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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SRNS Donates \$15,000 to Inspire Students to be Engineers During CREATEng Program

AIKEN, S.C. – July 21, 2015 – Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) recently donated \$15,000 to help ensure the success of “CREATEng,” a program developed and conducted by the South Carolina Governor’s School for Science & Mathematics (GSSM). CREATEng is a one-of-a-kind, four-day immersion into engineering and design-based thinking for students across the state of South Carolina.

Working in teams at a host site within Aiken High School, students engaged in a problem-based curriculum where they applied principles of engineering designed to solve daily challenges.

Participating eighth and ninth grade students were exposed to skills needed to pursue careers related to science, technology, math and engineering (STEM).

CREATEng students:

- Competed in team-based, hands-on challenges, such as designing blades for a wind turbine, cleaning an oil spill, developing a solar-powered s’mores cooker or constructing a parachute
- Interacted with engineers on-site and during field trips
- Developed engineering skills such as problem solving, teamwork, data analysis, communication and innovation
- Built creative confidence



*Shown is one of several classrooms of students competing as teams, during a timed experiment involving helium-filled balloons, paper clips and rice within Aiken High School, all part of a South Carolina Governor’s School program to encourage careers in engineering.*

# News from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

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Kishni Neville, a teacher at Jackson Middle School, when asked why she chose to volunteer her time to help with this week-long effort said that her school is in the process of creating a strong, STEM-based system. She believed that much could be learned by participating in the CREATEng program. She was not disappointed. Neville stated that she found great value in assisting with the many hands-on activities, each of which applied STEM-related theory and practical experiments to real life situations.

The GSSM mission and SRNS' goal to sponsor and manage highly effective and dynamic programs complement one another. Each builds upon the innate curiosity of children to explore, question and discover a world through science, mathematics and technology. Educational programs like CREATEng actively engage and provide students with a wealth of opportunities to learn about careers in engineering and other STEM-based occupations.

“We are thrilled to be a primary sponsor for CREATEng,” said Candice Dermody, Manager, SRNS Education Outreach and Talent Management. “We want to fan the embers of learning into flames early in life, proving the value of a good education, and in the process, hopefully, placing these amazing young men and women on a path that will ultimately lead to a career at SRS.”

*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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