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For Immediate Release

SRS Sponsors 2008 Science and Engineering Fair Regional Competition

AIKEN, S.C. (March 12) – With the support of Washington Savannah River Company and other co-sponsors, the Savannah River Regional Science and Engineering Fair competition has returned for the benefit of students from area schools.

Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) is co-sponsoring and coordinating this competition for schools from 20 counties located throughout the Central Savannah River Area. Over 300 students are expected to qualify for this competition, which will be held on March 15 at the University of South Carolina Aiken, Business and Education Building.

Other co-sponsors include the University of South Carolina Aiken and The South Carolina Academy of Science.

“WSRC is continually looking for cost-effective opportunities to further improve the quality of education found throughout the CSRA,” said Barbara Smoak, Manager, WSRC Community Outreach Program. “Hosting this Regional Science and Engineering Fair is one more way we can do our part to contribute to this important cause.”

The Savannah River Regional Science and Engineering Fair (SEF) will give young people from the area the opportunity to explore the world of science and technology and develop their scientific investigation skills and knowledge by planning, constructing and exhibiting their own "hands-on" science projects. Projects are judged for scientific reasoning, creative ability, thoroughness, technical skill and clarity. The science fair promotes students' interest by providing public recognition of outstanding work and by giving students the opportunity to interact with community scientists and engineers.

Each year, millions of students worldwide compete in local and school-sponsored science fairs; the winners of these events go on to participate in SEF-affiliated regional and state fairs from which the best win the opportunity to attend at the international level of the Science and Engineering Fair competition. The international competition will be held May 11-17 in Atlanta, Ga.

(more)

The WSRC Team:

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Science Fair, Page 2

Beginning this year, during the regional competition, all of the entries will be on display and open to the public (free of charge) for viewing from 4-5 p.m., Saturday, March 15.

The Science and Engineering Fair, the world's largest international pre-college science competition, annually provides a forum for more than 1,500 high school students from over 40 countries to showcase their independent research. The SEF is the premiere science competition in the world exclusively for students in grades 4–12.

The SEF unites these top young scientific minds, showcasing their talent on an international stage, enabling them to submit their work to judging by doctoral level scientists—and providing the opportunity to compete for nearly \$4 million in prizes and scholarships.

Note to Editors: Reporters are welcome to attend the entire Science and Engineering Fair. See attached map for directions and agenda for more information.

The award ceremony will begin at 5 p.m., USCA Business and Education Building, Rm. 122.

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