of High Enriched Uranium (HEU) to Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) has been an important goal to Curium for the last several years. This conversion is important to the long term security of Mo-99 supply and accomplishes many non-proliferation goals. Several challenges were encountered during the conversion process in the areas of materials of construction, impurities in the LEU targets, reactor scheduling, and regulatory approval. Each of these challenges were answered with technical innovation and close collaboration with suppliers, business partners and regulatory agencies, enabling Curium to anticipate full conversion to LEU by the end of 2017.