APPLIED RESEARCH

MICADO, A EUROPEAN PROJECT FOR THE MONITORING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE, GETS UNDERWAY

Standardising the management of radioactive waste, starting from its non-destructive characterisation to transport, storage and real-time monitoring. This is the goal of the MICADO (Measurement and Instrumentation for Cleaning And Decommissioning Operations) Project, launched on 3 June, thanks to Euratom funding, and to the synergy among 8 European partners with solid experience in the field of radioactive waste, nuclear techniques, electronics and information technology.

The Italian partners, in addition to INFN which brings its expertise on new radiation detection techniques, are CAEN, a company with 40 years of experience in the field of nuclear electronics and project leader, and ENEA, which has specific expertise on materials and on techniques for their management. The international partners are ORANO and CEA for France, SCK-CEN for Belgium, CTU for the Czech Republic, and XIE for Germany.

The Digi-Waste RCMS solution proposed in the MICADO project will produce a modular hardware and software system to unify and standardise procedures and methods for non-destructive characterisation and monitoring of nuclear waste, proposing itself as an international benchmark for all nuclear operators, research laboratories and security authorities, facilitating the exchange of fundamental and often critical information. In detail, INFN is participating with the Southern National Laboratories (LNS) which is entrusted with the task of creating the detector system for monitoring gamma and neutron radiation.