

# SRR continues outstanding performance in fiscal year 2016

From another tank closure to double stacking radioactive canisters, Savannah River Remediation (SRR) has been busy delivering liquid waste results to the U.S. Department of Energy-Savannah River (DOE-SR). SRR has been the liquid waste contractor for DOE-SR since July 2009, continuing the mission to safely and efficiently disposition the 35 million gallons of Cold War era radioactive waste at the Savannah River Site.

Many milestones, major and minor, were accomplished since last October. Here is a look at several highlights of SRR's continued world-class performance:

## Tank 12 Operationally Closed

In April 2016, SRR operationally closed Tank 12 by filling it with a cement-like grout, marking the eighth tank closed at the Savannah River Site. During Tank 12 closure, 567 grout trucks traveled onsite, and 908,580 gallons of grout was poured into the tank.

Tank 12 was closed ahead of the May 31, 2016, deadline outlined in the Federal Facility Agreement between DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

## 4,000th Canister Poured

In December 2015, the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) poured the 4,000th canister of glassified waste since DWPF operations began in March 1996. Each canister is filled with high-level sludge and mixed with a borosilicate glass, which stabilizes the waste in a solid form suitable for safe storage.

If 4,000 of the 10-foot tall, 2-foot wide canisters were laid end to end, they would stretch more than 7.5 miles. That's about how far it is from the Pentagon to the U.S. Capitol and back. If they were stacked high, the canisters would reach the cruising altitude of most passenger planes.

DWPF, the nation's only operation vitrification, or glassification, plant, is expected to produce just over 8,000 canisters.

## Canister Double-Stack Initiated

In August 2016, SRR officially began double-stacking radioactive canisters

in the Glass Waste Storage Building (GWSB) 1, part of the innovative effort to increase onsite interim storage capacity of glassified high-level waste.

Two canisters were stacked one on top of the other in GWSB 1 at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). The double-stack initiative will increase the storage capacity in GWSB 1 from 2,254 canisters to 4,508 canisters by accommodating each existing position to hold two canisters instead of one.

The Canister Double-Stack Project will create adequate safe interim canister storage until at least Fiscal Year 2029 and will postpone the need for another storage facility.

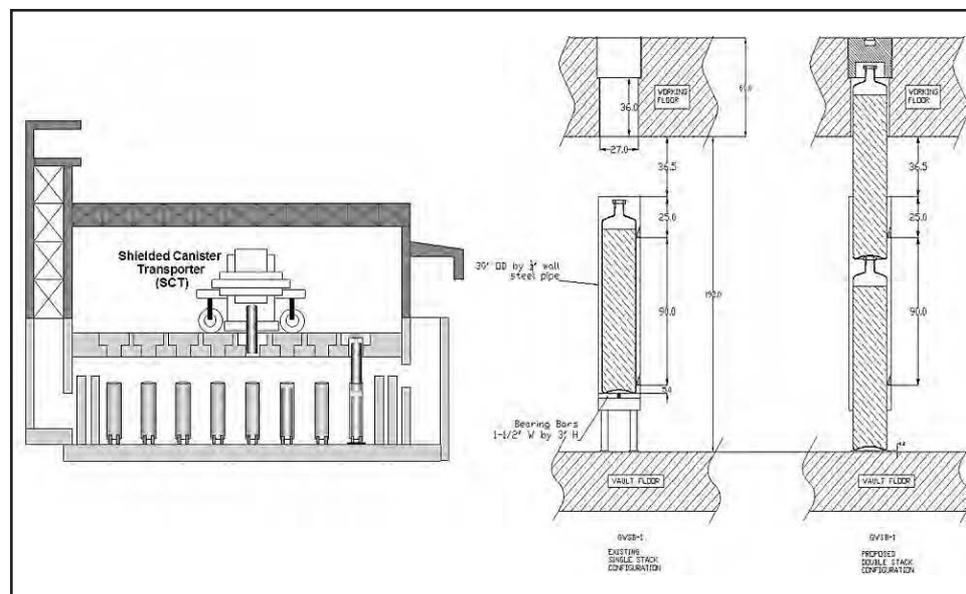
## Two Employees Win National Safety Award

In August 2016, two SRR employees won the 2016 National Safety and Health Achievement Awards at the 32nd Annual National Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association (VPPPA) conference held in Kissimmee, Florida.

The awards were presented to Chris Holley, SRR Electrical and Instrumentation First Line Manager at DWPF, and Michael Young, SRR Sheet Metal Mechanic. Holley and Young became the fourth and fifth SRR employees to earn the award in the past four consecutive years. This was also the first time two employees from the same site in the DOE complex have won this award.

Both employees were nominated for their exemplary leadership in workplace safety. Holley served as the chair of the Local Safety Improvement Team (LSIT) in the SRS Tank Farms, where about 35 million gallons of radioactive waste is stored in 43 underground waste tanks. Young serves as the chairman of the Construction LSIT, a group of employees dedicated to working safely.

Additionally, SRR was awarded the 2016 Star of Excellence for having an outstanding safety and health program and for maintaining a Total Recordable Case rate of injuries 75 percent lower than the industry average. This is the fourth consecutive year SRR has won this award.



This graphic shows the innovative concept of the Canister Double-Stack Project. Each current position in Glass Waste Storage Building 1 is being modified to accommodate two canisters per existing slot.



Work began January 19, 2016, on grouting Tank 12, an old-style tank at SRS. It was operationally closed on April 27, 2016, marking the eighth tank closed at the Site.