Idaho National Laboratory



Biography

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Dr. Youssef Ballout is the division director of INL's Reactor Systems Design & Analysis. He joined INL in December 2018 as the manager of the Fuel Design and Development Department.

Prior to INL, he was president of Elysium Industries Limited where he led the design and development of a chloride molten-salt fast reactor. He also spent 26 years at the Naval Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) and Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory where he worked on nuclear reactor design, reactor materials, reactor thermal hydraulics, and reactor structural performance. During his career at NNL Dr. Ballout also managed the Space Structural Materials group in collaboration with NASA, supporting design and analysis of the reactor for nuclear propulsion in outer space to explore the icy moons of Jupiter as part of the (Jupiter Icy Moon Orbiter [JIMO]) project, Prometheus. Over his career, he worked on reactor design and reactor performance first as an experimentalist, then in modeling and simulation, and often both at the same time. In addition to his technical contributions, Dr. Ballout spent many years in engineering and organizational leadership. Early in his career, Dr. Ballout was a professor of engineering at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) where he taught engineering materials, design, and programming. He began his university education in Limoges, France, and ultimately received three (BS, MS, and PhD) engineering degrees from Wichita State University, Kansas.