

**Strengthening safety  
by learning lessons from the accident at TEPCO's  
Fukushima-Daiichi NPP**

Fukushima-Daiichi-1Fukushima-Daiichi-4

Dr. Akira OMOTO  
Project Professor, University of Tokyo  
Commissioner, Atomic Energy Commission

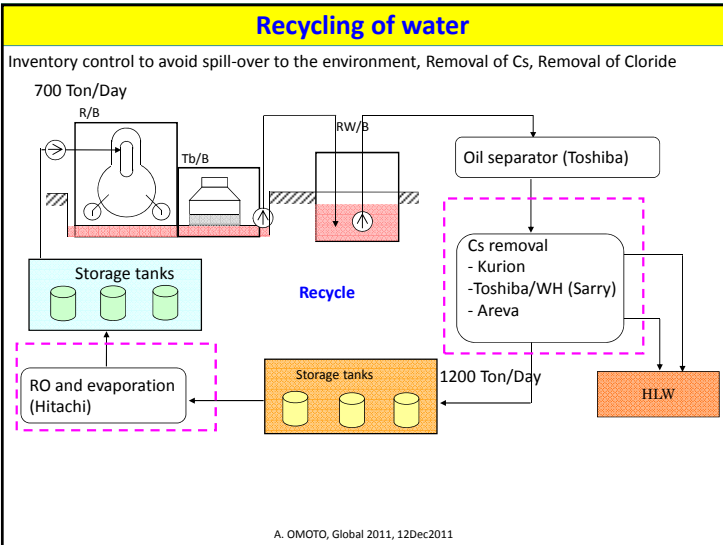
**Key onsite recovery actions  
(Stabilization phase, by 2011/E)**

- 1. Cooling**
  - ✓ Stable cooling to low reactor temperature
- 2. Minimizing release of radioactive materials to the environment**
  - ✓ Recycling of water recovered from Turbine Building
  - ✓ Water inventory control
  - ✓ Installation of Reactor Building cover
  - ✓ Isolation of surrounding area by walls to prevent spill-over
  - ✓ Corrosion control of structures and components
- 3. Minimizing residual risk**
  - ✓ Assure structural integrity of damaged Reactor Building
  - ✓ Assure reliability of power/water supply
  - ✓ Control hydrogen

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

- ✓ **Part I Medium- and Long-term onsite and offsite activities**
- Part II Key Lessons Learned**
- Part III Actions to strengthen safety**

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011



### Reactor Building Cover

Completed for Unit 1  
(2011 October)

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Beyond stabilization phase

- Planned actions
  1. Remove Spent Fuel from the Spent Fuel Pools
  2. Remove core debris
  3. Decommission
  4. Dispose generated wastes at final disposal facilities
- AEC's experts' committee on medium- & long- term plan by end of 2011
  - ✓ What are the required technologies?
  - ✓ How and who to develop?
  - ✓ Who is going to manage the overall project?
  - ✓ How long it will take?

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Isolation of surrounding area by walls

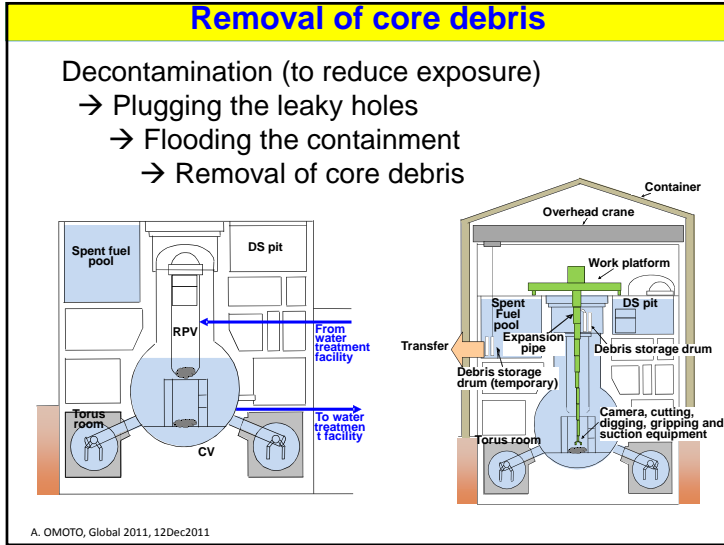
A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Removal of SF from SF pool

SF remain covered by water during and after the accident: sipping analysis suggests that SF is mostly intact, though some might be damaged by falling objects due to hydrogen explosion

1. Remove rubbles by crane
2. Install refueling machine & overhead crane
3. SF transfer by cask

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011



### Offsite decontamination

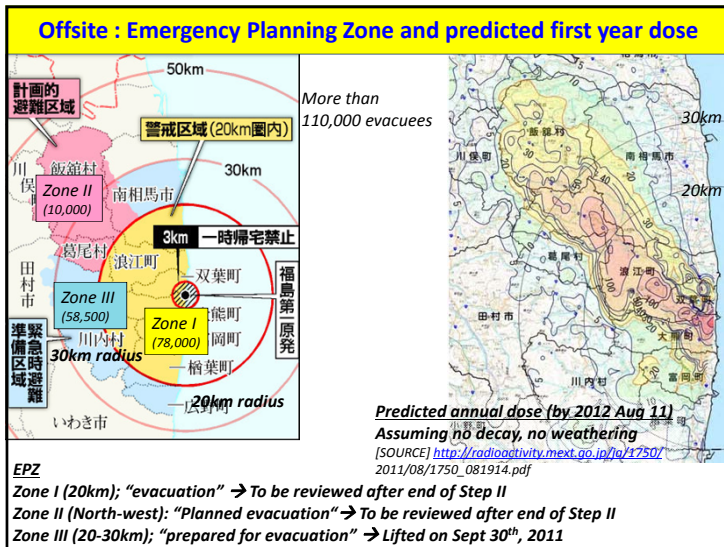
**Government announced “Basic Policy for Emergency Response on Decontamination Works “ (August 26<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters ); Specific purpose law was enacted, followed by particulars on technical standards, classification of areas**

- Zone I & II :  
Government to reduce areas of dose higher than 20 mSv/yr quickly
- Zone < 20mSv/yr: government to work with municipalities and local residents for effective decontamination, target to 1mSv/yr
- Specific Target: 50% reduction (including weathering effect) in contamination level within 2 years
- High priority to schools and parks and so on
- Temporary storage of removed soil etc for later disposal

**Agriculture**

- ✓ 5000Bq/Kg as threshold soil contamination level
- ✓ Currently 83km2 above 5000Bq/Kg level
- ✓ Scraping surface soil (5cm) to bring contamination level to below this level in 2 years
- ✓ Removed soil for later treatment (separation of Cs-rich clay/silt)

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011



**Part I Medium- and Long-term onsite and offsite activities**

✓ **Part II Key Lessons Leaned**

**Part III Actions to strengthen safety**

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Lessons Learned

- Government report to the IAEA (September) : update 28 Lessons in 5 specific areas (Prevention of Severe Accident, Severe Accident Management (SAM), Emergency response, Safety infrastructure, culture) and implementation status  
<http://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/nuclear/backdrop/20110911.html>

**Key points are;**

1. Design considerations against natural hazards
2. Design considerations against SBO (Station Blackout) and Isolation from UHS (Ultimate Heat Sink)
3. Completeness/effectiveness of SAM
4. Emergency Management
5. Safety regulation and safety culture
6. Multiple unit installation
7. Spent Fuel Pool design
8. International aspects

- This presentation goes a bit further through personal deliberation and to specifics by focusing on key LL
- Need further in-depth study on root causes

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### (Tsunami)

- 2002 Tsunami design guideline

Historical Tsunamis (Earthquake)

Active Faults in the Near Coast

Tsunami Source from Seismo-tectonic

Very Far Earthquake Like Chile Earthquake

↓

Numerical Calculation

- Evolution of Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard analysis
  - ✓ In late 2000's, but not considered as matured
  - ✓ Methodology guide from JSCE (2009) using logic tree to represent epistemic uncertainties
- Superposition of waves from multiple earthquakes with time delays

Combination of tsunami sources | Magnitude distribution | Recurrence interval | Tsunami height estimation | Hazard analysis cases

A1, A2, A3 | B1, B2, B3 | C1, C2, C3 | D1, D2, D3 | A2, B2, C2, D1, D2, D3

[SOURCE] T. Annaka, "A method of Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard analysis", 12<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Society meeting, 2006

Fig. 1 Logic-tree representation of uncertain parameters

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Key Lessons Learned

#### A) Safety regulation and safety culture

**Regulation:**

- ✓ Responsibilities not in a single regulatory body
- ✓ Regulatory standards, Independence, competence (Government report to IAEA)
- ✓ Decision by Cabinet (2011Aug15) on reorganization
  - Transfer of NISA, NSC, and other authorities (security, transportation safety) to MoE (Environment) except for Safeguard

**Regulation/Utility:**

- ✓ Focus on Quality Assurance/Compliance rather than risks (after 2002)
- ✓ Use of risk information using Probabilistic Safety Assessment by Owner/operator to address vulnerabilities of its asset
- ✓ Continuous improvement
  - [Example in hindsight] of SAM through drill and information from outside considering "Accident can happen here"
- ✓ "Sensitivity" to safety-related issues/information
  - [Example in hindsight] B5b, Kalpakkam Tsunami workshop
- ✓ Attitude towards "uncertainties" such as on Tsunami height

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### (3.11 Earthquake)

200 km

**Statement by the Headquarter for Earthquake Research, 11March2011**  
 ....but occurrence of the earthquake that is linked to all of these regions is "out of hypothesis".  
 [SOURCE] <http://www.jishin.go.jp/main/index-e.html> The 2011 off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake

**Government Report to the IAEA, June2011** : The Headquarter had alerted ... but had not correctly estimated the size of the source area (400km x 200km) nor the magnitude (M9) nor the amount of slip [SOURCE] Gov. Report to the IAEA, June2011

**Yet, some papers indicated possibilities....Prof. Kanamori (2006), Dr. Sieh on Earthquake SuperCycle (2008)**

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

**Key Lessons Learned**  
**B) Workable SAMG (Severe Accident Management Guideline)**

14.46 Earthquake, Loss of offsite power, Start of EDG, IC/RCIC  
 15.38-41 Tsunami followed by Loss of AC/DC, Isolation from UHS

**Given this situation, operation to avoid core damage**

Short term

- Reactor water makeup by AC-independent IC/RCIC/HPCI

Require workable/effective SAM

Then, while trying to restore AC/DC power and Heat Sink

- Depressurize Reactor Coolant System by Safety/Relief Valves
- Activate Low Pressure injection systems
- Containment vent to avoid over-pressure failure

Failure of RCIC/HPCI on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> day  
 Delayed venting, de-pressurization of RCS and LP injection

Core degradation  
 Hydrogen explosion

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011 17

**Workable/effective SAMG (Severe Accident Management Guideline)**

- SAMG not robust enough to cover possible plant damage conditions  
 → Consider
  - integration of three Guidelines (internal event, external event and security-related event), and
  - implementation of recovery actions in harsh radiation environment
- Provisions of Onsite or National/Regional Nuclear Crisis Management Center for storage of mobile equipments & drill

(Supporting provision)

- Accident instrumentation  
 [Ex] What is the Water Level in the containment?
- Prevention of hydrogen detonation/deflagration outside of the Containment Vessel
- Simulation of plant behaviour (Real-time or faster-than-real time) as a decision aid and knowledge basis

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

**Limited available resources under harsh environment**

Loss of communication tool (PHS) and plant safety parameters (SPDS)

1) Use of limited available resources

- ✓ Fire Engines
- ✓ Flashlights/Cables/Tools
- ✓ Batteries taken from cars
- ✓ Mobile small Generators
- ✓ Mobile Engine-driven Air Compressors
- ✓ Mobile pumps/motors

2) Usage limited by scattered debris/tanks

3) Field works under devastation & damage by hydrogen explosions and aftershocks



A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

**TMI and Fukushima core uncover: estimation**

	TMI	Fukushima
<b>Day 1</b>	00 Tb trip, Loss of FDW 03 sec SRV stuck open 3 min HPI stop 100 min Coolant circulation stop 174 min B pump start (fuel collapse) 113-174 min Core uncover 200 min HPI restart 224 min Slumping to RPV bottom	00 Earthquake LOOP, EDGs start, IC/RCIC operation 1 hr Tsunami Blackout & loss of UHS (1F1) (1F2) (1F3)
		4-15* hrs
<b>Day 2</b>		*Estimated time from start of core uncover to start of successful injection
<b>Day 3</b>		
<b>Day 4</b>		75-77* hrs
		40-43* hrs

[SOURCE] Based on Gov. report to the IAEA and TEPCO May 23 report

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Lessons Learned C) Emergency management

- Loss of communication tool and plant information at NPP
- Dissemination of information
  - ✓ Damage to social infrastructure by earthquake hampered dissemination of information to local government and residents
  - ✓ Lack of Information sharing
    - with local residents on dispersion of FP (SPEEDI) and risk of radiation
    - with neighboring countries on release of slightly-contaminated water
  - ✓ “Data but not information”
- Who is in charge?
  - ✓ Ambiguity in delineation of responsibility
  - ✓ “Why not transport mobile Diesel Generators & others by Self Defense Force”
  - ✓ Offsite center: function was lost by loss of electricity and radiation
- Effective channeling of emergency supports
  - ✓ Systematize domestic/foreign helping hands for logistics/experts

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Lessons Learned D) Design

#### Gedankenexperiment What safety design could have saved Fukushima?

1. **Protection against natural hazard**
  - ✓ Adding safety margin to the results of probabilistic Tsunami hazard analysis
  - ✓ Location of essential safe systems considering Tsunami/Flood
2. **Plant capability against SBO and isolation from UHS**
  - ✓ Highly reliable assurance of 3 cooling functions (Core, CV, SFP) including enabling systems (power/air/water source) such as backup air supply to SRV
  - ✓ Passive systems
3. **SAMG (coupled with relevant design provisions)**
  - ✓ Mobile equipments in onsite/offsite emergency center
  - ✓ Robust SAMG workable under internal events, external events and security-related events and drill
4. **Enhanced system for aversion of “land contamination”**
  - ✓ Dependable scrubbing vent
  - ✓ 2ndary containment filtration/H<sub>2</sub> management system

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Onsite ERC by TEPCO: seismic isolation structure

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

### Hydrogen explosions

Hydrogen leak path 1 : Excessive leakage by over-pressure at CV flange/airlocks  
 Hydrogen leak Path 2: Vent line → SGTS → R/B HVAC  
 (vent line merge with adjacent units)

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

FP escape path to the environment by R/B hydrogen explosion

**Hydrogen from adjacent unit caused Unit 4 explosion**

The fact that there was no fuel in the RPV core (in preparation for shroud replacement) led to many speculations on the source of H<sub>2</sub>

Pool



- ✓ SF in the SFP covered by water during/after the accident
- ✓ SFP water sipping revealed FP from recent fissions (not from Unit 4 SF)

SGTS (Standby Gas Treatment System) filter train

- ✓ Higher FP deposition in outlet side than inlet side (suggests FP came from Unit 3)

Initiation of explosion

- ✓ Explosion started not on the top floor (5<sup>th</sup> FL) but one floor below (4<sup>th</sup> FL) and in HVAC duct

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011    5<sup>th</sup> floor lifted upward    HVAC duct on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor    22

**Actions to strengthen safety**

1. Global actions for strengthening nuclear power safety in post-Fukushima era would be built around [the IAEA action plan](#) (endorsed by the IAEA GC September 22)
2. In specific country and NPP
  - ✓ Overall assessment of NPP safety and reflection of Fukushima LL in the light of principles in [INSAG-12](#) (safety culture, defense-in-depth etc)
  - ✓ Specific plant assessment by [IPE](#), [IPEEE](#) and [security-related events](#), for identifying vulnerabilities and for continuous safety improvement
  - ✓ International peer review for comprehensiveness, objectivity and confidence building.
3. ...and to restore public confidence through transparency

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011

**Part I    Medium- and Long-term onsite and offsite activities**

**Part II    Key Lessons Learned**

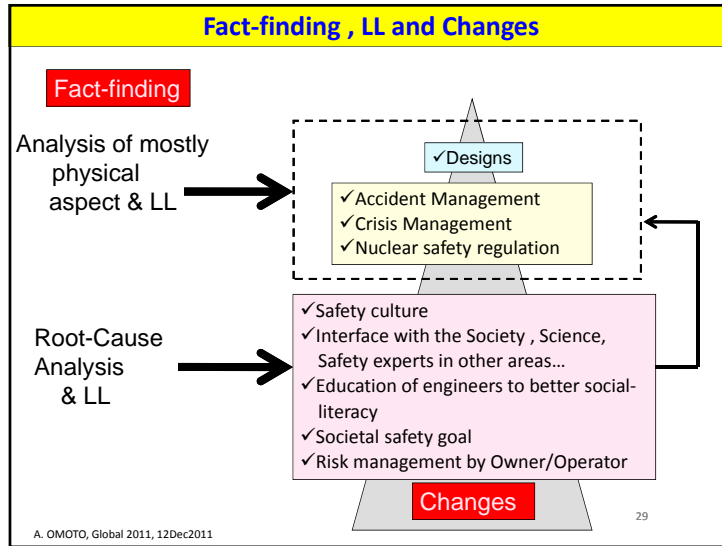
✓ **Part III    Actions to strengthen safety**

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011    23

**Consideration will go further to...**

1. To revisit design in terms of defense-in-depth for its completeness & effectiveness, while utilizing insights from risk assessment
  - ✓ Line 1 (material selection(Zr), site selection)
  - ✓ Line 3 (protection against Common Cause Failure by natural and man-made hazard and enhanced passive safety features)
  - ✓ Line 4 (beyond-DBE capability and protection against land contamination)
2. To cooperate in building safety infrastructure in new entrants
3. To build internationally harmonized and cooperative scheme for liability, especially CSC (Convention on Supplementary Compensation) , and potentially use it as a leverage to build safety infrastructure

A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011



- ### CONCLUSIONS
- 1. Stabilization phase to end this year at Fukushima, followed by offsite remediation and onsite 3D (Decontamination /Defueling/Decommissioning)**
  - 2. Strengthening safety by learning lessons in**
    - Regulation and Safety culture
    - Workable/effective SAMG
    - Emergency management
    - Design

AND further by Revisiting Defense in Depth, Building safety infrastructure in newcomers and global liability scheme
  - 3. RCA is required to help identify vulnerabilities, which could lead to changes in safety culture, organization, and risk management**
- A. OMOTO, Global 2011, 12Dec2011