

## Joyo Wins Landmark Award from ANS

On November 14, the American Nuclear Society (ANS) announced that the Experimental Fast Reactor "Joyo", operated by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) at its O-arai R&D Center, had won the Nuclear Historic Landmark Award. The award was announced at the Winter 2006 Conference of the ANS, held at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Next June, ANS Chairman Harold F. McFarlane will visit Japan and make a formal presentation of the award certificate at the O-arai Center. This is the second time that JAEA has won the Landmark Award, the first being for the advanced thermal reactor (ATR) Fugen in 2003.

The Landmark Award is given to facilities that have accomplished excellent results that have proved useful for technical development for the purpose of the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy. The conditions for receiving the award are high innovativeness and an operational performance record of two decades or more.

Joyo has been used to collect basic data on fast breeder reactors (FBRs) and to conduct irradiation for the development of high-performance fuels, etc. So far it has been operated for a total of more than 6,800 hours. Ever since the first criticality of the MK-I



JAEA's "Joyo"

reactor core in 1977, Joyo has since passed through the MK-II stage, beginning operations as an MK-III reactor core with a thermal output of 140MW since July 2003.

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