

NUCLEAR *facts*



Transport of Radioactive Materials: Every Movement, Every Day

EVERY DAY, CANADIANS WORKING IN NUCLEAR SHIP THOUSANDS OF PACKAGES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL – MANY OF THEM ACROSS THE WORLD.

Why so safe?

We work in close cooperation with other industries and governments and we learn from every incident.

Transportation of radioactive shipments is monitored internationally by the International Atomic Energy Agency. Federal regulators include the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and Transport Canada. Provincially, we work with various departments and agencies.

Canadians also work with the World Nuclear Transport Institute, the International Maritime Association and the International Air Transport Association to facilitate and monitor these shipments and to continually improve packaging, procedures and training.



In five decades, there has been no transportation incident with significant radiological damage to people or the environment.



Many materials are radioactive, including much naturally occurring rock and soil. Most of the radiation to which Canadians are exposed comes from natural sources including sunlight, and most of the remainder comes from medical uses.

Radioactive shipments include medical isotopes, some smoke detectors, gauges and instruments, nuclear reactor fuel, uranium, and cobalt for sterilizing food and medical supplies.

Of more than 1,000 emergency calls received in 2009 by Transport Canada relating to dangerous goods, only five (half of one percent) pertained to radioactive materials. Most of the calls were related to corrosive or flammable liquids or compressed gas.



Learn More

World Nuclear Transport Institute:

www.wnti.co.uk (click the "safe transport" video)

Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission:

<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/about/regulated/packaging>

Transport Canada:

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/tdg/safety-menu.htm>

International Air Transport Association:

http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/dangerous_goods/Pages/index.aspx

International Atomic Energy Agency:

<http://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/2011/bottlenecks.html>



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