

USNC EXECUTIVE BIOS**Francesco Venneri**

Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Ultra Safe Nuclear
PhD, Nuclear Engineering and Plasma Physics, University of Illinois

Dr. Francesco Venneri has more than 30 years of experience as a nuclear engineering and plasma physics specialist and holds seven U.S. and international patents on nuclear fuels, reactors, and processes. He was Chief Scientist / Project Leader at Los Alamos National Laboratories, General Atomics, and Logos Tech and is the co-inventor of FCM™ nuclear fuel. Dr. Venneri founded USNC in 2011 and, under his leadership, the company is successfully pioneering the concept of ultra-safe micro-modular reactors for global deployment.

**Daniel Stout**

Chief Nuclear Officer
Masters, Engineering Management, National Technological University

As the Chief Nuclear Officer, Mr. Daniel Stout oversees and supports all nuclear operations including licensing and regulatory compliance efforts, reactor and powerplant manufacturing planning, and management of client support operations and fleet services. With more than three decades of experience in the nuclear energy sector, Mr. Stout is uniquely qualified to manage critical programs and projects at USNC. His unparalleled experience in planning, budgeting, navigating licensing processes, and deploying nuclear reactors and associated infrastructure are invaluable to the company. Mr. Stout served in the U.S. Navy as a nuclear submarine officer, as well as in the Naval Reserves in the Naval Special Warfare community, retiring as a Commander. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and received his master's degree in engineering management from the National Technological University. He was recently elected to the Board of the American Nuclear Society and represents USNC with various industry organizations.

**Kurt Terrani**

Executive Vice President, Core Group
PhD, Nuclear Engineering, University of California, Berkeley

Dr. Kurt Terrani has 11 years of experience developing nuclear fuel materials. Dr. Terrani is the Executive Vice President of USNC's Core Group and is the USNC nuclear fuels subject matter expert. At the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), he led the development of FCM fuel fabrication leading to IP now licensed by USNC. He began his career at ORNL as a Weinberg Fellow Staff Scientist and held positions as Group Leader – Nuclear Fuel Materials and Senior Staff Scientist – National Director. He earned a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering from Arizona State University and a Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from University of California, Berkeley.

**Roland Backhaus**

Executive Vice President, Global Strategy Group
JD, Law, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

Mr. Roland Backhaus has more than 20 years of experience in the nuclear industry, first as a nuclear submarine officer in the U.S. Navy and more recently as a nuclear energy attorney with several multinational law firms. As a Navy officer, he served on the USS FLORIDA, a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, as the reactor control assistant and the assistant chief engineer. As an attorney, Mr. Backhaus has advised commercial entities and foreign governments on various aspects of nuclear power programs and related infrastructure issues. His expertise includes vendor procurement, agreements for the construction, operation, and fueling of nuclear power units, and the protection of sensitive technical and corporate information. Mr. Backhaus received a BS degree from the United States Naval Academy, an MA degree from George Mason University, and a JD degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

FRAMATOME EXECUTIVE BIOS



Bernard Fontana

CEO Framatome

Engineering, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Techniques Avancées, Paris

Bernard Fontana manages all Framatome Business Units and the Sales/Regional Platforms, Operational Excellence, Safety/Environment/Protection, Human Resources, Offers and Projects and Program Management Office. He holds a degree in engineering from the Ecole Polytechnique and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Techniques Avancées in Paris. He has 30 years' experience in the chemical, steel and building materials industries (SNPE, ArcelorMittal, APERAM and Holcim). From February 2012 to September 2015, he served as CEO of Holcim Ltd., ensuring the company's successful fusion with Lafarge.



Lionel Gaiffe

Senior Executive

Engineering, Ecole National Supérieure des Arts & Métiers

Lionel GAIFFE is currently the Senior Executive Vice President, Fuel Business Unit & Operational Excellence at Framatome. He is responsible for the worldwide operation and business for Framatome in the domain of Nuclear Fuel (11 sites and manufacturing facilities, with major customers being utilities worldwide); He is also responsible for the Operational Excellence program of Framatome (Lean Management). Lionel Gaiffe began his career in France in 1991 within the ASSYSTEM group. In 1993 he joined the MELOX plant as head of New Projects, Testing and Commissioning. He moved to Cogema in 1996 as US MOX project manager before joining the AREVA group in 2002 as head of Innovation Policy. He was a board member of different research consortia and startup funds. In 2004 he joined the AREVA NC site in La Hague (now Orano), where he was Maintenance Director, after which for five years he served as Industrial Director of the La Hague site, the largest commercial reprocessing site worldwide with 20 main nuclear installations and 5000 employees. He was member of the La Hague Management Committee, and since 2011 he has headed the Technical Department, which he created. In 2014 Lionel took over responsibility for the AREVA NP fuel production plants and also became a member of the Executive Committee of the Mining & Front End Business Group. In 2016, he was named SEVP of the Framatome Fuel Business Unit and appointed to the Framatome Executive Committee.



Ala F. Alzaben

Senior Vice President, Commercial & Customer Center for the Fuel Business Unit
Bachelor's and Master's in Nuclear Engineering, North Carolina State University

He is responsible for the global commercial operations to include sales, marketing, contracts, and services. Alzaben's career in the nuclear energy industry spans more than 25 years gaining extensive experience in nuclear fuel, business development and sales. He joined the company in 2003 as Business Development Manager in the Component Replacement & Repair Unit with focus on the growth of the BWR and CANDU product lines. Alzaben went on to serve as the Sales and Marketing manager with responsibility for fuel fabrication sales and marketing in North America from 2004 through 2008. In October 2008, he was appointed to the position of North America Vice President for Mining & Front End Sales.