

WSRC News

Washington Savannah River Company, Savannah River Site

July 12, 2007

WSRC Wins Silver Crescent Award



WSRC was one of three South Carolina companies to receive the prestigious Silver Crescent Award during the annual Salute to Manufacturing in Greenville, SC. Recipients were chosen from a statewide slate of nominees and were selected based on their economic impact, commitment to the workforce, and involvement and contributions to their communities.

WSRC received the award for the large manufacturer category. The award was presented to Leo Sain by the S.C. Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Spartanburg's BASF Corporations received the Award in the small manufacturer category, and Inergy Automotive Systems was honored as the medium manufacturer.

The South Carolina Silver Crescent Award for Manufacturing Excellence was established in 2002 to recognize outstanding manufacturers in the state. The honor is awarded each year to one manufacturer in three categories: small (up to 100 employees), medium (101-499 employees), and large (500 or more employees). The awards are presented at the annual Salute to Manufacturing Awards Luncheon, which is held each spring.

What Counts?

3,037 Number of students and adults who attended Tech Days at Fort Discovery

2,639 Number of students who visited SRS or the Silverbluff Audubon Center for the Science & Technology Enrichment Program during the 2006-07 school year

Successful Start of KIS Operations Achieved

A recent operational startup in the K Area Complex means an important step has been achieved to further ensure the safe storage of plutonium.

The K Area Interim Surveillance (KIS) Project provides Non Destructive Examination (NDE) as well as Destructive Examination (DE) capabilities for plutonium material awaiting disposition. This \$20 million project was designed, installed, tested and made operational within 20 months.

The DOE authorization to proceed with KIS operations was granted on June 6. "This is an important accomplishment," said Dr. Linda Bauer, Area Project Manager, Nuclear Materials Management. "To install these processes and operate them safely required a great deal of dedication. Everyone associated with this success should be very proud."

A hand-picked group of personnel, known as the KIS Core Team, is performing the NDEs and DEs.

The driver for KIS operations was the need to meet the surveillance requirements detailed in a DOE standard (DOE-STD-3013). The standard requires a validation that no reactions are occurring that could jeopardize the design basis of the containers used to store and ship plutonium metals and oxides. The results of the NDEs and DEs provide the information used for that validation.



The NDE function is replacing a capability that had been performed in 235-F prior to

deinventory. The DE function is a new SRS capability that further demonstrates why K Area is the home for safe plutonium storage.



2007 SRS Employee United Way Campaign



The 2007 United Way Softball Tournament was a huge success. The total purse was over \$18,000. The Tournament has yielded more than \$33,000 for the SRS United Way campaign in its three-year history.

For the Opening Ceremonies...the first pitch was delivered by Sgt. Clarence (Cooney) Palmer of Site D&D, Army National Guard. Cooney is an Iraq War veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart (Sept. 9, 2003). The National Anthem was sung by Debra Beard of IT Systems Engineering.

When Aiken Rescue Inc. found out that a group of SRS volunteers were raising money for the United Way, they immediately offered their ambulance and EMT services free of charge. The EMTs were Paige Bell and Jason Bayne.

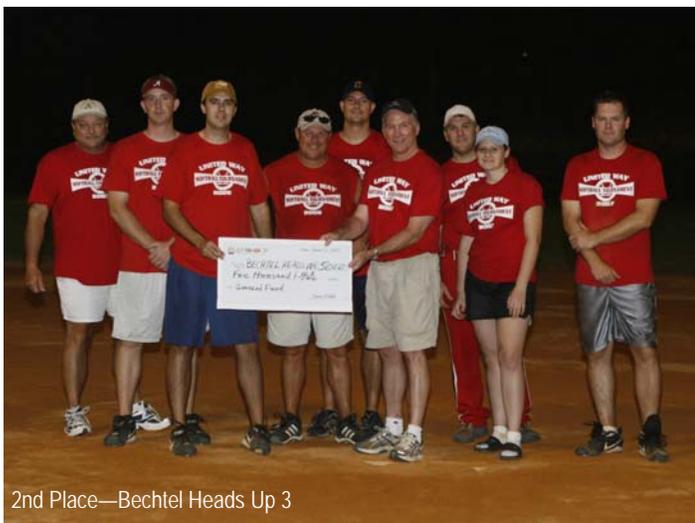
- Twelve teams competed for championship trophy this year :
- Liquid Waste Cleanup Hitters
 - CH2/Polestar Dream Destroyers
 - M&O Marvels
 - SRNL River Dogs 2
 - HMD Bombers
 - Parsons Mixed Nuts
 - WSMS Big Red Machine
 - Bechtel Heads Up 3
 - Victory Saints
 - SS&ES Stallions
 - BWXT Lightening
 - SGCP Original Cleanup Hitters

Congratulations to the LWO Cleanup Hitters who captured the championship trophy in the tournament and earned a **first prize check** of \$6,000 for their agency, the Aiken County Council on Aging. Bechtel Heads Up 3 won second place, collecting a check for \$5,000 for their agency, Aiken County United Way General Fund. The CH2/ Polestar Dream Destroyers claimed third place and a check for \$4000 for their agency, Lyndale. Fourth and fifth place prize monies went to the M&O Marvels (\$1,750 to ACTS) and SRNL's River Dogs 2 (\$1,250 to Children's Place), respectively. (Photos next page.)

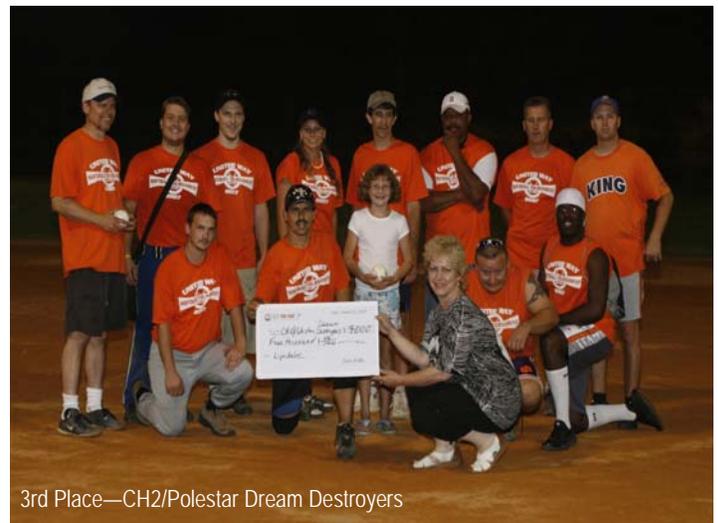
Jan Folk, United Way Chairperson, said, "So many of you played a part in this tournament, making it a tremendous success. We had all the fun, but the winners are our area United Way agencies because of YOU! Please accept my sincere thanks for your efforts in sponsoring one of our most successful United Way fund-raisers."



The Champs—LWO Cleanup Hitters



2nd Place—Bechtel Heads Up 3



3rd Place—CH2/Polestar Dream Destroyers



2007

SRS Employee United Way Campaign



The M&O Marvels took 4th place, winning \$1,750 for ACTS in Aiken (Area Churches Together Serving).



The SRNL Riverdogs took 5th place, winning \$1,250 for Children's Place in Aiken



Six Sigma's Donna Durden calls a strike



Bechtel Heads Up 3 celebrates a run



Don Smalls Derby Home Run Winner



Cooney Palmer delivers the first pitch



Tournament organizer—Eric Schiefer



Tournament organizer—Craig Carlisle



SGCPs Patty Burns & Jeannie Jones ran the concession stand



Vince LeDonne (left picture) of the CH2/ Polestar Dream Destroyers and M&Os Boots Camp (right photo) score runs for their respective teams.



SRS Raises Over \$22,530 For Golden Harvest

Savannah River Site raised \$22,530, along with about 3,000 pounds of food, in its four-week annual food drive for the Golden Harvest Food Bank. The goal was \$12,000.

All SRS organizations participated in this food drive—Washington Savannah River Company, Bechtel Savannah River Inc., BNG America Savannah River Corporation, BWXT Savannah River Company, CH2 Savannah River Company, the U.S. Forest Service-Savannah River, Wackenhut Services Inc. and the U.S. Department of Energy.

The SRS food drive is one of Golden Harvest Food Bank's largest fund-raisers in the local community.

According to food drive co-chair Sheri Still, the Site's food drives have yielded more than \$200,000 to Golden Harvest. "We're proud to be able to continue our effort to fight hunger in the Central Savannah River Area. Unfortunately, hunger is far more widespread in the area than most people real-



WSRC Representatives present a check for \$22,530 to Golden Harvest

ize. As employees at SRS, we want to do our part to face and solve these problems," Still said.

Three corporate gifts were included in the total: Washington Savannah River Company contributed \$2,000, Bechtel Savannah River Inc. \$2,000 and Washington Group International-General Site Testing Subcontractor, \$1,500.

The Golden Harvest Food Bank is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to fight hunger by feeding hungry adults and children. Serving 25 counties in Georgia and South Carolina, the food bank has local warehouses in Augusta and Aiken.



Foxcreek High School Benefits from WSRC Generosity

Thanks to a grant from WSRC, this school now has nine top-of-the-line T184 calculators along with projectors and screens. On hand for the donation were Public Affairs representatives Keith Wood, Director of Public Affairs, and Lessie Price, Manager for Community Assistance.

WSRC representatives Keith Wood (second from left) and Lessie Price (third from left) present Fox Creek High School principal Dr. Tim Murph with a check for \$1,500. With them are FCHS senior Adam Baker and Fox Creek Chairman of the Board Sherolyn Bishop.

Four Achieve Six Sigma Black Belt



Maria Rios-Armstrong, W. Jarrett Rice, Angela Daniel and Eric Schneier have all met the Six Sigma Black Belt certification requirements in advance of the target certification date.

Maria A. Rios-Armstrong's first Process Improvement Project (PIP), Increase the Number of Excess Property Dispositioned, focused on doubling throughput of excess items dispositioned from Savannah River Site with existing staff. Her second PIP, the Reduce Rework in the Procedure Approval Process Improvement Project, focused on reducing rework

when procedures are routed for review and approval. These two PIPs will save approximately \$1.5 million through FY08.

Jarrett Rice's first PIP, Reduce the Corrective Maintenance Backlog at the Defense Waste Processing Facility, focused on increasing maintenance wrench time through scheduling improvements and increasing completion of non-scheduled tasks. His second PIP, Improve Cost Effectiveness in F&H Area Tank Farms, focused on eliminating the use of glove bags and implementing the use of an automatic sampling device at the tank farms. These two PIPs will save approximately \$1 million.

Angela Daniel's first PIP, Reduce the Number of Radiological Monitoring Equipment Calibrations, focused on reducing calibrations performed at the Health Physics Services Instrument Calibrations Facility. Savings are projected to be approximately \$204,000 through FY08. Her second PIP, Optimize High Level Waste Canister Production, focused on increasing glass canister production at the Defense Waste Processing Facility. The PIP benefits are approximately \$744,000.

Eric G. Schneier's first PIP, Reduce Defense Waste Processing Facility Electricity Usage, focused on reducing the electricity costs. His second PIP, Reduce Inspections and Maintenance at SGCP Monitoring Wells, focused on labor cost reductions in maintaining waste site groundwater wells. These two PIPs will save approximately \$127,000.

Congratulations Maria, Jarrett, Angela and Eric on this tremendous accomplishment..

Analytical Labs Six Sigma Project Receives Site Level Approval

In June, the Six Sigma Savings Validation Document for Analytical Laboratories Project's "Environmental & Bioassay Laboratory (EBL) Business Plan - Design for Six Sigma Project" received final site-level approval. This project continues the effort to in-source thousands of water and soil samples for varied analytes that have historically been analyzed by off-site contractor laboratories. This Process Improvement Plan (PIP) will enable EBL to take on additional Soil and Groundwater Closure Project sample scope without compromising cycle time requirements defined by the customer. This, in turn, would maximize the savings to the site by optimizing the use of current staff and decreasing the budget committed to off-site subcontract laboratories. This PIP is projected to result in a hard dollar cost savings of \$3.9 million over the next five years.

New Technology Being Explored

The next tank being prepared for closure has an annulus full of dry, crusty material that must be removed before cleaning and closure activities can begin.

Earlier efforts to clean the Tank 16 annulus, using water and steam, were unsuccessful because the sand and insoluble material in the annulus would not dissolve. After several attempts, the work was suspended for higher priority projects.

With the recent increased emphasis on tank closure, efforts to clean an annulus were restarted. Based on its high level of difficulty, the Tank 16 annulus was selected. Conquering the challenge to clean the most difficult annulus first ensures others less demanding can be cleaned effectively and efficiently.

After months of planning, researching, reviewing and evaluating, several potential technologies have been identified. One of the technologies involves the use of robotics.

Using simulant prepared by SRNL to replicate waste in the Tank 16 annulus, a vendor recently demonstrated its technology's ability to remove the waste. Although preliminary results are promising, a final evaluation of the simulant test is being conducted to ensure the technology can be used safely in a radiological environment.

A new technology to clean the Tank 16 annulus is scheduled to be implemented by May 2008. *(taken from WasteWire)*



A cutting disk is used to remove a section of an annulus duct during simulant test demonstrations.

Service Milestones

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

40 YEARS

John R. Greenquist

35 YEARS

Alvin S. Bolt
Hans M. Geiger
Robert E. Hajec
Johnnie Larke
Robert L. Myers
Dennis D. Niehoff
Daniel Olabuenaga
Grover D. Price

30 YEARS

Grant A. Cook
Lawrence Karnowski, Jr.
Lesley Manuel
Timothy C. Taylor

25 YEARS

Frances S. Alston
Donnie W. Blankenship
Kurt R. Breitinger
Donna G. Demedicis
James R. Matthews
Lavanda Robinson

Loren D. Stephens
James T. Tomac
Arthur J. Ward
James J. Yeager

20 YEARS

Robert M. Barbin IV
Charles R. Bell, Jr.
Lee D. Bellmer
Donald W. Bickley
Gary L. Cartrett
Prabhudas V. Chande
Glenn E. Cockrell
Charles M. Colquitt
John H. Conaway III
Katrina E. Deal
Lorne D. Debord
Christopher W. Devore
Kenneth A. Dukes
James B. Gentry
Tony D. Hall
Melody K. Hicks
Roger A. Hunnicutt
Levern O. Jordan
Donna J. King
Kevin L. King

James W. Koch II
Marc W. Loibl
Jeffrey E. Micots
Roger D. Mote
Davis Nguyen
Natalie M. Park
Terry Roberts
Annette Simpkins
Lyle B. Stone Jr.
Charles E. Vaughn
Scott L. West
Anthony P. Whatley
James H. Williams, Jr.
Kirkland J. Williams
Stephen R. Willis

15 YEARS

Nitin N. Bhatt
William E. Bruss
Adela A. Chow
Vera S. Gibson
Marilyn L. McKie
Sara H. Padgett
James C. Paradis
Charles S. Pemble
Wilbur L. Wetzel

10 YEARS

Thad M. Adams
Murray B. Baxter

5 YEARS

James M. Becnel
Christopher DesRocher
Douglas L. Durden
Kevin R. Hera
John W. Kilgore
Dwayne A. Murray, Sr.



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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