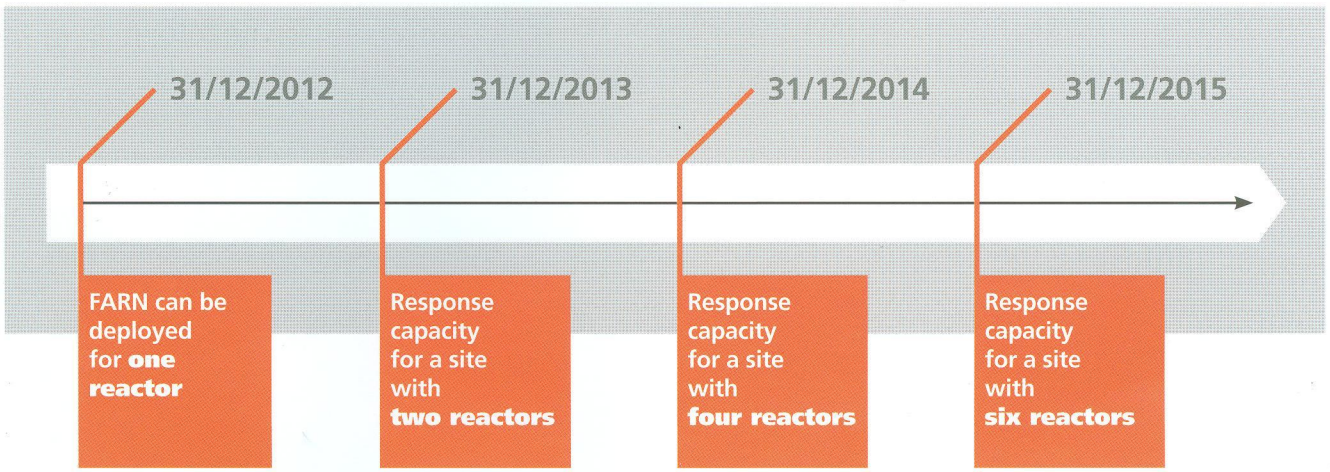
Caroline Bernard
Deputy Nuclear Generation Division Director in charge of Safety

The FARN is an unrivalled innovative concept

Announced by Henri Proglio the day after the Fukushima accident, the nuclear rapid response force (FARN) rapidly became a reality. It should be pointed out that this force whose purpose is to assist the site experiencing an accident involving more than one reactor is entirely made up of volunteer EDF personnel, nuclear professionals. With this choice, France stands out from the other countries where this responsability is preferably outsourced.
The nuclear rapid response force will eventually be composed of 300 persons stationed on four sites selected for the different plant series making up the French fleet and in the headquarters located in Paris. On call 24 hours out of 24, they dedicate half of their working time to the plant where they are stationed and the other half is given over to training in their FARN responsability. The other specific feature of the nuclear rapid response force is to promptly respond within 12 hours of their deployment, with their own equipment, such as emergency diesel generators, compressors, pumps and hoses, transported in convoys by lorries, 4 x 4 vehicles, helicopters, etc. The FARN professionals provide support and take over if need be in the control room from the shift crews who have responded with very precise procedures in the first 24 hours after the accident. First of all operational for two reactors, and, then for four and six reactors affected by an accident, the nuclear rapid response force will be fully justified in phase 2, and then in phase 3 of the post-Fukushima programme.
The nuclear rapid response force responds under the authority of the Plant Manager who remains accountable for plant nuclear safety. It also responds within the framework of the revamped EDF emergency response organisation, based on the new on-site emergency plan, additional means of communication and improved information systems. With its human, logistical and equipment resources, the nuclear rapid response force enhances EDF's capacity to manage any extreme situation.

THE FARN IS PROGRESSIVELY DEPLOYED FROM 2012 TO THE END OF 2015



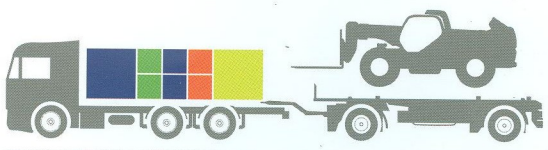
THE FARN

FARN CONVOY PLAN DEPARTING FROM EVERY REGIONAL BASE

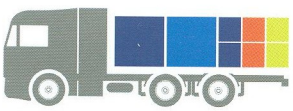
DETACHMENT 1

Advanced guard 4 x 4 pick-up with telecom trailer

Pilot 4 x 4 pick-up with FARN barge



Semi-trailer for heavy equipment transport



Flatbed lorry with crane

Flatbed lorry

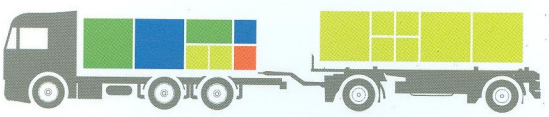
Flatbed lorry

- WATER: pumps and pipes
- AIR: compressors
- ELECTRICITY: equipment
- Living base equipment
- Team member kitbags
- Other

DETACHMENT 2

Advanced guard 4 x 4 pick-up

Pilot 4 x 4 pick-up with tank trailer



Semi-trailer for heavy equipment transport

Flatbed lorry with crane

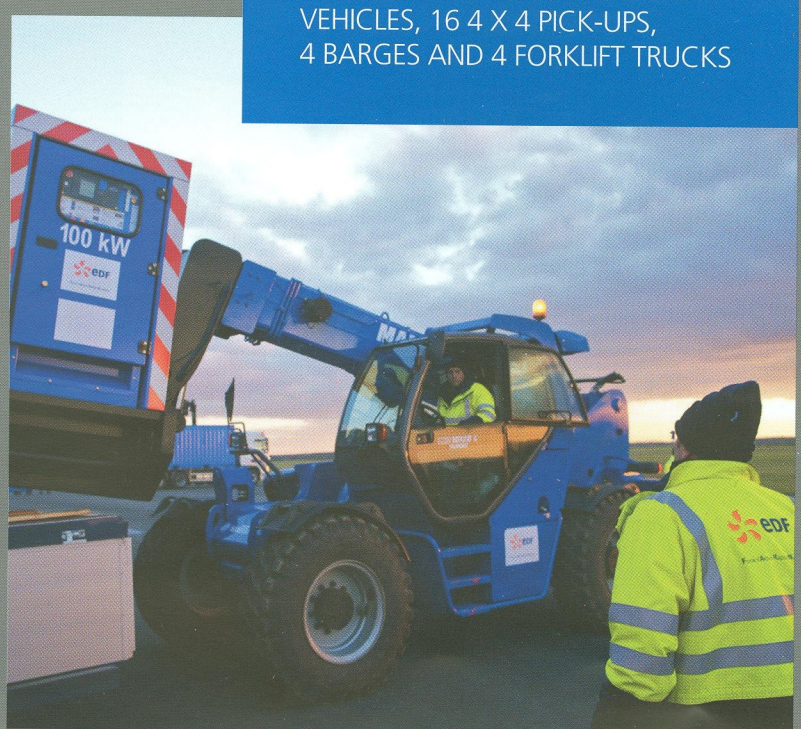
Flatbed lorry

52 vehicles

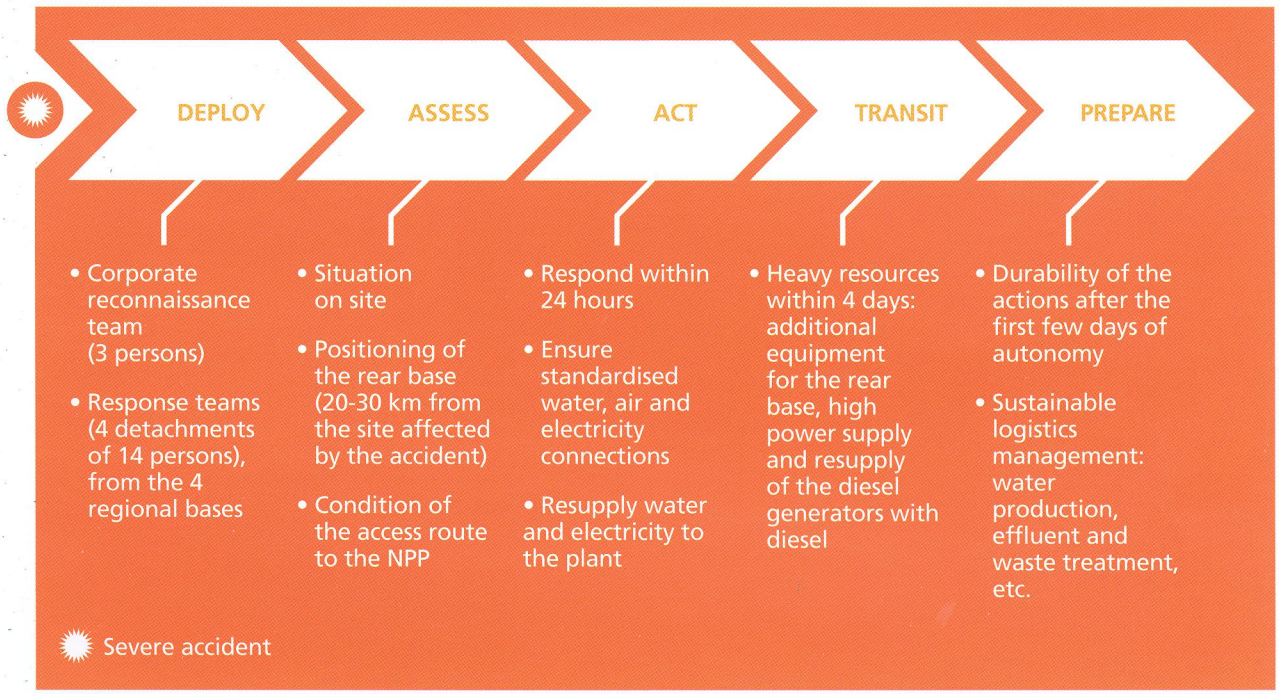
COMPOSED OF 28 HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES, 16 4 X 4 PICK-UPS, 4 BARGES AND 4 FORKLIFT TRUCKS

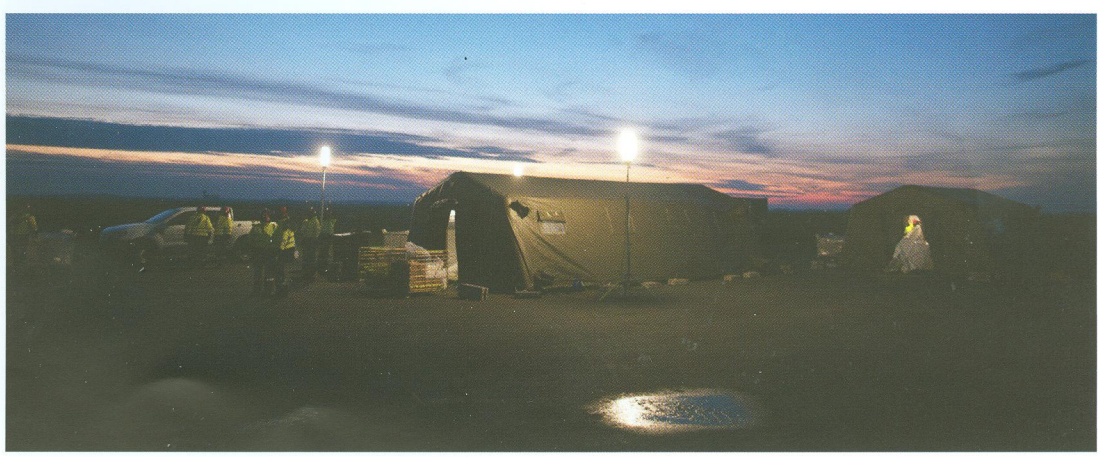
▲ *Detachment 1 is ready to leave one of the 4 regional bases in one hour with an on-call team of 14 persons.*
Detachment 2 can be deployed within 12 hours of the alert. It goes to the rear base to complete its installation with all the living logistics. It takes over from detachment 1.

The equipment is stored at the 4 regional bases, and is regularly used for exercises and drills.



DEPLOYMENT PRINCIPLE FOR THE FARN





Rear base assembly exercise.

Positioning of the rear base is selected from the sites identified in advance depending on environmental conditions (weather, access etc.) between 10 and 30 km from the site affected by the accident.
It enables operations on site to be prepared and the members of the nuclear rapid response force to be lodged with all the living logistics in completely autonomous conditions.
It has a permanent connection to the site and the corporate emergency response centre.