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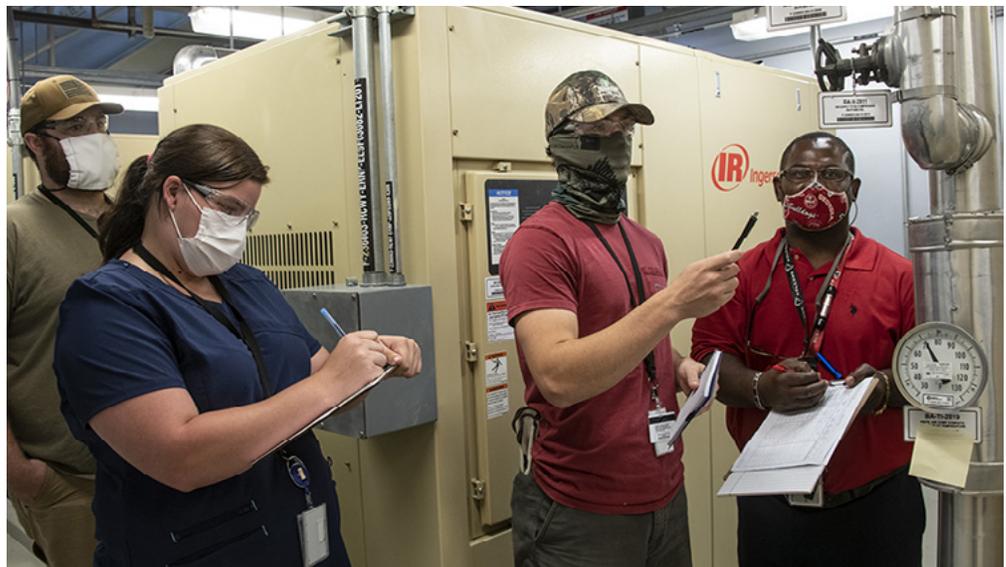
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apprenticeship Program at SRS Provides Training, Potential Employment for ATC Students

AIKEN, S.C. (July 20, 2020) - Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the managing and operating contractor at the Savannah River Site, has recently partnered with Aiken Technical College (ATC), Apprenticeship Carolina™ (AC), and the Lower Savannah Council of Governments (LSCOG) to begin an Operator Apprenticeship program to help local students further their careers while providing a pipeline of trained and ready operators to combat rising attrition.

“Like most DOE Sites, SRS has been preparing for the impacts of an aging workforce for several years,” said SRNS Deputy Vice President of EM Operations Janice Lawson. “Not only will this program help the apprentices gain skills to help them in getting jobs but will also help provide SRNS with trained operators who can quickly backfill positions that become vacant.”

The eight-month program simultaneously allows for students to complete their classroom work and on the job training by allowing them to spend two days a week in the classroom and two days a week on Site. At the end of the program, if openings and funding are available, an operator posting for full time employment will be approved and the ap-



Operator apprentices Michael McAdory, Melinda Greene, John Starnes and SRNS Instructor David Jackson practice identifying/verifying valves for lockout/tagout mockup scenarios.

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prentices are then provided a preferred hiring status in the selection process.

SRNS paid the tuition for the 10 apprentices enrolled in the first round of this program. The apprentices are also paid for their time in training on Site. Apprentices will learn the basic qualifications of a production operator including conduct of operations principles, radiation worker training and qualification, and how to perform shift rounds.

“I wanted the opportunity to learn something new and to grow a reputable career with a stable environment for my family,” said Operator Apprentice Kevin Thomas. “I would tell people interested in working at SRNS not to be intimidated by not having certain specific skills. All you need to have is a motivation for success and the company will train you and help you achieve your goals.”



Operator apprentices Adam Thomas and Chadwick Champy making operator rounds and recording pressure gauge readings

The Operator apprenticeship program is part of Apprenticeship Carolina™ (AC). AC is a division of the South Carolina Technical College System, leads South Carolina in registered apprenticeship programs that help businesses and communities thrive economically. With the guidance of AC as well as the LSCOG, the operator apprenticeship program has been registered both nationally and in the state of South Carolina by the Department of Labor.

“We appreciate the work of the Site Training department to ensure these Operators are trained for success,” said Lawson. “We hope that this is just the beginning of apprenticeship opportunities at SRS.”

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor-led company with Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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