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NRC Issues Confirmatory Order to Somat Engineering Inc.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a <u>Confirmatory Order</u> to Somat Engineering Inc. documenting an agreed upon set of actions to address three apparent violations of NRC requirements.

The apparent violations involved the loss of a portable moisture density gauge due to the failure to control and maintain constant surveillance of the gauge after failing to secure it; failure to secure the gauge from shifting during transport; and failure to secure a second portable moisture density gauge from unauthorized removal or access.

The company's officials requested the Alternative Dispute Resolution process with the NRC to discuss corrective actions, which uses a neutral mediator with no decision-making authority to assist the NRC and its licensees in reaching an agreement.

Somat Engineering uses licensed radiological material for industrial purposes, such as in portable gauging devices for measuring the moisture and density of materials.

The NRC <u>Confirmatory Order</u> documents the commitments Somat Engineering has agreed to following the ADR mediation session held on Jan. 11, which include verifying the security of gauges, conducting a variety of trainings, enhancing job site audit programs, and incorporating devices to track the location of gauges.

The agency's Nov. 2, 2021, <u>inspection report</u> describes the circumstances of the apparent violations and the company's actions taken following each incident.