

# NEWS RELEASE

## **Nuclear Plants Place Orders With Biach For RPV Stud Tensioning Equipment Upgrades**

Biach Industries, Inc., of Cranford, New Jersey, has announced it has received an order from the **Nuclear Management Corporation** for a new RPV stud tensioning system for use on the **Point Beach** Unit 1 and 2 vessel heads. The contract calls for 4 of Biach's QD-H style RPV stud tensioners which use the turn-of-the-switch latching means of stud engagement to the current stud's helical thread form. Included in the design is Biach's EMS (elongation monitoring system) which provides instantaneous elongation status feedback from the tensioner to the central pump operator. This feature eliminates the uncertainty of inconsistent or inadequate nut seating which leads to the need to perform trim passes if readings are outside of the required range. The QD-H includes full hydraulic operation including low pressure hydraulic piston return, Biach's LCD communication system which provides distinct written instructions to the tensioner operators to assure error free operation and Biach's Hoist Control Handles to permit one man operation in moving the tensioner around the monorail and raising or lowering the tensioner to the studs.

The order includes Biach's EPN (electro-hydraulic) pumping system to pressurize the set of individual tensioners, two test block assemblies (simulated short RPV studs) for pre-outage testing and training of crews and three of Biach's ESDT (Electric Stud Drive Tool) for safe and quick stud turnout and insertion.

Point Beach becomes the 26<sup>th</sup> site to utilize Biach's Quick Disconnect stud tensioner design approach and 13<sup>th</sup> site to upgrade to the QD-H version.

**FPL Energy** placed an order for its **Duane Arnold Energy Center** for Biach's RPV Nut Rack (for storing and transporting RPV stud nuts), four test block assemblies and a spare RPV stud tensioner. Duane Arnold becomes the 5<sup>th</sup> BWR site to purchase Biach's RPV nut rack.

**ENERGY NORTHWEST** ordered Biach's EPN pumping system and upgrades for the RPV stud tensioners at the **Columbia Nuclear Plant** to include the LCD communication system, hydraulic return conversion and electronic limit switches. In addition, Biach is supplying 4 test block assemblies and a spare RPV stud tensioner.

Biach Industries, Inc. has designed and manufactured such systems since 1955. Its designs are used in over 90% of the US nuclear plants and in many overseas. Biach also provides Tech Support for maintenance of its systems and outage support for vessel head disassembly and re-assembly.

For further information, contact Richard A. Hill, President at 908-276-3110 or by email: [rhill@biach.com](mailto:rhill@biach.com) or visit Biach's website: [www.biach.com](http://www.biach.com).