



IAEA

Atoms for Peace: The First Half Century

1957–2007

Establishing a training centre for the Paks nuclear power plant in Hungary

The challenge...

In the early 1990s, the Hungarian authorities decided to build a novel training centre that would serve the needs of the Paks nuclear power plant in Hungary and the nuclear community at large.

The project...

Between 1994 and 1998, the IAEA contributed to the construction and commissioning of the Paks nuclear training centre. This centre is the only one of its kind: instead of displaying mock-up sections and internals of the VVER 440 reactors, it features vital plant parts and other items of equipment that are true replicas of the components in the plant. This allows optimal training in a radiation-free environment.



The impact...

The centre was opened in early 1997 and has been growing ever since. In its early days, it served to train technicians in the mechanical aspects of the nuclear power plant – mainly the primary circuit. Now, the training resources at the centre have been extended to cover the secondary circuit. The centre plays a vital role as a venue for the exchange of research and technical information. Beyond the nuclear community, the centre caters to audiences that are interested in topics such as: testing and validation of tools, equipment and auxiliary materials; development and testing of new technologies; research and development; domestic and international conferences; and product demonstrations. Finally, the centre conducts guided visits for university students, school classes and the public.