SRS Evaporator System Provides Record Tank Space for Waste Operations

SRR Operator Mark Guilfoyle Jr., performs routine inspections inside the 3H evaporator, which is the superstar of the Savannah River Site (SRS) Evaporator System. One of the principal functions for SRR, the liquid waste contractor at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) SRS, is to make space available in waste tanks in order for SRS liquid waste operations to continue.

The Site’s evaporator system is a key element in the process. During the 2013 Fiscal Year, the 3H Evaporator reclaimed nearly 1 million gallons of space in the SRS tank farms.

During March 2014, both the 2H and 3H evaporators had excellent performance. The 2H evaporator operated 82 percent of the time and produced 202,000 gallons of space gain while the 3H evaporator operated 49 percent of the time and produced 106,000 gallons of space gain.

Tank Farm Operator Awarded the Annual SRR Safety and Health Achievement Award

SRR awarded Arlene Williams, an Operator in the Tank Farm, the 2014 SRR Safety and Health Achievement Award for modeling exemplary safety leadership.

The award is intended to recognize a nominated hourly employee in the company who most actively supports the safety process on both the facility and company levels. This is the second year SRR has given the award and will continue to honor SRR employees who demonstrate exceptional safety during operations. The SRR Safety and Health Achievement Award is patterned after the Voluntary Protection Program Participant’s Association (VPPPA) award.

Presenting Arlene Williams the award is Ken Rueter, SRR President and Project Manager.
The last missed day of work due to an injury or illness for construction employees of the former SRS contractor, Washington Savannah River Company / Bechtel Savannah River Inc., and current liquid waste contractor, Savannah River Remediation (SRR), was recorded in June 1998. Both contractors have shared the same recording process for liquid waste operations at the Site and, consequently, SRR has continued to build on these hours to achieve the 26 million hours mark.

That string of hours represents more than 15 years of work without a days-away case. The average construction organization would have 191 days-away cases in a span of 26 million hours, according to the latest Bureau of Labor statistics.

SRR President and Project Manager Ken Rueter congratulated SRR construction for their accomplishment and noted all work at SRS begins and ends with safety.

“This accomplishment represents one of the many legacy SRS safety milestones that have been jointly celebrated by the current SRR construction workforce and the Augusta Construction Building Trades,” Rueter said. “SRR’s construction employees are continuing an impressive record of work without a days-away injury. I am pleased to see them continue to keep the focus on what’s most important in their daily job performance of high-hazard work.”

Kim Cassara, SRR Director of Projects, Design and Construction, praised construction workers and their supervisors for their dedication to a safe workplace.

“Our construction project employees continue to demonstrate they are the best in the business,” Cassara said. “By any comparison, this is World Class safety performance and a rare construction industry achievement that exemplifies our unrelenting commitment to the highest standards of workplace safety.”

SRR has surpassed 4 million hours without a lost work day. SRR employees achieved that milestone in less than one year—357 days—in March. The company’s last lost-work-day case occurred on March 25, 2013.

Ken Reuter, SRR President and Project Manager, praised his team’s commitment. “I’m particularly proud of our employees’ focus on safety in one of most trying years I can remember. In the best of times, their high-hazard worksites and complex construction activities pose daily challenges. But the added trials of the past few months, from furloughs and downsizings to the worst winter weather in a decade, created distractions that required redoubled vigilance and dedication in every task.”