

News Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

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Principal Media Contact: Angie Benfield
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
803.952.9830
angie.benfield@srs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRNS' Rachel Kumar recognized as National Safety Council's 2014 Rising Star

AIKEN, S.C. – (Oct. 9, 2014) Rachel Kumar, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) Sr. Industrial Hygienist, cares about the safety of her coworkers. She is known for going beyond the call of duty to ensure that SRNS employees go home in the same condition as they arrived at work each and every day. Her work at the Savannah River Site (SRS) earned her recognition recently as a National Safety Council (NSC) Rising Star at a ceremony held at the NSC Congress and Expo in San Diego, Ca.

Kumar was one of 41 recipients to receive recognition as a Rising Star of Safety, standing with other safety professionals from as far away as Bahrain and Canada. Combined, the 2014 class of Rising Stars represented a diverse group of industries including, aviation, health care, manufacturing, construction and in Kumar's case, nuclear materials management.

"These young professionals are working to address new challenges, promote a cycle of continuous improvement and create initiatives focused on measurable outcomes – key components of the council's Journey to Safety Excellence," said Deborah Hersman, President and CEO, National Safety Council.

At only 29 years old, Kumar has worked to strengthen safety controls in a high hazard, half-decade-old nuclear environment.



SRNS' Rachel Kumar received recognition recently as a National Safety Council Rising Star at an event in San Diego. (Photographed left to right: Jeff Woodbury, Chairman, National Safety Council; Rachel Kumar, Industrial Hygienist, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC; Deborah Hersman, President and CEO, National Safety Council)

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In one instance, during a routine evaluation at a historical facility at the SRS Kumar questioned an intermittent noise that she believed could be an auditory hazard for her fellow employees. She not only reported her concern to management, Kumar went the extra mile by gathering data to explore her observation and in doing so, was able to identify that the noise could exceed established guidelines under certain work conditions. With employee safety at the heart of the matter, Kumar collaborated with the SRNS engineering team to develop controls that would attenuate noise levels; protecting SRNS employees from a potential auditory hazard.

“Rachel’s attention to detail and compassion for others is an inspiration for all SRNS employees,” said Alice Doswell, Senior Vice President, SRNS. “She is a safety leader who brings a questioning attitude to work with her every day and the SRNS employees are safer for it. I am proud to call Rachel a member of our team.”

For Kumar though, it’s just another day at the office. “I am humbled to receive recognition as a Rising Star of Safety. I believe that every employee deserves to go home to their family just as healthy as they arrived that day, and it’s a privilege to work for a company, and with employees, that have the same values as I do,” she said.

SRNS employees are committed to creating safe, innovative, effective solutions to address our nation’s most pressing challenges. SRNS is committed to making the world safer through initiatives involving nuclear materials management, energy independence and environmental stewardship.

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, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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