

News



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
Aiken-Edgefield
Economic Development Partnership

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AIKEN COUNTY, SRNS COLLABORATE TO EXPAND NATIONAL LABORATORY SPACE

AIKEN, SC (November 4, 2013) – Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) researchers are now occupying 6,435 square feet of new, modern laboratory and support space at Aiken County's Applied Research Center (ARC), located in the Savannah River Research Campus adjacent to the Savannah River Site.

The new space is an expansion of the facility, which houses SRNL's 24,000 square-foot Hydrogen Technology Research Laboratory, which is used primarily for unclassified research into new gas processing, storage and transfer applications. The county-owned facility, which opened in 2006, also hosts USC-Aiken research and small technology companies.

The expansion was funded by a \$3,000,000 contribution from the Board of Directors of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, the operating contractor for the Savannah River Site and SRNL. SRNL is leasing the space under an initial ten-year lease.

The expansion added six new laboratories with flexible configurations to support SRNL research on advanced materials to support areas such as nuclear energy, energy storage materials and systems, solar energy materials, materials for wind and marine energy systems and carbon dioxide capture.



“This development further strengthens the good working relationship between SRNS, the National Laboratory and Aiken County,” said Dwayne Wilson, President and CEO of SRNS. “All along, the intent of our company and our parent company organizations has been to strategically invest corporate dollars in ways that would enhance the National Laboratory’s competitive position. This is a concrete example of that commitment.”

Dr. Terry Michalske, Executive Vice President of SRNS and Director of SRNL, said the investment would yield multiple benefits to SRNL.

“This adds to what is already a first-class laboratory complex at the county’s facility,” said Michalske. “In addition to providing us with new, contemporary research labs, the addition of more off-site research space makes it that much easier for us to partner with universities and private companies. As we continue to grow our programs, we place high priority on opportunities that build research partnerships and increase economic development for the region. Our focus in this area is consistent with Energy Secretary Moniz’ strong interest in increasing public / private partnerships with the National Laboratories.”

Ronnie Young, Chairman of Aiken County Council, said, “We are appreciative of the partnership that exists between Aiken County and SRNL. Our goals are very similar. We both want to see SRNL technology solve pressing national and global needs. I think with the opening of the Energy Materials Research Lab we have taken a major step towards meeting those needs. Aiken County is proud to partner with the national lab in advancing materials research and application with the ultimate goals of providing opportunities for our citizens”.



“As implied in our name, it’s all about partnerships,” said Will Williams, Director of the Economic Development Partnership. “The Energy Materials Research Lab is a great example of results that come about when the public sector and the private sector work together for the good of the community. The advances that will come from EMRL in materials science are virtually unlimited and we look forward to working with them. The efforts of Gary Stooksbury and the EDP Board of Directors to work to create jobs not only now, but jobs for the future, are unparalleled”.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor partnership comprised of Fluor, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for management and operations of DOE’s Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory.

The Applied Research Center is a subsidiary of the Economic Development Partnership, concentrating on economic development and job creation based on technology. The Center promotes fuel cell and hydrogen technology through education, training and research and development.

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