

December 2011

SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS

# SRNS Today

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SRS marks  
20 years  
of brightening  
the lives  
of children



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parent companies  
donate to United Way



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Turning warheads  
into watts



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## Dwayne Wilson

SRNS President and CEO



## Welcome to the December 2011 edition of "SRNS Today."

December is a month of giving. While we support the community all year long, this month marks a special time of reaching out for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, its parent companies and its employees.

As you can see on Page 3, Savannah River Site employees raised \$1.5 million that will go to 11 area United Way agencies. The SRNS parent companies—the Fluor Foundation, Honeywell and Newport News Nuclear— added \$200,000. The United Way agencies will put the funds to good use, helping our neighbors weather tough economic times.

SRS employees also played Santa Claus this month, donating thousands of toys and bikes to the Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. For 20 years, SRS employees have supported this worthy cause, and SRNS was pleased to add \$5,000 to the Toys for Tots stocking. The story and photos are on Pages 6 and 7.

SRNS made other substantial donations this month to the Red Cross, Golden Harvest Food Bank and the SRS Heritage Foundation. We're proud to be a part of the community and we're proud to support these outstanding organizations.

"Giving" can take on many aspects. Operationally, SRNS and DOE have announced the final shipment of low-enriched uranium (LEU) from SRS to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which will use the 300 metric tons of LEU in nuclear power reactors to provide electricity in most of Tennessee and parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia. Electricity costs within TVA's service territory are below the national average, thanks in part to SRS's LEU contributions.

By the time you read this, it may already be 2012. As the new year dawns, full of opportunities and expectations, SRNS will continue to meet its commitments, expand its horizons, support the community and be the good neighbor that you have come to rely on. May your new year be one of peace and prosperity.



*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor partnership with 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.*

**For additional information about SRNS, please visit our website at [savannahriversolutions.com](http://savannahriversolutions.com).**



## SRS employees raise \$1.5 million for UW, SRNS parent companies add \$200,000



**The parent companies of SRNS**—the Fluor Foundation, Honeywell and Newport News Nuclear—recently made a corporate match of \$200,000 for SRNS employee contributions to the annual SRS Employee United Way Campaign. Over the last few weeks, SRS employees raised more than \$1.5 million in donations to benefit local United Way agencies.

"After 54 consecutive years and collecting over \$57 million in donations at the Savannah River Site, the 2011 SRS Employee United Way Campaign has yet again ended in success," said Linda Bridgmon, SRNS campaign chair. "The generous donation made by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is highly appreciated and is 'icing on the cake' that will benefit countless people in need throughout the CSRA."

Bridgmon noted that though times are hard, SRNS employees continue to give with their hearts. "It's remarkable to me how much our employees give each year, not only in money, but also of their time."

Eleven United Way agencies are designated to receive contributions from the SRS Employee United Way Campaign, including the additional \$200,000. They include Aiken County, Allendale County, Bamberg County, Barnwell County, Colleton County, Edgefield County, Hampton County, Midlands, McDuffie County, Screven County and the United Way of the CSRA.

"The SRNS donation is an important part of our program funding each and every year," said Sharon Rodgers, President, United Way of Aiken County. "Everyone at SRNS continually impresses me with their generous response to local charitable organizations, helping those in need throughout Aiken County."

Photo: SRNS Executive Vice President Fred Dohse presents checks to Sharon Rodgers (left), President, Aiken County United Way, and La Verne Gold, President and CEO, CSRA United Way, representing a recent \$200,000 contribution made to the SRS Employee United Way Campaign consisting of matching funds from SRNS' parent companies.

### In the community



### SRNS donates \$10,000 to SRS Heritage Foundation

SRNS recently donated \$10,000 to the SRS Heritage Foundation during the SRNS Holiday Drop-in at the Old Post Office building on Laurens Street in Aiken. Accepting the check from SRNS Executive Vice President Fred Dohse (right) were Paula and Walt Joseph, Executive Director of the Foundation. The SRS Heritage Foundation seeks to tell the historic story of SRS activities through the preservation of artifacts and the establishment of education and outreach programs.

## SRNS donates \$25,000 to Red Cross to assist with victims of disaster

### Visitors of note



### S.C. Commerce VIPs visit SRS

South Carolina Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt (right) and Deputy Secretary George Patrick (left) recently visited SRS to learn more about the Savannah River National Laboratory. While at SRS, they also toured H Canyon (pictured above) and received briefings on its operations and capabilities from Steve Howell (center), SRNS Deputy Director of Environmental Management Operations.



Clif Webb, SRNS Vice President, Corporate Communications (right) presents Lindsay Findley, Executive Director, American Red Cross, Aiken County Chapter, with a \$25,000 check.

**SRNS has donated \$25,000** to the Aiken Chapter of the American Red Cross to ensure that prompt and effective aid is available when devastating tragedy strikes, such as a sudden loss of a home due to fire, tornado or flood.

"SRNS truly believes in supporting organizations like the American Red Cross whose impact on the lives of those in need is immediate and extremely effective," said Clif Webb, SRNS Vice President, Corporate Communications.

Lindsay Findley, Executive Director, American Red Cross, Aiken County Chapter explains that working with disaster victims can be emotionally challenging. "It's heart wrenching to look into the eyes of a victim and to see the worry etched across their face, knowing that virtually everything they own is gone," said Findley. "When you can hug them and say 'It's going to be all right' and then back it up with material help, it's so rewarding. But we can only help to the extent that others, like our friends at SRNS, so generously assist us through donations of time and money."

"We were absolutely devastated," said North Augusta Resident Sonia Williams whose family of 10 recently watched their house burn to the ground. According to Williams, Red Cross workers seemed to almost magically appear. "We went from total loss to finding hope and a way to begin to rebuild our lives through the help offered by the Red Cross," said Williams. "We're so grateful."

### Aiken Chamber Business After Hours

SRNS was the sponsor of the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce's Annual Holiday Business After Hours. From left, SRNS President and CEO Dwayne Wilson, SRNS Vice President of Corporate Communications Clif Webb, Chamber Board Chair Frank Thomas, and Chamber President and CEO David Jameson, welcomed guests to event.





## 30 public tours to give 1,500 visitors a chance to visit the Savannah River Site in 2012



**In 2012, SRNS will once again offer** a limited number of Savannah River Site tours for the general public.

Thirty tours of SRS are being offered, providing an opportunity for approximately 1,500 people to visit the Site. Tour check-in begins at 12:30 p.m. at the Center for Hydrogen Research, located off Highway 278 in Aiken County. Guests will be given an overview presentation, a safety briefing, a tour of the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory and a general driving tour of the Site. The tour will conclude at 4:30 p.m.

Site tours provide an opportunity to better understand SRS's history, current activities and future missions. All tours are free of charge and each tour will accommodate 50 people. Tour participants must be 18 years of age or older and must be U.S. citizens.

Registration opened at 9 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 12. To sign up, please visit the SRS tour website at <http://www.srs.gov/general/tour/public.htm>.

If no Internet access is available, individuals may call (803) 952-8467 or (803) 952-8994 for assistance. Seats are limited to two individuals per reservation and participants may reserve only one tour date per year. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

### 2012 scheduled tour dates

- January 10, 18, 26
- February 15, 23
- March 13, 21, 29
- April 17, 26
- May 8, 16, 24
- June 12, 20, 28
- July 10, 18, 26
- August 14, 22, 30
- September 11, 19, 27
- October 9, 17, 25
- November 7
- December 5





# Toys *for* Tots

SRS employees mark 20 years  
of making Christmas brighter  
for area children and families



**Bikes, bears and baby dolls filled hundreds of boxes at SRS in December as part of the Site's annual Toys for Tots campaign.**

SRS employees have supported the Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign for 20 years, collecting more than 13,000 toys this year, and more than 228,000 toys since 1991.

SRNS also donated a check for \$5,000 to the cause.

The event marks one of the largest toy contributions to date at SRS, an effort requiring several large trucks and numerous volunteers.

For the tenth year, SRS Construction employees sponsored the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program, enabling SRS employees to adopt 325 area children. Many SRS employees chose to give more than 4,200 clothing and accessory items to Angel Tree recipients.

The annual event is sponsored by SRS Construction employees with the support and participation of the Department of Energy-Savannah River; National Nuclear Security Administration-Savannah River; SRNS; Savannah River Remediation; WSI Savannah River Site Team; Parsons; the Augusta Building and Construction Trade Council; Baker Concrete and URS Site Testing Contracts.

SRS Toys for Tots Chair Sheri Still said, "Our hearts go out to area parents who so badly need a little help this time of year to provide a gift, however small, to brighten Christmas day for their children. Many of these families consist of single women and, largely due to the continuing recession, the working poor."

Photos: SRNS Executive Vice President Fred Dohse (above, from left), SRS Toys for Tots Chair Sheri Still, Gunnery Sgt. Robert Ritchie of the Marine Corps, SRNS Vice President for Site Services Rob Gentry, and Julie Kirby were present for the SRNS check presentation. (Facing page) Gentry assists Gunnery Sgt. Ritchie, along with many volunteers, in loading boxes and bags of toys and bikes.









# Turning warheads into watts

*Milestone marks completion of successful cooperative project between DOE, TVA*

**DOE and SRNS recently announced completion** of the final shipment of low-enriched uranium (LEU) from the Savannah River Site to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Today's announcement marks the end of the current contract to ship over 300 metric tons of LEU for use in TVA's nuclear power reactors.

The LEU solution has been used to create commercial reactor fuel for TVA power reactors since 2003. This final shipment also marks a significant step towards achieving the Department's goal of cleaning up SRS.

According to SRNS Highly Enriched Uranium Program Manager Gigi Magoulas, 335 shipments have safely traveled from SRS to TVA facilities – enough LEU to power every home in the United States for 52 days, or every home in South Carolina for 10 years. "This project will provide power to the U.S. while eliminating approximately 500 nuclear weapons," said Magoulas.

DOE-Savannah River Operations Manager David Moody believes this project is a stellar example of how the Cold War facilities at SRS can be used today to further nonproliferation efforts and to remove nuclear material from South Carolina. "The NNSA and DOE's Office of Environmental Management continue to work together to successfully achieve the nation's nonproliferation goals and to safely dispose of Cold War era nuclear waste," said Moody.

Historically, highly enriched uranium (HEU) was used at SRS in the nuclear weapons production process. However, after the Cold War ended, the HEU was determined to be surplus legacy material. Since 2003, the site has "down blended" or diluted the quality HEU to the point where it is useless for nuclear weaponry, removing more than 22 metric tons of HEU from the DOE nuclear weapons production stockpile.

This down blend program was established by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in 1996 to meet nonproliferation objectives and to convert the material to a useful peacetime form. The program utilizes facilities operated by SRNS, under DOE's Environmental Management direction, to process, purify and convert HEU to LEU meeting the specifications established by TVA. The SRS facilities used in this process include H Canyon, the Savannah River National Laboratory, K Area, L Area and the F and H Area laboratories.

"The Savannah River Site's H Canyon is the only large scale facility in the U.S. that can recycle contaminated HEU," said Clif Webb, SRNS Vice President, Corporate Communications. "I'm proud of all of the SRNS employees associated with this highly successful and greatly beneficial program, which improves the environment by supplying more emissions-free, clean energy."

TVA provides electricity for utility and business customers in most of Tennessee and parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia – an area of 80,000 square miles with a population of nine million. The price of electricity within TVA's service territory is below the national average.



The final shipment of low enriched uranium rolls out of the Savannah River Site for transport to Tennessee Valley Authority commercial power reactors, which marks the end of a current contract to ship over 300 metric tons of LEU to create TVA fuel rods.



## Website selects SRNL 'green' technology as 2011 new product of the year

A technology that uses “green” chemistry to help microbes break down contaminants in soil before they reach the groundwater has earned kudos for the company that licensed the SRNL-developed technology. The editors of Environmental Protection website selected Vadose Organic Substrate (VOST™) as the 2011 Soil & Groundwater New Product of the Year.

The technology was originally developed by Brian Riha of SRNL to address solvent contamination at the Savannah River Site. EOS Remediation, LLC, a subsidiary of Solutions-IES, Inc., obtained the exclusive license to manufacture and sell the technology, as part of SRNL's mandate to support the U.S. economy by moving technologies developed at the government laboratory into the marketplace through the Research and Technology Partnerships Office.

The Environmental Protection New Product of the Year Award honors the outstanding achievements of industry manufacturers whose products are considered particularly noteworthy for making environmental professionals' jobs a little easier. See the winners at <http://eponline.com/pages/2011-npoy-winners.aspx>

VOST™ treats chlorinated solvent contamination in the vadose zone, the area of unsaturated soils between the ground surface and the water table below. Contamination in this zone can be a continuing source of groundwater contamination. The technology is a thixotropic gel – a liquid consistency when stirred, but gels when left in place. It uses biodegradable oil to sequester the contaminants while providing food for the microorganisms in the soil, stimulating the microbes' innate ability to degrade solvents.

Solutions-IES is an award-winning, woman-owned environmental consulting, engineering and remediation firm and is a leading developer of innovative technologies for natural and sustainable bioremediation of soil and groundwater. Its subsidiary, EOS Remediation, commercializes products developed by Solutions-IES to naturally clean up environmental contamination.



## Honors and accolades



### National Intelligence Expo

Earlier this year, a tracking and locating technology, which has applications far beyond conventional GPS systems, was selected by the Director of National Intelligence as one of 10 featured products in the Director's 2011 National Intelligence Expo, a classified event for members of Congress that showcases the most promising technologies in the intelligence arena. SRNL is collaborating with Boeing, the University of South Carolina and several other companies in the development of this system.

### Collaboration Research Award

An SRNL-led team of national laboratories, contractor representatives and a university received the 2011 Collaboration Research Award from the U.S. Council for Chemical Research. The 10+ year project led to the startup of facilities that are successfully treating high level radioactive wastes at SRS.



**U.S. Strategic Command Visit** U.S. Air Force Major General Eric W. Crabtree (third from left), Deputy Director of the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction (SCC-WMD), visited SRNL to learn more about the unique facilities and expertise at SRS and SRNL. Major General Crabtree, along with representatives from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and Department of Defense, took part in tours and discussions of SRNL's competencies related to initiatives to address national security-related topics of mutual interest. The SCC-WMD is tasked with integrating and synchronizing Department of Defense-wide efforts in support of the combating weapons of mass destruction mission. The SCC-WMD plans, advocates and advises combatant commands, and provides recommendations to dissuade, deter, and prevent the acquisition, development, transfer or use of WMD, associated technology and related materials.



## SRS Employee Transition Center receives national recognition

### Honors and accolades

#### Prevette elected ASQ Fellow

Steven Prevette has been elected a Fellow of the ASQ (formerly the American Society for Quality), a global community of experts on quality in all fields, organizations and industries.

Prevette was recognized for advancing the field of statistical process control and for its implementation in the U.S. Department of Energy. He was also recognized for his service to the Columbia Basin Section, ASQ discussion boards and statistics division.

The ASQ advances the professional development, credentials, knowledge and information services, membership community, and advocacy on behalf of its more than 85,000 members.



Steve Prevette

#### The Lower Savannah Council

of Governments Workforce Development (Lower Savannah COG), based in Aiken and serving a six-county region, has presented SRNS with the "2011 Innovation Award" from the National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation recognizing the value of the SRS Transition Center in Aiken.



In partnership with the Lower Savannah COG, the SRS Transition Center has been managed by SRNS personnel to provide a conveniently located facility and broad range of resources for employees released from the SRS workforce since March 2011.

Lower Savannah Workforce Development Area Administrator Sam Jordan praised the SRNS Workforce Services staff for their diligence, dedication, and extensive efforts to develop and implement an exemplary transition center and oversee its daily operations.

"The award provides recognition for the hard work and innovative approach demonstrated on a daily basis at the Transition Center. The bringing together of the various entities of the U.S. Department of Energy, Department of Labor, Department of Employment and Workforce, and private business to assist this group of individuals is an excellent example of leveraging scarce resources and is a wonderful collaboration," Jordan said.

The Transition Center staff is currently working with a broad variety of companies and nuclear sites throughout the U.S. and Canada to locate new employment opportunities for these individuals. The Center has assisted approximately 453 individuals with 173 of those finding new employment since the center opened.

Through a State Reserve Dislocated Worker Grant from the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce, Transition Center personnel are available to assist those clients seeking employment resources. The resources offered include assistance with unemployment compensation, computer labs, employee assistance counseling, financial counseling, printed materials, workshops, and most importantly, new employment opportunities.

In addition to former SRNS employees, those workers recently involuntarily separated from Savannah River Remediation and WSI Team Savannah River are also utilizing the Transition Center and the array of services offered.

"Down-sizing a company is always a painful process," said Jim Hanna, Senior Vice President, SRNS Corporate Services. "We highly respect each and every employee and feel obligated to help ease and facilitate their transition into a new form of employment to the greatest extent possible." Hanna added that the national award reflects the effectiveness of the Center towards accomplishing this goal.

Photo: Lower Savannah Workforce Development Area Administrator Sam Jordan (with plaque) presented the "2011 Innovation Award" to Dwayne Wilson, SRNS President and CEO. Also participating in the presentation are (from left) Gary Perez, SRS Transition Center Coordinator; Bob Rhoden, SRNS Manager, Workforce Planning and Transition Services; and Jim Hanna, SRNS Senior Vice President, Corporate Services.



## Tritium project quadruples output, completed ahead of schedule

**A four-month project** to accelerate production commitments has been successfully completed at SRS. The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Savannah River Site Office (SRSO) and SRNS Tritium Programs were recently recognized for the effort that quadrupled the facility's standard production output.

The Reservoir Acceleration Project (RAP) called for all tritium production and shipping commitments through February 2012 to be completed by the end of November 2011. "This is a significant accomplishment for the Savannah River Site that demonstrates the responsiveness and flexibility of this team," said NNSA SRSO Manager Doug Dearolph. "It's through dedication and hard work such as this that our nation is able to maintain its strength and dedication to a safe and dependable weapons stockpile."

NNSA SRSO and SRNS accepted the challenge to accelerate reservoir shipments at the request of NNSA's Office of Secure Transportation, which required a three-month shipment hiatus beginning in December to upgrade its aircraft fleet. RAP employed several practices such as cross training, temporary personnel reassignments and expanded shift operations to accomplish the extra workload in the required timeframe. Supplementary measures, including increased management field presence, were also implemented to ensure that the project would be completed without impact to safety, security, operational discipline or product quality.

With reservoir shipments satisfied through February 2012, SRNS is now taking advantage of these production schedule changes to complete continuous improvement initiatives and planned outages to address electrical infrastructure and other system component needs.

A ceremony to celebrate RAP's successful completion was held in early December. NNSA Stockpile Management Liaison Manager Jackie Claycomb recognized the more than 60 SRNS Tritium Programs employees in attendance, expressing her appreciation for a job well done.

Jackie Griego from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and Everett Goodman II from the NNSA Office of Secure Transportation also addressed the group and presented a plaque to NNSA SRSO and SRNS commemorating the event. "Your dedication, technical competence and commitment to excellence directly contribute to our mission to maintain national security," said Claycomb. Following the ceremony, senior leaders from NNSA SRSO and SRNS, joined by Claycomb, Griego and Goodman, served cake to the Tritium Programs employees.



Photo: Jim Dollar, Director of SRNS Tritium Programs Business Planning and Integration, and Jackie Claycomb, NNSA Stockpile Management Liaison Manager, prepare to serve Tritium Programs employees during a celebration to mark RAP's successful completion.

### In the community

#### Golden Harvest Food Bank

SRNS has donated \$5,000 to the Golden Harvest Food Bank to provide 500 turkeys for needy families in Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Edgefield and McCormick counties. SRS employees raised \$22,000, along with approximately 1,000 pounds of food, during its annual, four-week food drive for the 2011 Golden Harvest Food Bank. SRNS also made an additional \$5,000 corporate contribution this summer.

#### Coats for kids

Some local children will be warmer this winter thanks to SRNS management. Approximately 250 coats, hats and gloves were donated to the Salvation Army in early December to be distributed to children in need of one of life's basic necessities—warmth.



# Savannah River Nuclear Solutions



national security • clean energy • environmental stewardship

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Our commitment is to create innovative, effective solutions for our country's most pressing initiatives.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions offers in-depth nuclear knowledge for the nation and works to make the future of our country secure, energy independent and environmentally responsible.

*For more information on Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, please visit our website: [savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com](http://savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com).*