SRNS Today

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It’s been an exciting and challenging five years. And I’m honored to serve as the President and CEO of this highly-successful company. In this role, my focus has been on execution, workforce, community and growth.

First and foremost, we have to perform safe and secure execution of our current missions, because if we don’t, the rest won’t matter. We also have to sustain a highly capable and adaptable workforce creating innovative and lasting solutions to the challenges we face in the complex environment that we operate within.

Being recognized as an integral and valued partner by the community is our implicit consent to operate.

SRNS is a great team with a world-class safety and security culture. I’m proud of our workforce, and proud of our results. And, I’m looking forward to the coming years.

I hope you enjoy this edition of SRNS Today. As always, thank you for your interest in Savannah River Nuclear Solutions.

August marks a major milestone for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. It’s our five-year anniversary as the management and operations contractor for the Savannah River Site.

SRNS is one of 55 organizations honored with the 2013 Industry Leader Award, which recognizes the top 5 percent of NIC member companies. The company’s performance also won them the NSC 2013 Occupational Excellence Achievement Award, for the fifth straight year.

“This award is reflective of our employees’ ongoing dedication to safe performance and operational excellence.”

To receive the Industry Leader Award, NIC member-companies must have zero lost time injury cases and no fatalities during the 2012 calendar year, and they must demonstrate safety performance that is among the best within their North American Industry Classification code.

SRNS was one of five Industry Leader Award winners in the Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal classification.

Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) was also honored in August with the 2013 Industry Leader Award for safety by the National Safety Council as one of the 55 organizations across the country to receive the designation.

“This award is in recognition of the remarkable work performed by every person at SRNL. Not only has SRNL won this award for 2013, we’ve won it for three straight years. This is evidence of the hard work and day to day attention that each employee brings to the safe performance of their job,” said SRNS Executive Vice President and SRNL Director Dr. Terry Michalske. “More important than this or any award, we have a culture of people who truly care about one another’s wellbeing. Safety is not something you can ever take for granted. It could be easy to become distracted, but our people have pulled together and continued with excellence on safety leadership.”

About Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC…

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell. Since August 2008, SRNS has been the management and operating contractor for the Savannah River Site, a Department of Energy owned site near Aiken, South Carolina, including the Savannah River National Laboratory. The SRNS corporate and community offices are located in the renovated 1912 “Old Post Office” building in Aiken, S.C. The primary initiatives of SRNS are national security, clean energy and environmental stewardship. SRNS Today is published monthly by SRNS Corporate Communications to inform our stakeholders of the company’s operational and community-related activities. If you have questions or comments, please contact us at 803.952.9584 or visit our website.

www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com
SRNS “Educators in Business Program” seeks to help teachers gain industrial and corporate experience

Several teachers from throughout the Allendale County school system are currently gaining unique and highly specialized on-the-job experience this summer through paid internships at SRNS.

The “Educators in Business” program provides opportunities to partner with teachers offering useful technology-based experience and an introduction to operations at a national nuclear site.

The program also creates an opportunity to work with educators, providing useful practices that will empower teachers to gain workforce experience that can be used to develop and incorporate real-life examples into classroom instructional lessons.

“My internship with SRNS has been an enlightening and unique experience. I know that the things I have learned will provide real world perspective for the students and be most beneficial in the effectiveness of my lesson plans. I am so fortunate to have been given this opportunity. I will be talking about this experience for years to come.”

Sheri Lawson
10th grade teacher, Allendale-Fairfax High School

“We believe the success of this new internship program will generate future opportunities for educators in multiple counties throughout the Central Savannah River Area,” said Candice Demedy, SRNS Manager, Education Outreach and Talent Management. “It’s a win-win relationship for both SRNS and local educators.”

Each participating teacher has been assigned specific responsibilities in an area of interest to them.

“My internship with SRNS has been an enlightening and unique experience. I know that the things I have learned will provide real world perspective for the students and be most beneficial in the effectiveness of my lesson plans,” said Sheri Lawson, 10th grade teacher, Allendale-Fairfax High School. “I am so fortunate to have been given this opportunity. I will be talking about this experience for years to come.”

Lawson has been assisting SRNS personnel with the development of an SRNS environmental report. Her time at SRNS obtaining workplace knowledge has broadened her knowledge as an educator while using her skills to further improve SRNS practices and documents.

SRNL partners with EngenuitySC in economic development

The Savannah River National Laboratory is the latest partner in EngenuitySC, a public/private economic development partnership working for technology-based economic development in South Carolina.

In addition to innovations from EngenuitySC partners at the University of South Carolina and the SmartState Program (formerly the S.C. Centers for Economic Excellence), SRNL will provide insight and expertise to the organization on trends and opportunities for South Carolina to lead the nuclear industry in next-generation technologies and applications. SRNL will also play a pivotal role in providing technical expertise on hydrogen innovation to the Fuel Cell Collaborative, a collaboration that includes EngenuitySC, the South Carolina Research Authority, USC and other partners to discover, develop and deploy hydrogen fuel cell innovations.

SRNS Executive Vice President and SRNL Director Dr. Terry Michalske will join the EngenuitySC Executive Committee, which is co-chaired by University of South Carolina President Dr. Harris Pastides, and Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin.

SRNS Executive Vice President Fred Dohse; SRNS President and CEO Dwayne Wilson; Dr. Terry Michalske; Aiken Technical College President Dr. Susan Winsor; and Candice Demedy, SRNS Manager, Education Outreach and Talent Management, visit the construction site of the Center for Energy and Advanced Manufacturing on the campus of Aiken Technical College.
SRNS celebrates five years of safe operations at SRS

August 1 marked five years since Savannah River Nuclear Solutions assumed management and operations responsibility for the Savannah River Site. A great deal of work has been accomplished—safely and securely—in the past half-decade. SRNS grows and succeeds because of our strong and capable workforce and their unwavering focus on safety and security. We’ve implemented a vigorous continuous improvement program which has saved millions of taxpayer dollars through improvements in our business practices. We’ve modernized our unique tritium facilities and practice unparalleled disciplined operations.

The Savannah River National Laboratory is recognized nationally for its support throughout the U.S. Department of Energy complex, and internationally for its expertise in environmental remediation. And probably most notable in the first few years of the contract, the project management execution of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act portfolio received national attention as a model of success. The funding and thousands of jobs generated through this project allowed for a vastly shortened schedule of cleanup and closure of a number of SRS areas.

SRNS has seen change and challenge in five short years. And through it all, we’ve become a stronger workforce and company. As we look back at the past five years, we also look forward to a future of innovation, performance and partnerships.
Because of funding provided by SRNS, 100 rising seventh and eighth grade students from Allendale, Bamberg and Barnwell Counties participated in this year’s iTEAMS (“innovation, technology & entrepreneurship Among Middle Schoolers”) summer camp.

The SRNS contribution financially supports the on-going iTEAMS partnership between the South Carolina Governor’s School for Science & Mathematics and the University of South Carolina-Salkehatchie campus where the event was held.

These students experience the adventure of innovation, technology and entrepreneurship through three hands-on, team-based challenges: Creating video games, mobile apps and developing cyber security. “The goal is to inspire these students to pursue studies related to computer science, technology and business. The objective being to channel them toward careers in these fields,” said Dwayne Wilson, SRNS President and CEO.

The projects emphasize career exploration, “tech-talk” language building discussions, access to mentors to lead each team to success and a variety of memorable experiences.

In 2012, nearly 80 percent of camp participants said they now plan to pursue a career in the fields of science, technology, engineering or mathematics.

iTEAMS campers are selected based on personal essays, teacher recommendations and a demonstrated interest in computer science, technology or entrepreneurship.

“There is no cost to the students. Costs associated with camper transportation and lunch are included within the $41,400 provided by SRNS,” said Candice Dermody, SRNS Manager, Education Outreach and Talent Management. “For many of these children, it’s the highlight of their summer.”

Safety put first during Tritium’s ARMS outage

The safe completion of a multi-week period that saw multiple complicated tasks being performed simultaneously once again proved the value of the Savannah River Tritium Enterprise’s (SRTE) commitment to working safely.

During the long-planned outage to start up the replacement to the Automated Reservoir Management System (ARMS), SRTE took advantage of the shut-down conditions to perform an assortment of needed upgrades, replacements and maintenance in the Tritium Facilities without impact to operations. Through careful attention, making use of a “War Room” approach that provided central coordination of all the tasks, SRTE personnel completed this complex ballet of simultaneous work with zero injuries. SRTE’s last injury requiring time away from work was back in 2008; that’s more than 4 million safe work hours.

The careful use of good radiological practices meant that the work was also completed without employees receiving any radiation dose, and without allowing the escape of contamination. For one major task, which involved opening a glovebox designed to isolate contaminated items, a large containment hut was placed around the glovebox, which effectively controlled contamination.

SRNS sponsors high-tech summer fun with iTEAMS

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Candice Dermody
SRNS Manager,
Education Outreach and Talent Management

Photo: Camp instructor Ayrielle Sanders (center) works with a team of students as they develop a cyber security project during this year’s iTEAMS summer camp funded by SRNS for students from Allendale, Bamberg and Barnwell Counties.

SRNS volunteers lend a hand at local fire station

Don Shelley (left) and Eric Johnson (center), both of the SRNS Tritium Fire Protection department, and Ralph Foster of Foster Engineering (right) install a sprinkler system at the Silver Bluff (S.C.) Fire Station. Johnson is in-coming president of the Central Savannah River Area (CSRRA) Chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE). Five other SRNS employees also took part in the project, including Stan Maciaszek (outgoing president of the CSRRA-SFPE), Gene Roe (incoming secretary of the CSRRA-SFPE), Thomas Allison (treasurer for the CSRRA-SFPE), Bernie Till and Steve Miller.
SRNL’s Brigmon wraps up term as Academy president

SRNL’s Dr. Robin Brigmon, the 2012-13 President of the South Carolina Academy of Science (SCAS), joined Governor Nikki Haley at the State Capital building recently to recognize four university researchers who were winners of this year’s Governor’s Awards for Scientific Excellence. At right is Dr. Frank Chen of the University of South Carolina’s Department of Mechanical Engineering, recipient of the Young Researcher Award for Excellence in Scientific Research.

Brigmon’s one-year term as President ended this summer. His tenure, he said, was quite rewarding. “We touched the lives of thousands of students through the annual meeting, educational programs, and workshops for middle and high school students through the SCAS Junior Academy. The Academy provides a great networking opportunity for researchers and teachers throughout the state as well.”

SRNL’s Fox receives honor from Ceramics Society

Dr. Kevin Fox of SRNL has been named winner of the 2013 Du-Co Ceramics Young Professional Award within the American Ceramics Society (ACerS). The award is given annually to a young professional member of the society who demonstrates exceptional leadership and service to ACerS; the recognition includes a monetary award, and a lifetime membership in the society.

Dr. Fox works in the Environmental Stewardship Directorate of SRNL. He has co-authored more than 20 peer-reviewed publications, co-edited four volumes and given more than 40 technical society presentations. He has co-organized more than 15 technical society symposia, and serves as a reviewer for several journals. He is a past Chair of the ACerS Nuclear and Environmental Technology Division, a past President of the Ceramic Education Council, and a past member of the Material Advantage Committee. He is a recipient of the Basic Science Division Graduate Excellence in Material Science awards, the Karl Schwartzwalder – Professional Achievement in Ceramic Engineering Award and the SRNL Laboratory Director’s Early Career Exceptional Achievement Award.

His current research focus is on development of innovative glass and ceramic waste forms for the immobilization of defense high-level nuclear waste, as well as the safe disposition of byproducts from fuel recycling.

SRNS hits a home run for United Way

Shouts of joy and sighs of dismay were heard throughout two evenings of softball games during the ninth annual SRS United Way Softball Tournament held to benefit United Way agencies throughout the Central Savannah River Area. During this year’s tournament, held at Boyd Pond Park, more than $11,500 was raised to help benefit 11 local United Way agencies.

“lt’s gratifying to take a concept and see it successfully grow,” said Eric Schiefer of SRNS who helps develop the draft for the tournament. “When I was first approached with the idea, I never thought it would become such a successful charitable fundraiser.” In addition to Schiefer, SRNS volunteers Allan Hickman and Jerry Zipperer coordinated the event.

SRNS Deputy Director for Environmental Management Operations Steve Howell put together the team that took first place in the tournament, raising more than $2,000 for the United Way agency ACTS (Area Churches Together Serving).

Since the first SRS United Way Softball Tournament, more than $115,000 has been raised through this annual event to help those in need throughout the Central Savannah River Area.
In the world of business, our business is

**safety and security.**

Watching out for ourselves.
Watching out for our coworkers.
Focusing on safe and secure performance
from complex jobs to routine tasks.
A world-class safety and security culture
to support local, regional and national
business opportunities.

**Savannah River Nuclear Solutions.**
Safety and security in action.