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Perspective on the application of the Safety Case regime to Australian-acquired Virginia Class submarines

As Australia acquires the Virginia-class submarines under the AUKUS agreement, argument-based assurance cases will play a critical role in demonstrating to stakeholders (owners, regulators, third-party observers) that nuclear, safety and environmental risks are effectively managed in the operation of these vessels in the Australian context. Understandably, the USN will require assurances and confidence that strict safety governance and operational practices are maintained and assured to prevent accidents. This presentation will provide a perspective on the role of argument-based assurance cases and how their implementation could complement existing USN safety and quality assurance systems and add value to reflect Australian regulatory requirements and operational considerations.