

● OCTOBER 2017

SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS

# SRNS Today



## Dollar for dollar

Using proactive cost savings to improve SRS infrastructure

ALSO INSIDE!

17  
SUCCESSSES



## This month

Environmental Report • Safety Expo • Robots at SRS Museum • Education Outreach







**Stuart MacVean**  
SRNS President and CEO

# Welcome

to the October 2017 edition of

# SRNS Today

October marks the beginning of a new fiscal year at Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, so it's time to take a look back at our strong finish of FY 2017 and look forward to an even stronger start to FY18.

We celebrated one of the best years ever for safety at our compan. In October, 3,000 SRS employees attended the annual Safety Expo, organized by SRNS Environmental Stewardship, Safety and Health. This event serves as a reminder to all employees to continue their vigilance and commitment to safety in FY18.

SRNS continued its work to develop our workforce in FY17. The SRS Badge Office and Entry Control facility were redesigned to be more attractive and appealing to employees and visitors to the Site, setting a more modern and informative impression. This transformation, along with many other Compelling Place to Work initiatives, helps us be prepared for another year of attracting and retaining talent.

Our commitment to cost savings and continuous improvement was proven last year and resulted in \$42 million in productivity and cost savings. Our employees are constantly striving to work smarter and more efficiently. SRNS employees proactively discovered \$6.7 million dollars in potential cost savings that can be reinvested in infrastructure. We will continue our commitment to be good stewards of the government's money in the coming year.

I am pleased to have been a part of SRNS during a strong FY17 and am excited to see what great things SRNS can accomplish in FY18. Our safety motto in FY17—"Finish Stronger"—will remain a personal motto for me and will also serve as a reminder to our workforce to build upon our successes and keep our eyes on the future.

I hope you enjoy this issue of SRNS Today.



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, 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 employees and other stakeholders of the company's operational- and community-related activities. If you have questions or comments, please contact us at 803.952.9584 or visit our website.

[www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com](http://www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com)

# Dollar for dollar

## SRNS uses proactive cost savings to improve aging infrastructure

**C**reative thinking and an entrepreneurial drive have enabled SRNS employees to aggressively discover \$6.7 million dollars in potential cost savings, which has been approved to be reinvested—dollar for dollar—into SRS infrastructure and other high priority needs at the 66-year-old site.

It's a broad, grassroots effort where employees are asking tough questions and expressing a willingness to go the extra mile to find cost savings within existing budgets to upgrade site infrastructure and, in the process, improve safety, security, operations and work conditions.

"We recognize the importance of supporting site missions as well as our 10,000 plus employees working at this EM site," said Johnny Lott, Manager, SRNS H Canyon/HB Line Radiological Protection. "Finding cost savings to fund site infrastructure improvements, whether it's buildings or just painting the walls, is important. It's important to our customer, our management team and to all of us who are literally investing our lives safely and productively supporting SRS nuclear operations."

To date, Lott and his co-workers have identified more than \$370,000 in cost savings and reduced the radiological footprint in process rooms in H Area over the course of the 2017 fiscal year.

"We're working hard to identify money that we can use to help support structures, utilities, IT systems, roads and railway networks," said PK Hightower, Manager, SRNS Continuous Improvement. "This is all about what we can do to be more efficient and reduce the costs associated with our work so that we can do even more. If you can show you're good stewards of the government's money while effectively accomplishing work scope, the odds of obtaining additional missions are increased and more job security can be enjoyed."

Hightower continued, "Keep in mind, it's not just about the cost savings. It's also about the quality of our work life and pride of workmanship. If I'm doing something day after day that doesn't make sense and there is no technical justification for a task, then why not ask the question, 'do we have to do it this way'? It allows employees to be creative. They are able to say, I think we can do this better. Let's form an improvement team to investigate it."

One of the largest savings involved minimizing the hazards posed by deteriorating floor tiles containing asbestos and peeling lead-based paint in a large, 1950s-era office building. Site Construction Services personnel performed the work using a new technique versus contracting the project out, saving nearly \$1 million.

Savings to date have been used to replace a lab roof (\$1.4 million) and extensive repair and repaving of some site roads (\$3 million).



Approximately \$3 million in cost savings have already been put to use toward extensive SRS road repair and repaving.



# fy 2017

A look back  
at SRNS progress,  
achievements and  
successes of the  
past fiscal year



Nine transuranic waste shipments made to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

**SRNS had a banner year in FY17, marked by operational excellence, notable improvement and innovation in safety, operational milestones, workforce sustainment, cost savings and the contractor assurance system.**

“FY17 was one of the best years in safety that SRNS has experienced,” said Stuart MacVean, SRNS President and CEO. “We received the 16th Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star of Excellence Award and achieved six million safe hours. Partnering with the Department of Energy, SRNS also conducted unprecedented active shooter emergency response drills and exercises that yielded important lessons learned to bolster worker preparedness. Safety is our top priority at SRS, and we will continue to look for new and innovative ways to make our workplace safer.”

SRNS also celebrated many production successes in the past fiscal year. All production facilities were operational for the first time since 2008, when SRNS took over management and operations responsibilities. SRNS completed the dissolution of the planned spent fuel campaign and began receiving target residue materials from Canada. Other achievements included improving the production capability in HB Line, beginning plutonium down-blend operations in K Area and making nine transuranic waste shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico.

SRNS is investing in both its current and future workforce, inspiring and rewarding them as the company builds for the future by simplifying the onboarding process, providing market equity adjustments for engineers and scientists, and making SRS a more compelling place to work by bringing renovations to the H Area cafeteria and the A Area Entry Control Facility and Badge Office; opening a new coffee shop; and designating a stretch of roadway for cycling. These initiatives are



helping attract some of the best and brightest from the region, as well as addressing the “retirement cliff.” These efforts earned SRNS recognition as the “Workforce Innovator of the Year” by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce.

MacVean also pointed out other areas of success in FY17, including continuous improvement initiatives and a refocused emphasis on SRNS’ contractor assurance system. “Our focus on efficiency and high performance resulted in \$42 million in productivity and cost savings, allowing SRNS to double down on infrastructure improvements and make tremendous strides in improving facility and site conditions,” he said. “And our contractor assurance system efforts have helped us to better recognize trends and encourage more self-critical assessment of our performances that we can learn and grow from.”

SRNS is committed to continually improving, and in FY18 the company will nurture its safety and security record, work to reduce further errors and persist in adding value as it delivers results to its customers.



“Workforce Innovator of the Year” award

**“Going forward, we will increase the momentum that has yielded such a successful year, ensuring we continue to deliver clear progress for our country, our community and the environment,” MacVean concluded.**

**safer.**



Received target residue materials from Canada

Unprecedented active shooter emergency response drills



H Area cafeteria and Entry Control Facility / Badge Office renovations



**We make the world**



# First impressions

## SRS Badge Office, Entry Control Facility get a 're-do'

The SRS Badge Office and Entry Control Facility received an extensive visual transformation in 2017 to present a modern and welcoming entrance to visitors and employees.

Designed and implemented by SRNS Corporate Communications and Site Services, improvements included innovative graphic treatments, informative banners and maps of SRS facilities and missions, visually-appealing crowd control devices, new badge stations/photo backgrounds and exterior signage.

"One-way view" window clings on exterior windows and in the conference room provide enhanced security, and new furniture includes a Centerra desk, a concierge desk and expanded seating.

Fresh blue and white paint throughout and wayfinding signage completed the project.



Entry Control Facility



SRS badging area



Exterior signage and window security



Conference room

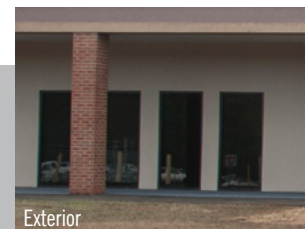
"BEFORE" PHOTOS



Entry Control Facility



Badging area



Exterior



Conference room

Environmental Monitoring program lead Eric Doman and Environmental Technician Mark Spires use the FlowTracker® measurement tool to record flow velocity measurements in an onsite stream at SRS.



## Protecting our world

2016 report: SRS is environmentally safe

Last year, SRS continued to safely complete its missions while maintaining a record of environmental excellence. The site continued to meet federal and state standards, designed to protect the public, environment and site workers.

SRS prepares an Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER) in accordance with DOE requirements. This report, released annually on this date, provides detailed information regarding environmental conditions at SRS for the previous calendar year and is available for use by the public and SRS regulators.

The report also summarizes SRS's environmental data; environmental sustainability performance; compliance with applicable DOE, federal and state regulations; and remediation and surveillance monitoring programs.

SRS has monitored environmental conditions since the site was built in the early 1950s and has prepared an ASER for more than five decades.

Each year, SRNS collects more than 5,000 samples found both on and off site to include air, water, soil, sediment, food products, freshwater fish, seafood, wildlife, plants and trees.

"Protecting the environment has been and will continue to be a top priority at SRS," said DOE Savannah River Manager Jack Craig. "Data found within the 2016 Environmental Report continues to validate the effectiveness of our operations regarding this important goal."

A condensed version of the ASER, referred to as the Summary Report, is also available. The Summary Report, written in plain terminology, is used to provide information to the public in support of SRS's educational and community outreach programs.

The Annual Site Environmental Report for 2016 and the Summary Report are available online at:  
<http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/ERsum/index.html>



## SRNS named 'Champion' of Cyber Security Awareness

SRNS has been named a Champion of Cyber Security Awareness by the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) organization.

The NCSAM Champion program highlights companies that are dedicated to promoting a safer, more secure, and more trusted internet. Other notable 2017 Champions include Duke Energy, SANS Institute, Augusta University Cyber Institute, IBM, and Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

"SRNS is dedicated to providing cyber training for all new employees, as well as an annual refresher cyber training," said Cheryl Hardy, Manager, Cyber Security Policy. "We also provide ongoing cyber education and awareness activities through monthly safety meetings,

pop-ups on InSite, quarterly phishing exercises with follow-up training, security roadshows, and lunch and learns throughout the year."

To further promote cyber security beyond SRS, SRNS also engages in community outreach programs by providing a cyber education booth for the Science Education Enrichment Day for fourth-eighth grades, assisting the University of South Carolina Aiken with cyber curriculum development and supporting the University of South Carolina's S.C. Cyber outreach through the Cyber Lecture Series.

The Champion of Cyber Security distinction is presented each October during National Cyber Security Awareness Month, which was created as a collaborative effort between government and industry to ensure every American has the resources they need to stay safer and more secure online.

## Ivan Lewis named SRNS 'Boss of the Year'

The SRNS Boss of the Year Award was presented on Oct. 18 during the SRS Observance of National Boss's Day. Ivan Lewis received the top award for his overall accomplishments as the Director of SRNS Process Control and Automation Engineering.

Lewis' employees submitted the winning nomination, describing him as "a manager and leader that anyone would want to work for or follow. He is the kind of manager that will patiently listen to an employee, will give direction as needed, but is also willing to let his employees learn a lesson the hard way in order to grow.



Ivan Lewis

He is extremely dedicated to the success of his organization, which ultimately contributes to the success of SRNS."

Overall, 22 SRNS managers were nominated for the 2017 Boss of the Year Award, and they were also honored at the event.

Each "Boss of the Year" nominee is scored based on the following: fair and impartial treatment of all employees; involvement in the community; outstanding accomplishments; and ethics, professionalism, dependability and sensitivity to the concerns of employees.

The "Boss of the Year" program is hosted by the SRS Special Emphasis Program Committee, which has representatives from the DOE-SR, SRNS, Savannah River Remediation, LLC, and Centerra Group, LLC Equal Employment Opportunity Offices.

## Robots!

SRS Museum sponsors a week of discovery with robots large and small



Two students view ALVIN, SIMON and the Mark II Hornet, robots once used at SRNL.



Elementary and middle school students showcase robots they built out of Legos.



SRNS employee Tim Arnold explains this year's robot challenges in preparation for the FIRST LEGO League robotics competition.

During National Nuclear Science Week, local students demonstrated their robotics team skills and learned how SRS employees continue to build and maintain robots for important missions during a special exhibit, "The Robots Are Coming!" Students, parents and teachers had the opportunity to meet ALVIN, SIMON and the Mark II Hornet, circa-1980s SRNL robots on display at the Savannah River Site Museum in Aiken, S.C.



Robotics team volunteer Ken Boucher (far right) observes students trying out a robot during the "Robots are Coming!" exhibit at the SRS Museum on Oct. 16.





SRNS employees and representatives from the United Way agencies celebrated the completion of this year's campaign. Front row, from left: Sharon Rodgers, President, United Way of Aiken County; Ellen Luton, Director of Resource Development, United Way of Aiken County; Emily Scotten, Director of Marketing and Communications, United Way of Aiken County; Keanne Boyette, SRNS; Heather Farrer, SRNS; LaVerne Gold, President and CEO, United Way of the CSRA; Rina Powell, Senior Director of Resource Development, United Way of the CSRA; Missy Byrne, SRNS. Back row, from left: Caroline Reppert, SRNS United Way Campaign Vice Chair; Rich Baker, SRNS United Way Campaign Chair; Rachael Simon, SRNS; and Candace Stevenson, SRNS.

# Tradition continues

Another successful campaign nets over \$1 million for UW

SRNS employees gave back to the community through another successful United Way (UW) campaign, achieving \$1,226,672, which includes the employee campaign and corporate match. To celebrate, the SRNS campaign committee invited the UW agencies, who are designated to receive donations, to a celebration at Tri-Development Center, a United Way of Aiken County partner agency.

During the celebration event, campaign chair Rich Baker presented SRNS donation checks to UW agency representatives. Among them were Sharon Rodgers, President, United Way of Aiken County and LaVerne Gold, President and CEO, United Way of the CSRA.

"It takes a lot of heart to want to stand up and provide that level of contributions for this community," said Rodgers. "The employees' sense of teamwork and compassion just shines through."

"SRNS has been the largest contributor to United Way the whole 65 years they've been doing the campaign," said Gold. "We really appreciate the hard work from all the employees."

This year, SRNS achieved the highest total of employee donations since 2012. Overall, first-time contributors to the campaign gave \$9,250 through the eCard system, and existing contributors increased their giving by \$158,000. In addition, employees raised \$10,000 more in fundraising than the total in 2016 through bake sales, lunches and silent auctions.

"Our campaign theme was 'Standing United for 65 years,' which celebrates how employees continue to carry on the tradition of contributing year after year, even during tough economic times," said Baker. "A big thank you goes to the organization leads, committee members, all our volunteers and employees who donated their time and money through our Days of Caring, fundraising and the eCard system that allowed us to exceed our goal. I'm also grateful for the ongoing support from SRS retirees who have supported us, past and present."

# Hunters aim for success during special SRS deer hunt

The annual SRS deer hunts are a lure for many sportsmen, but few appreciate the privilege more than the 40 physically-disabled hunters and Wounded Warriors invited for a special one-day hunt each October for the last 18 years.

The mobility-impaired hunters are typically from throughout the southeast, while many of the wounded veterans are from a local veteran's hospital. The hunt was held on Oct. 27 this year.

Volunteers make the hunts possible for the participants. "Our success each year can largely be attributed to the many volunteers who come out and help these men and women hunt, depending on the type of disability they have," said Joe Solesby, SRNS employee

and program manager for the site's deer hunts. "The difference between this being just a hunt and being one of the best deer hunts in the region for these guys is the caring volunteers who work so hard to make it special."

SRS deer hunts are performed as a safety measure. Over the past 20 years, SRS has averaged approximately 100 animal-vehicle collisions per year, and the hunts work toward reducing those collisions.

SRNS manages the hunt and provides sponsorship in conjunction with DOE, the USDA Forest Service-Savannah River (SR) and the Wheelin' Sportsman National Wild Turkey Federation.

# For the employees, by the employees Safety Expo



Employees from across the Savannah River Site gathered Oct. 11-12 to enjoy the annual Safety Expo.

Fun and interactive exhibits brought the safety message home and operational demonstrations gave employees a deeper insight into SRNS missions. Approximately 3,000 employees attended the event, which also featured 24 SRNS Local Safety Improvement Team (LSIT) booths, as well as information from local organizations.



SRS employees experienced the dangers of texting and driving through virtual reality at the Business Management LIONS LSIT booth.



Daryl Butler, chair of the F Area OWLS LSIT, greets visitors.



# Zinc on the half shell

## Creative, inexpensive method eliminates excess zinc in N Area

What's an inexpensive way for industry to control the levels of zinc in storm water to meet regulatory standards prior to its entering nearby streams? Placing oyster shells in the storm water appears to be a solution.

A small number of U.S. companies and utilities are finding that oyster shells naturally absorb zinc and copper from water, frequently reducing water samples to an acceptable level.

SRNS is testing this promising method at SRS to decrease zinc found leaving N Area when heavy rain is experienced.

"N Area is where our construction group has their offices, shops and storage facilities," said Amy Meyer, Manager, SRNS Environmental Compliance. "Similar to other legacy facilities, due to their age, dozens of buildings with galvanized metal roofs are now leaching zinc that mixes with the rain runoff. It's this storm water that's creating the issue."

Meyer explained that the limit related to zinc set by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) is so low, only a very small improvement is needed to see measurements coming back in line with their standards. According to Meyer, the rainwater now leaving the construction facilities travels primarily in one roadside drainage ditch, which leads to a nearby stream.

Four small "check dams" have recently been created in the ditch. The check dams are carefully crafted piles of small rocks and limestone gravel to temporarily slow the storm water as it moves down the ditch. A large mound of oyster shells is then placed on the upstream side of each check dam. The oyster shells draw zinc from the water as it pools at the check dams, lowering the overall zinc levels prior to entering the nearby waterway.

"We also are using this method at another location in N Area where the shells have been put into place to absorb copper," added Meyer. "An extremely small decrease in measured levels of



SRNS employees Dakota Williams (left) and Mandrell Crawford create a large mound of oyster shells used to absorb unwanted metals in rainwater runoff.

copper will guarantee that sample location will be in full regulatory compliance. We feel confident that the shells will prove, as they have elsewhere in the U.S., to be a cost-effective solution."

The total cost to install the oyster shell check dams was \$7,600, a significant cost savings in lieu of replacing large amounts of existing infrastructure, such as galvanized fencing and metal roofing that would cost tens of thousands of dollars. There is also the potential to save dollars associated with avoiding the implementation of new sampling equipment, continued sampling and analytical costs for the duration of the permit cycle (five years) at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

Meyer explained that once four consecutive quarters of compliance with SCDHEC standards occur at any SRS storm water sampling location where zinc or copper are found, that location will be exempt from further sampling for up to five years. "Not having to sample frequently at multiple sites across SRS means significant cost savings for DOE," said Meyer. "That's a worthwhile goal to target."

The zinc and copper levels present in N Area storm water do not present a significant health hazard to plants or animals. "The amount of zinc and copper we're treating is not high enough to trigger SCDHEC action. Even so, we believe in best management practices and strive to protect the environment."



Simeon Thompson (left) and Woodie Melton (far right), both from SRNL, explain to A.R. Johnson High School students how naturally-occurring radiation can be found in many household products during this year's STEM Career Connections event in Augusta, Ga.

# 'STEM Career Connections' encourages students to explore future possibilities

SRNS was one of several organizations from SRS that recently reached out to hundreds of high school students from throughout the Central Savannah River Area during this year's "STEM Career Connections." SRNS was a "Silver" sponsor of the event, which featured hands-on activities and informative speakers.

Held at the KROC Center in Augusta, Ga., the primary purpose of this interactive forum is to encourage students to explore career opportunities in STEM-based occupations. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.

According to Kim Mitchell of SRNS Education Outreach, the demand for jobs requiring skilled workers in STEM fields is growing at SRS as well.

"We have multiple programs at SRNS that emphasize the importance of STEM-based curriculum and vocations, such as the Future City Competition, Introduce a Girl to Engineering, Teaching in Excellence Mini-Grants Program, the Science Bowl and the Traveling Science Demonstration Program where SRNS volunteers provide in-school presentations," said Mitchell.

Teachers and students from 23 high schools registered to attend STEM Career Connections 2017.

Steven Gordon, Jr., a senior at A.R. Johnson High School in Augusta, Ga., noted that an event like this can have a life-long impact. "Seeing

all the opportunities in our area is highly motivating and encourages me to pursue my dreams, knowing I have a bright future."

Mindy Mets, Nuclear Workforce Initiative Program Manager, SRS Community Reuse Organization, noted that across the nation today, there's a tremendous need for new STEM-skilled workers.

"This event can really make that connection in a real-life experience," said Mets. "Having young nuclear professionals from SRS here who the students can relate to carries so much more weight."

Attending professionals represent a broad range of high-tech industries to include nuclear technology, information technology, cyber security and advanced manufacturing.

"We believe it's important for students attending this event to understand that highly compensated, STEM-based jobs are here in the local region," said Mets. "They also need to know what it'll take to pursue those occupations. That's one of the reasons we host this event annually."

STEM Career Connections is a part of Nuclear Science Week, which is a national celebration that focuses on all aspects of nuclear science. Events during this week provide many learning opportunities that can be found by discovering the world of nuclear science.

## Energy Bean Cafe opens

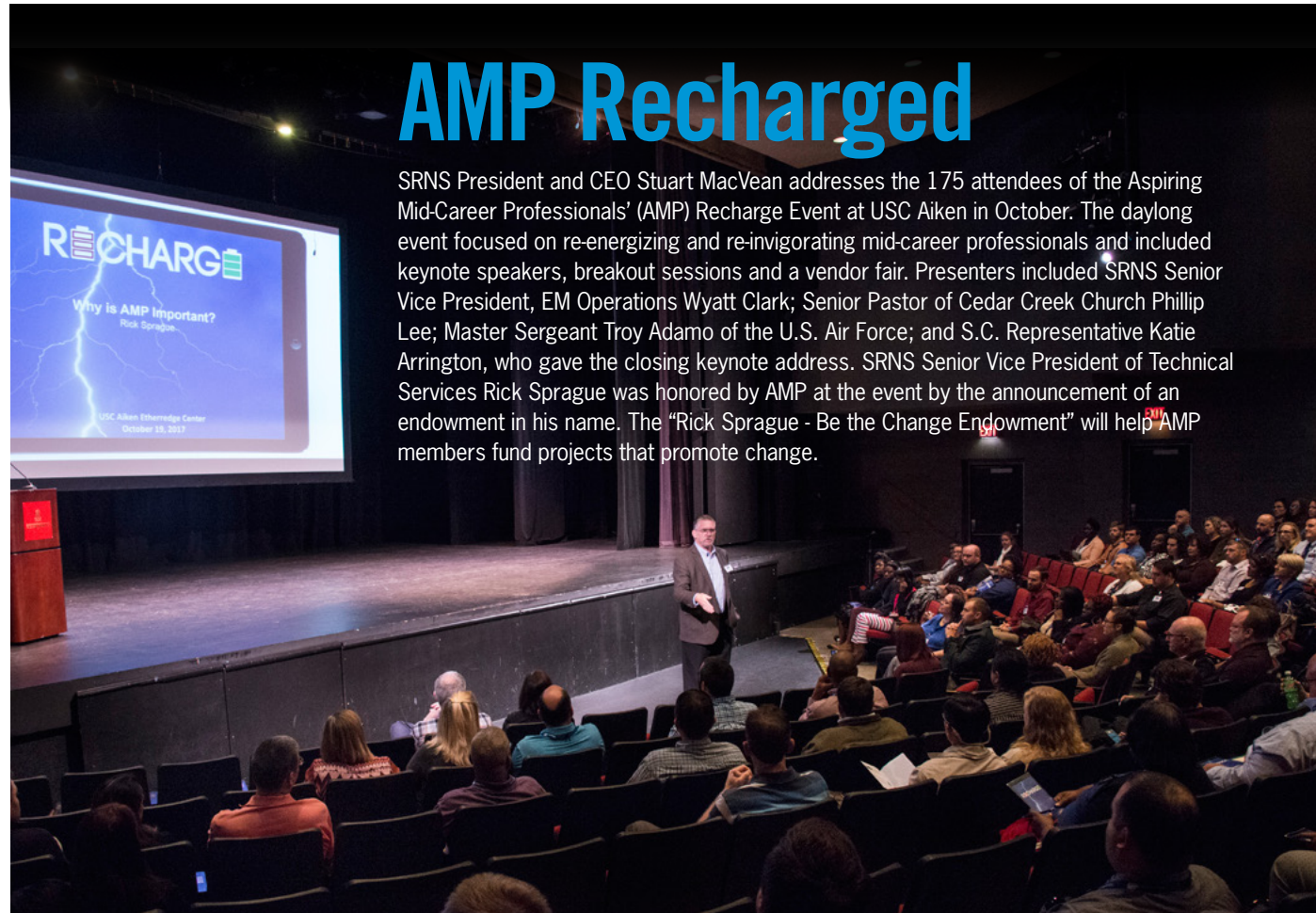
DOE-SR Manager Jack Craig (left) and SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean toast the October grand opening of the Energy Bean Cafe, a new coffee cafe in B Area. The cafe, which "proudly serves Starbucks," also features pastries, lunch items and other edibles. The cafe was a joint project between DOE-SR and SRNS Site Services.





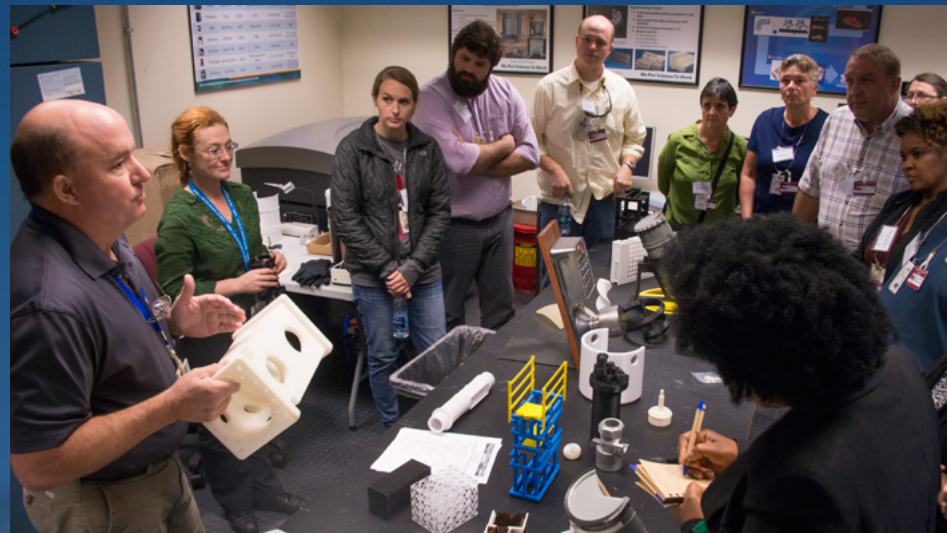
## AMP Recharged

SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean addresses the 175 attendees of the Aspiring Mid-Career Professionals' (AMP) Recharge Event at USC Aiken in October. The daylong event focused on re-energizing and re-invigorating mid-career professionals and included keynote speakers, breakout sessions and a vendor fair. Presenters included SRNS Senior Vice President, EM Operations Wyatt Clark; Senior Pastor of Cedar Creek Church Phillip Lee; Master Sergeant Troy Adamo of the U.S. Air Force; and S.C. Representative Katie Arrington, who gave the closing keynote address. SRNS Senior Vice President of Technical Services Rick Sprague was honored by AMP at the event by the announcement of an endowment in his name. The "Rick Sprague - Be the Change Endowment" will help AMP members fund projects that promote change.



## Local educators tour SRS facilities as part of Nuclear Science Week

Local educators from area middle and high schools and universities recently toured SRS, visiting a variety of facilities as part of Nuclear Science Week. "The tour helps local educators develop academic programs needed to develop future scientists, engineers and other occupations," said Kim Mitchell, SRNS Education Outreach Programs. Joey Martin, a teacher at A.R. Johnson High School, said he valued the exposure to the scope of work performed at SRNL. "Seeing it as an educator, helps me to teach these kids about the opportunities for them as technicians, chemists or physicists," said Martin. "The material science research and development we saw today was fascinating. This is the creative side that many of our students are interested in. They don't want to sit in a lab. They want to design, play with stuff and improve things."



Ken Meeler, Senior Mechanical Design Specialist, SRNL Design, Manufacturing, Logistics & Pressurized Systems, explains the process of additive manufacturing to multiple groups of teachers attending this year's SRS Educators Tour.

## SRNL researcher named ACS Fellow

SRNL Principal Engineer Dr. Elise Fox has been named an ACS Fellow by the American Chemical Society. The ACS Fellows program recognizes and honors members of the American Chemical Society for their outstanding achievements in and contributions to science and their profession and for their equally exemplary service to the Society.



Dr. Elise Fox

Dr. Fox received this distinction for the advancement of materials characterization for renewable energy and the promotion of renewable energy policy, particularly for the southeastern U.S. In addition, she was recognized for leadership at every level of ACS including the Savannah River Local Section, Energy & Fuels Division, the Committee on Environmental Improvement and the Younger Chemists Committee, as well as educational outreach to the community.

Her research is focused on the integration of renewable energy and achieving near term cost targets in order to achieve grid parity. She has four submitted patents and more than 50 peer reviewed technical publications. She is Councilor and Immediate Past-Chair of the American Chemical Society Division of Energy & Fuels, a member of the Committee on Environmental Improvement, a member of the Board of Directors for the South Carolina Solar Council, and is the Chair of the Board of Directors for the South Carolina Biomass Council.



## SRTE concludes donation drive for AWP

Wallis Spangler, SRNS Senior Vice President, National Nuclear Security Administration Operations & Programs, hands off boxes of supplies to Kim Elle of the Augusta Warrior Project (AWP). Savannah River Tritium Enterprise employees collected toiletries, snacks, socks and gift cards to support veterans in the Augusta, Ga., and Aiken, S.C., area as part of the 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance observed throughout NNSA. SRTE and the other seven NNSA nuclear security enterprise sites hosted coordinated donation drives for local organizations that support veterans in their communities.

## SRNL's Tracy Rudisill receives actinide separations award

SRNL Advisory Engineer Tracy S. Rudisill has received the 2017 Glenn T. Seaborg Actinide Separations Award. Given annually, this award recognizes a U.S. scientist or engineer who has made outstanding and lasting contributions to the development and application of actinide separations processes and methodology.

Rudisill was recognized for his research and development involving uranium, neptunium, plutonium, americium and curium processing and his many contributions in the area of nuclear materials processing.

He is currently a principal investigator in the lab's Separations and Actinide Science Group where he leads a team of engineers and scientists to develop chemical engineering flowsheets for the dissolution of spent nuclear fuels and other nuclear materials.

Rudisill was selected to receive the Seaborg Actinide Separations Award for accomplishments in developing chemical engineering flowsheets for plutonium metal finishing, scrap recovery, dissolution of plutonium materials and the recovery of enriched uranium from research reactor fuels. He also developed and demonstrated processes required to save valuable americium and curium isotopes, which are used in the manufacturing of californium-252, a neutron emitter for radiation therapy and other applications, from disposal as waste.

His other accomplishments include working with the team of Savannah River National Lab scientists and engineers making the first successful demonstration of the uranium extraction (UREX) process as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Fuel Cycle Technologies Material Recovery and Waste Form Development campaign. The UREX process is a nuclear reprocessing technique that can be used to save space inside high-level nuclear waste disposal sites by removing uranium from waste, which makes up the vast majority of the mass and volume of spent nuclear fuel.

Rudisill is the fifth SRNL researcher to receive the Seaborg Actinide Separations Award. He was recognized at the 41st Annual Actinide Separations Conference in May.



Tracy Rudisill





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