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EURATOM CONTRACTS WITH DUTCH FIRM FOR NUCLEAR FUSION RESEARCH

WASHINGTON, July 25 -- The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) had concluded a contract of association with a Netherlands firm, F.O.M. (Stichting voor Fundamenteel Onderzoek der Materie) to conduct a joint research program in the field of plasma physics.

The project, a phase of Euratom's nuclear fusion research program, will require three years. Its studies will be carried out at the F.O.M. Institute for Plasma Physics at Jutphaas, the physics laboratory of the University of Utrecht, the F.O.M. mass-separation laboratory in Amsterdam, and the K.E.M.A. short-circuit laboratory in Arnhem.

The project's objectives are to set up a stable plasma column by containment of the plasma with alternating electromagnetic and normal magnetic fields, the injection of plasma into the column by means of a radial plasma gun, and the study of the plasma's behavior in crossed electromagnetic fields and normal magnetic fields ("ixions").

Under its plasma physics and nuclear fusion program, Euratom is already carrying out other investigations through association contracts with the French atomic energy establishment at Fontenay-aux-Roses, the Institut fuer Plasmaphysik in Munich, and the Italian atomic energy committee at Frascati.

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