NEWS from The Savannah River Site



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WSRC Brings Home Three More Safety Accolades

AIKEN, S.C. (March 20, 2008) – Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) has won three more prestigious safety awards for its exemplary safety performance in 2007 at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS).

During 2007, WSRC received state, national and international recognition for its safety performance at SRS. Now, three more accolades can be added to the list.

On March 19, WSRC received the South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance's Plant Safety Award, recognizing the fact that its Operations rate for lost and restricted workday cases was far less than the industry average. WSRC's rate is 0.14. The industry average is 2.2. A lost or restricted workday case occurs when an employee has an injury or illness that results in lost or restricted work time.

WSRC also recently received the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce's Commendation of Excellence and the URS Washington Division President's Award. The S.C. Chamber of Commerce award recognizes WSRC's excellent Operations lost workday case rate (0.05) for 2007 at SRS. The industry average is 1.0. The President's Award recognizes the fact that WSRC employees worked more than 10 million hours (June 22, 2007 through Feb. 14, 2008) without a lost workday case.

"Safety recognition is always good, because it shows that we're achieving our goal of having our employees go home the same way they came to work," says WSRC President Leo Sain. "It's our responsibility and our commitment to provide a safe workplace for our people. We aren't where we want to be until we have zero injuries."

2007's performance was the best since WSRC took over the SRS contract in 1989, beating its previous best (2006) by 30 percent. WSRC continually improves its safety performance by employing innovative improvement initiatives such as Behavior Based Safety, which was instituted at SRS 10 years ago and has evolved into a mature program that is responsible for much of WSRC's ongoing safety success, and Human Performance Improvement, which is being instituted sitewide in 2008.

SRS is owned by DOE and operated by a team of companies led by WSRC, a subsidiary of URS Corporation's Washington Division.

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