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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Williston DIG STEM Festival: Rural Kids Learn About Global Opportunities

**AIKEN**, S.C., May 26, 2022 – This year’s DIG (Dreams, Imagination & Gift) STEM Festival in Williston, South Carolina, recently brought 41 exhibitors together to provide a day of fascinating hands-on learning topics for approximately 2,500 visitors.

The event was created to showcase a multitude of local exhibitors who provide engaging activities, live performances, interactive demonstrations and family-oriented STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) entertainment featuring drone simulators, agriculture technology, video game design, cybersecurity and aeronautics.

Local children, teens and their families browsed through aisles and exhibits that featured high-tech machines and other intriguing devices in this science wonderland.

The day also featured a STEM-based competition, inflatable play equipment, games and live music.

Steven Brown, President and Founder of DIG, sees the success of a STEM festival in a rural area, like Barnwell County, as proof that his original vision is viable. DIG is a tax-exempt nonprofit. According to Brown, when rural children and youth are motivated, mentored, encouraged and enabled to excel, they can make their dreams and imaginations a reality.

“DIG aims to establish a sense of community pride and ownership by providing an organization that gives residents an opportunity to play a major role in developing their own youth. Statistics show that when a community is involved by volunteering, residents feel secure, personally invested and tend to do more for the well-being of the community,” Brown said. “I am a firm believer that we are witnessing a cultural shift in our communities that will help ensure a better future for our residents and youth.”

“As a part of that cultural shift, we realize something big is happening in the rural communities we serve and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) is at the center of it,” added Brown. “SRNS is our sole sponsor this year and has been supporting our programs and festival for several years now. We attribute much of the success we’ve had over those years to them. We are always glad to partner with SRNS



*(Front Hundreds of area residents visited the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) exhibit during the recent DIG (Dreams, Imagination & Gift) STEM Festival in Williston, South Carolina. SRNS employees Lindsay Whisnant (left) and Brittany Walker assisted multiple visitors throughout the day-long event.*

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for STEM-based outreach initiatives.”

The list of exhibitors featured many well-known companies and organizations including AT&T, Boeing, Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness, Denmark Technical College, Dominion Energy, Edisto Research and Education Center, Palmetto Innovation Center, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, Ruth Patrick Science Education Center, Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, South Carolina Highway Patrol, Shaw Industries, Williston Fire Department and SRNS.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina.