

# NEWS from The Savannah River Site

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For Immediate Release

## GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PRESENT FUTURE CITIES AT REGIONAL COMPETITION

AIKEN, S.C., (Jan. 12)—For the third year, engineering professionals from the Savannah River Site will continue their mission to interest local middle school students in careers in engineering and technology through the use of a program called Future City Competition™ -- a combination of stimulating engineering challenges with “hands-on” applications.

The Future City competition, an educational engineering program, will be held Saturday, Jan. 17, at the University of South Carolina Aiken’s Business and Education Building. The public is invited to attend from 1-3 p.m. for the final competition and awards ceremony.

Fifteen teams from Georgia and South Carolina will compete in this year’s competition. Each team is tasked with “designing and building a future city” by completing five areas of competition: developing a project plan, creating a logical model of the city using *SimCity 3000™* software, devising a team-made physical scale model, writing an essay on energy management and providing a verbal presentation. Last year’s local team winner, Ridge Spring-Monetta Elementary Middle School, finished third in the North Carolina regional competition.

This phase of the competition will determine which team will advance to the national level, which will be held in Washington, D.C. during National Engineers Week, Feb. 22-28.

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SRS engineers and other volunteers from the local community will serve as judges during the competition. Prizes, sponsored by the SRS chapter of the National Management Association, will be awarded to teams finishing first, second and third. Additionally, special awards sponsored by The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Central Savannah River Area Section, The Central Savannah River Section of the American Institute for Chemical Engineers, and the American Society of Civil Engineers Central Savannah River Valley Branch will be given in the following categories: Most Innovative Infrastructure; Most Innovative Application of Electrical Systems -- Beyond Routine Power, i.e. Automation, Powered Conveniences; and Best use of biotechnology/materials processes in a Future City.

Across the nation, there are about 30,000 students participating from more than 1,100 schools.

The Future City Competition™ is sponsored at the regional level by Westinghouse Savannah River Company, Bechtel Savannah River Incorporated, BNFL Savannah River Corporation, BWXT Savannah River Company, CH2 Savannah River Company and Polestar Savannah River Company, in partnership with The University of South Carolina Aiken's Ruth Patrick Science Education Center. The event is sponsored nationally by the National Engineers Week organization.

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**Note to editors: The Future City Competition™ agenda and a listing of participating schools is attached. Reporters are welcome to attend the event. Reporters wishing to attend should call the media contact listed above.**