

WSRC News

Washington Savannah River Company, Savannah River Site

May 31, 2007

Construction Reaches New National Record – 20 Million Safe Hours



Michael Graham

Bechtel Savannah River, Inc. (BSRI) has reached a new national record for its safety program. On May 16, Construction employees completed 20 million hours without a lost-time injury – a safety milestone that has never been achieved at any DOE site in the United States. This record extends the record they set in May 2004, when they exceeded the previous site record set by Du Pont Construction in 1988. BSRI construction also holds the Bechtel U.S. record for the project logging the most “safe hours.”

Michael Graham, president of BSRI, praised Construction workers and their supervisors for their dedication to protecting themselves and their co-workers. “The men and women of Bechtel Construction are the best. The hazards they face daily involve excavations, hoisting and rigging, confined space entry, chemicals and radiation. I am extremely proud of them and the fantastic job they have done, and continue to do.”

As a token of the company’s gratitude and in recognition for this world-class performance, construction employees will attend a BBQ celebration and receive commemorative golf shirts. “However,” Graham said, “the best gift is for our workers to be able to return home every day injury-free.”

WSRC president Leo Sain said the Construction achievement is one of several positive signs about the continuing strength of the SRS safety culture. He said, “I’m extremely proud of Construction’s commitment to safety. Safety doesn’t ‘just happen.’ It takes teamwork and looking out for one another to achieve these kinds of records. I applaud our Construction workforce for their success and thank them for their safety attitude.

“With all of the recent events and distractions at SRS, it’s easy for us to lose our focus, Sain added. “However, our Construction workers have proven that concentrating on the safe execution of job responsibilities is our first priority. By focusing on our tasks, we avoid letting distractions lead to errors that could cause injuries. All of us can follow their example.”

Be aware of ergonomic hazards at work

There’s more to ergonomics than getting a good office chair. All workers in all industries are vulnerable to injury due to poor ergonomics and repetitive stress on the body. These injuries may not be fatal, but they can result in chronic injury, missed days of work and reduced productivity. Take a proactive approach to ergonomics in the workplace. Identify the risks in your daily routine, and take steps to alleviate the stresses on the body.

Ergonomic Risks

- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, due to inadequate wrist support at computers and repetitive motion.
- Back strain, due to inadequate seating support, long hours standing on hard surfaces, and heavy lifting. (See *Ergonomics*, page 6)

June Is National Safety Month

This year the National Safety Council’s (NSC) National Safety Month is “Celebrating Safe Communities.” A safe community comes together to promote safe and healthy behaviors that protect people from hurt and harm in all aspects of their lives.

Workplace injuries are on the decline, but the number of unintentional injuries incurred off-the-job continues to rise. Since a person inhabits many different communities throughout the day – work, home and every stop in-between – the NSC encourages businesses and individuals to take advantage of the safety education they provide, and reduce the risk of unintentional injury and death in everyday life.

The NSC’s goal is to make businesses, homes and all the places and roads in between safer for all of us.

To assist in your planning, each week of National Safety Month has a specific focus.

- June 4-8: Workplace safety
- June 11-18: Driving safety
- June 18-22: Emergency Preparedness
- June 25-29: Safety in the Home and Community

Celebrate safe communities, and make a commitment to the safety and well-being of yourself and everyone else in your community.

Taken from the NSC Website
<http://www.nsc.org/>

What Counts?

6,000 Number of people that had to be relocated from their homes formerly located on this site

BSRI Construction Finishes GSACU Work



Aerial shot of the GSACU

BSRI achieved mechanical completion April 9 at one of the highest priority waste sites at SRS and the DOE complex, a full 15 months ahead of schedule. The General Separations Consolidated Unit (GSACU) refers to a collection of five waste units and 80 acres of land that were combined under one remedial action.

Through the course of its operation as the Site's primary disposal area, more than seven million cubic feet of radioactive wastes were buried at the GSACU. Most of the wastes were disposed in drums, cans, cardboard boxes, plastic bags, and metal containers and buried in trenches. The Unit collected solid radioactive waste produced at SRS, shipments from other DOE facilities, and shipments from the Department of Defense. In all, nearly 1.5 million curies of radioactivity had been placed within the unit.

To address the high levels of radioactivity at the unit, scientists and engineers implemented an aggressive remedial strategy that combined the clean-up of several inactive units. Additionally, a geosynthetic cover system was developed to be placed over the entire area. After the cover was installed, the area was backfilled and intruder barriers were placed over persistent hot spots. This method of remediation proved to be timely and cost effective, saving more than \$150 million.

Ed McNamee, GSACU's Project Manager, said, "Upon closure of the GSACU, Soil and Groundwater Closure Projects has successfully accomplished the single largest project it has ever undertaken. The team excelled by performing the work safely, completing the project well ahead of schedule, and saving millions of dollars in cleanup costs."



Installation of the geosynthetic cover



Clean up of H Area Inactive Process Sewer Line

Personal Protective Equipment

In manufacturing and other industrial settings, the right protective equipment can be the difference between a happy and a miserable work life. Using the right protective equipment for your job will help you to focus on the work and other safety issues.

PPE Tips

- Start at the top. If you wear a hard hat, make sure it fits properly and that the suspension is adjusted correctly.
- Keep protective glasses or goggles clean and store them properly to avoid scratches or other damage. It's always a good idea to have a spare pair handy.
- You may not notice hearing loss until it's too late. If you're in a noisy environment, use ear plugs or ear muffs.
- Keep hands and fingers safe by removing all jewelry before you start work. Use the right gloves for the job.
- If you work with chemicals, cleaning solvents, etc., make sure to wear gloves and protective clothing that resists chemicals.
- Never use a respirator that doesn't fit securely, has become clogged or damaged, or one through which you can smell contaminants.
- Get in step with safety. Wear the right safety footwear, and have it fitted by an expert.

Milestone Met

DWPF to Begin Processing Sludge Batch 4

As Liquid Waste Operations personnel complete the processing of Sludge Batch 3, WSRC looks back with a sense of accomplishment on this recent and highly successful waste removal campaign. This achievement succeeded in emptying over 800,000 gallons of sludge out of old style waste tanks, and then stabilizing that waste into an inert solid ready for shipment to a federal repository.

This impressive progress towards tank closure continues as WSRC now moves towards processing Sludge Batch 4 (SB 4). To date, an additional 272,000 gallons of sludge from SB 4 have been prepared for vitrification at the Defense Waste Processing Facility.

Liquid Waste Operations is already looking ahead to Sludge Batch 5 and beyond, actively working projects on five additional old style tanks with a history of leakage – moving each of these huge storage vessels closer to permanent closure.



Sludge Batch 3 resulted in the removal of over 800,000 gallons of sludge from several aging waste tanks.

SRNL Technology Named Among ‘World’s Best’

For the third year in a row, a technology developed at Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) has been named among the top 25 of the World’s Best Technologies for the year. The Smart Latch™ acoustic door latch detector, invented by SRNL’s



Larry Feutral, Bob Eakle, and Charlie Fulghum with the Smart Latch™

Bob Eakle and built with the help of Charlie Fulghum and Larry Feutral, was one of the featured inventions at the World’s Best Technologies for 2007 (WBT07) Showcase in Arlington, Texas, May 15-16.

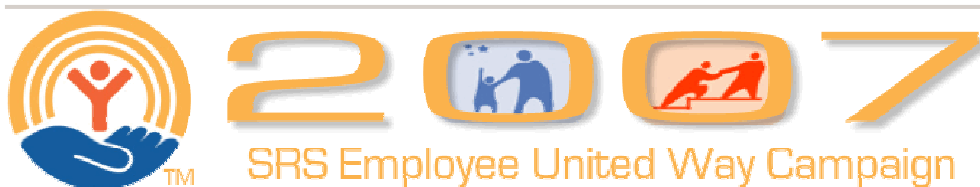
This is the second time in three years that one of Eakle’s inventions has been selected as one of the top 25 technologies in the WBT Showcase. In 2005, the Floating Plasma Screen Mount, which he co-invented with SRNL’s Don Pak, was featured.

The Smart Latch™ device is designed to verify that doors are latched properly, providing an alert if a door does not latch. It would be useful anywhere that a properly closed and latched door is needed for security and safety, including of-fices, industrial facilities, or homes with children or elderly residents. The battery-operated device occupies only one cubic inch of space, meaning that it could be easily incorporated into many lockset designs.

It works by using state-of-the-art neural network technology to acoustically analyze the lock’s performance. Following the detector’s installation, which would be virtually the same as installing any standard lockset, the device memorizes the precise sound – the acoustic “signature” – of the door closing properly. Once this signature is memorized, the device gives a visual and/or audible alarm if the door remains open for too long or is not properly latched. Existing technologies use simple limit switches that do not actually sense the latching event and can be defeated in various ways.

A patent application has been filed on the Smart Latch™ device. WSRC is actively seeking qualified companies to enter into a licensing agreement to manufacture and market the device as a commercial product.

The WBT07 is an international competition showcasing seed-stage technologies and licensing opportunities from top universities, federal laboratories, federal agencies, research institutions, and private companies. Each year, up to 75 exhibitors are selected by a seasoned screening panel of investors and commercialization experts on the basis of having the greatest potential for high growth commercial enterprises. From those 75, the top 25 are selected for special attention.



The number of SRS employees who have given and continue to give of their time to help others less fortunate through the various United Way Projects throughout South Carolina and Georgia is heartwarming. **Project Vision** is the Aiken United Way effort. The following SRS employees participated in the Project Vision effort. Jack Witter was the Project Vision Coordinator.

Nina Adams	John Cantwell	Kevin Fox	Will Jones	Russell Muschick	Lewis Smith
Buddy Allen	Susan Cathey	Marie Frazer	Andy Kaminsky	Byron Neely	Barbara Smoak
Gary Allen	Ron Cato	Darrell Freeman	Jackie Kane	Charlie Neill	Jim Spangler
Dane Anderson	Gene Caveness	Tom Galardi	Hogan Kane	Peggy Neill	John Stafford
Dewayne Anderson	Joel Clark	Rick Garcia	Brenda Kelly	Julius Nguyen	John Steverson
Tim Arnold	Mary Coleman	Allison Gentry	Joe Key	Dale Nicosia	Kevin Stoner
Bonnie Barnes	David Comer	Lauren Gentry	Paul Korinko	Roger Nine	Rick Stringfield
Thomas Barron	Bill Condon	Margie Gentry	Steve Kuhl	Larry Owens	Richard Tansky
Bill Bates	Mark Connelly	Megan Gentry	Dan Lambert	Bill Pardee	Tom Thome
Bob Bayer	Dennis Conrad	Terry Givens	Vince Larkin	Alison Paschall	Jim Vines
Buford Beavers	Dutch Conrad	John Glave	Wanda Lasseter	Tee Paschall	Mary Vinson
Dan Becker	William Cook	TC Green	Richard Lewis	Tommy Paschall	Chuck Warner
Jack Bernard	Mike Cutshall	Carmen Greene	Charles Lewis	Elester Patten	Vernon Washington
Duane Berning	Terry Daggerhart	Patti Gregory	John Lewis	Julie Patterson	Doug Weaver
Phil Berry	Jerry Daniels	Deanna Gregory	Maggie Lind	Steve Patterson	Jo Welch
Chris Bethmann	Larry Davis	Johnna Gregory	Rick Lind	Silas Peace	Jim White
Pushpa Bhatia	Dennis Davis	Keith Gregory	Debra Loring	Robert Peacock	Rhonda Whitley
Ron Bielewicz	Laura Deal	Ted Griffin	Steve Losgar	John Pearson	Mickey Whitley
Gary Bittner	Ron Delorey	Sharon Griffis	Joey Lott	Maria Pearson	Terri Williams
Tim Blue	Cam Demart	Robert Gross	Shirley Lott	Ted Pennington	Pam Willis
Terri Bolton	Herb Demart	Teresa Haas	Terry Luton	Ed Petty	Lonnie Wilson
Tom Bolton	James Denny	Joyce Hamlett	Gigi Magoulas	Jeannie Phillips	John Witters
Donald Bookard	Abe Dial	Lyddie Hansen	Jeanne Malanowski	Dale Piercy	Keith Wood
Thomas Britt	Deneen Dicks	Howard Harden	Jerry Marshall	Laurie Posey	Donnie Woodward
Cindy Britton	Joseph Douglas	Ava Hawkins	Pat Marshall	Bill Poulson	Tim Worth
Joel Britton	James Dukes	Kevin Heath	Chris Martino	Dave Premo	Mark Wright
Kendra Broadwater	Tim DuVall	Jeff Henson	Larry McCollum	Daniel Radford	Mary Young
Lander brown	Bryan Dyar	Connie Herman	Tim McCormick	Darrell Raiford	Doug Young
Bernice Bryant	Brian Eberhard	David Herman	Donnie McIver	Carrie Ramsey	Linda Zahl
Marilyn Buffett	Varnie Edwards	PK Hightower	Craig McMullin	Richard Redd	Kristine Zeigler
Beverly Burch	Karen Eubanks	David Hoel	Stan Meeks	Sterling Robertson	
Gary Burns	Sandra Fairchild	Lynn Horney	John Mickalonis	Ethel Robinson	
Lisa Bush	Wayne Farrell	Mike Hubbard	Dawn Moore	Glenn Rodgers	
Larry Bussey	Jerry Faulk	Brent Hubbard	Glen Moore	Martin Roof	
Tommy Butler	Gary Feenstra	Authur Hughes	Gladys Moore	Allan Rutland	
Rebecca Butler	Mark Ferri	Sam Hunley	Jim Moore	Calvin Sanders	
Andy Byrne	Russel Findley	Rick Hutson	Wanda Morgan	Joe Scherpenberg	
Missy Byrne	Sam Fink	Mike Izlar	Barry Moulton	Edwin Scruggs	
Bruce Cadotte	Lynn Forrester	Jeff Jay	Phillip Moulton	Della Seigler	
Bob Campbell	Geof Fountain	Lawrence Jessee	Lynn Mouring	David Simpson	
Ralph Cansler	Elise Fox	Leon Jones	Joe Murphy	Doris Smith	



Scenes from Project VISION



Employment Development and You

Rotational assignments are a good way to receive employee development. In MRP1-01 Procedure 2.20, there are many ways for employees receive development. Some rotational assignments are within your organization and others are across organizations. Rotational assignments are a good way to learn another part of the business in your skill area, as well as build relationships with others across the site. It also can open doors for future assignments.

To be considered for a rotational assignment, make sure your managers knows the areas in which you might be interested. This is not just a one time conversation, but a periodical “checking in” with your manager on current rotational prospects.

Following are some thoughts from Terri Fellingner who recently completed a 12 month rotational assignment.

I recently completed a 12-month rotational assignment at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). This oppor-

tunity provided me a challenging assignment in a production setting and allowed me to apply my process knowledge of DWPF radioactive bench-scale testing completed at Savannah River National Laboratory. At DWPF, I received training to become a technical staff qualified engineer in order to serve a Design Authority engineer role for the Waste Transfer Line (WTL) project.

During my assignment at DWPF I was able to enhance my communication, planning and leadership skills by interacting daily with WTL project team, engineering management, operations and Washington Safety Management Solutions. This assignment has provided me with valuable information for future career path decisions.

As you are thinking about your development, consider a rotational assignment as an option.

Sponsored by the Employee Development Steering Council

Nine Millionth Pound Poured

Another important milestone has been reached at the Defense Waste Processing Facility with the pouring of over nine million pounds of molten glass mixed with radioactive waste into stainless steel canisters ~ the weight equivalent of 150 fully-loaded cement trucks.

To date, DWPF has poured more than 2,200 canisters, including 94 recently filled canisters that count towards a minimum performance expectation of 98 by September 2007.

Over the life of the tank clean-out and waste vitrification achievements obtained at SRS, WSRC has removed over 1.4 million gallons of radioactive waste from 11 aging tanks.



DWPF has poured over nine million pounds of vitrified waste into more than 2,200 canisters.

Brisson Assumes Chairmanship

Michael J. Brisson, Senior Technical Advisor with the Analytical Laboratories Project, has assumed the chairmanship of the Beryllium Health and Safety Committee (BHSC). Prior to serving as BHSC chair, Brisson served as chair of the BHSC Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee for 3.5 years.

The BHSC is committed to preventing beryllium sensitization and Chronic Beryllium Disease and other adverse health effects that can be caused by workplace exposure to beryllium.

BHSC membership includes representation by contractors and DOE disciplines from across the complex, as well as other interested contributing participants, such as the Department of Defense, Centers for Disease Control, National Institutes of Standards and Health, and the United Kingdom Atomic Weapons Establishment, and Brush Wellman, the world leader in beryllium manufacturing.

...Ergonomics *(continued from page 1)*

- Eye strain, due to harsh or poor lighting, computer glare and monitor distance

Tips for Prevention

- At your desk, take time to adjust your chair, keyboard and monitor to suit you. Your chairs should have good back support; keyboards should be placed so wrists are in a neutral position; computer monitors should be at or slightly below eye level.
- Prevent eyestrain by avoiding glare. Use matte finishes or indirect lighting. Encourage regular eye exams.
- If seated for long periods of time, shift your posture regularly; take short breaks to get up and move around.
- If your job requires you to stand for long hours on hard surfaces, request anti-fatigue mats to relieve the strain on feet, legs and backs.
- Keep frequently used parts or materials within easy reach to avoid bending or straining.
- Practice proper lifting techniques, and use trucks, carts or dollies whenever possible.
- Choose power tools over manual tools whenever possible. Next best solution is hand tools with cushioned grips, with the handle size matched to the user and the task.
- Avoid repetitive motion injuries by mixing it up; use task rotation, short breaks, vary the pace and even job rotation to reduce stresses through repetition.



Service Milestones

Congratulations to the following SRS employees, who are celebrating service milestones in **June**.

40 YEARS

John W. McMahan

35 YEARS

Dennis J. Baker
Richard K. Burkhart
Rudolph Chambliss
Philip A. Croll
Willie M. Fulmer Jr.
Charles S. King
William R. McClure
Robert E. Meadors
William G. Poulson
Matthew Zimmerman

30 YEARS

Charles E. Bailey
Carolyn D. Brighttharp
Ford W. Burgess
David A. Busch
Vincent F. Cordaro
Thomas N. Crouse
Carl D. Davis
Tony M. Glisso
Charles Goetzman Jr.
William H. Hearn
Bill Holtzscheiter Jr.
Andrew J. Johnson
Clay B. Jones
Columbus Jones
James R. Kissiah
David E. Leverett
Gerald L. McCoy
M. Holt Moran
Robert L. Ogden Jr.
Audrey B. Osteen
James A. Rozier
Donald E. Seeders
John L. Steimke

Randal P. Stone
Denise B. Walker
Charles Washington
Timothy J. Wehner
Christopher S. Weston
William A. Whitmire
George M. Widener

25 YEARS

George Alexander Jr.
Charles Bachelder III
Donald J. Baker
James A. Bellotti
Wayne M. Boatwright
Edward M. Bodie Jr.
Kenneth M. Boyle
Jeanette A. Brooks
Gayle S. Bumgarner
Jerry L. Clark
Carol B. Collins
Joseph A. Davis
Debra B. Dunlap
Robert T. Durham
Martha L. Flake
Marsha W. Franklin
Sandra S. Garey
Ralph B. Gill Jr.
Carl E. Glenn Jr.
Carl P. Glover
Robert D. Grigsby
Tony A. Harris
Richard G. Hayes
Terese L. Henson
Lowell D. Hicks
Linda F. Hightower
Michael J. Holod
Darryl B. Hudson
Terry M. Hutto
Larry R. Jackson

Bobby R. James
Vernon D. Jones
Thomas A. Kilpatrick
Gerald L. King
Johnny M. Kurilla
Ricky G. Langley
Christine A. Langton
John E. Ledbetter
Kevin S. Lown
John Ashley McKie
Joseph B. Moseley
Gloria B. O'Berry
Dinubhai M. Patel
Jeffrey W. Pennington
Jeannie T. Phillips
Julie L. Quattlebaum
Edward S. Rich
Paul E. Shedd
Joseph M. Smith
Stephen J. Strohmeier
James W. Thompson
James B. Vines
Denver E. Weeks
Lonnie West
Robert L. Williams
Mark E. Wright
Harold K. Young Jr.

20 YEARS

Barbara A. Allen
William F. Bates
Brian E. Beard
Christopher L. Bergren
Vivian O. Billings
Jud A. Bing
Bonnie F. Bowers
Carolyn D. Brewer
Anthony P. Brinson
Linda R. Brooks

Herbert R. Bryant Jr.
Robert C. Buckner Jr.
Gregory L. Burbage
Leon Cain
David R. Carroll
Joyce F. Cartledge
Gloria H. Carver
James D. Clark
Joan W. Cohen
Ricky R. Coley
Earline H. Corbett
Edward L. Dantzler
Robert J. Davis
Vernon Dunbar
Johnie L. Faust
Pamela B. Glover
Johnna M. Gregory
Jeffrey C. Griffin
Timothy Harrington
Edward C. Hazel
Jeffry D. Howell
Michael R. Hughes
William Hutcheson III
Janelle L. Janssen
Phillip M. Jarnagin
Kathryn Johns-Hughes
John R. Kemper, Jr.
Raymond C. Krauss
Gisele T. Landry
Carrie Ph. Lanham
John W. Lawless Jr.
Brenda C. Legons
Van Zandt Lively Jr.
John E. Marra
Marlene L. Moore
Roger Dean Mundy
Ralph L. Nichols
Phillip D. Pennington
Amanda R. Peterson

Craig A. Ridgeway
Steven R. Rikard
Richard Robinson
Paula M. Rowland
Candace W. Shelton
George M. Stewart
Mark C. Swartz
Dennis G. Thompson
Harvey E. Tollison
Marilyn J. Turknett
Anthony Underwood
Jannie C. Valentine
Charlie Vinson
Geri M. Welch
Janice A. Wilkins
Larry Williams
Audrey W. Wright
Stephen A. Yano
John R. Zamecnik

15 YEARS

Richard C. Baisley
Vanessa L. Baxley
Cassandra L. Bayer
Perry Bowman II
Mark C. Bradford
Staci R. Browder
Michael A. Collins
Harold E. Cone
George K. Connolly
Peter J. Cosgriff
Theresa A. Davis
Alan K. Doane
Eugene Dobbs Jr.
Pamela D. Dunbar
Patricia A. Dunbar
Carlton G. Fleetwood
Robert L. Fort
Gary P. Friday

Patrick Kirkland
Walter P. Kubilius
Thomas Lawrence Jr.
Douglas J. Martinson
Rhonda R. Metts
Kimberly B. Mitchell
James W. Naylor
Thomas P. O'Banion
Steven Oppenheimer
Richard C. Ryberg Jr.
David E. Sanders
David P. Seymour
Gary E. Siler
Reynold Simmons Jr.
Frederick J. Simmons
Barbara H. Smoak
Timothy T. Tuten
Virginia G. White
Jesse E. Wigelsworth
Linda Diane Youmans

10 YEARS

Kim V. Addison
Derron L. Judd
David C. Noffsinger
Stephen O. Sullivan
David M. Yannitell

5 YEARS

Richard D. Banks III
Lawrence E. Brown
Robert F. Gilmore Jr.
Arnold D. Hardee
Reggie L. McMillan
Fred V. Meadows
Leah J. Moore
James L. Risinger
Leah J. H. Stanley
James E. Taylor



Spotlight On Core Values

- ⦿ Safety
- ⦿ Integrity
- ⦿ Teamwork
- ⦿ Results

The *WSRC News* is published by WSRC's Public and Employee Communications Department, Office of the President.

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