

News from Savannah River National Laboratory

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SRNL Partners with AIChE and Georgia Tech in the New RAPID Institute

AIKEN, S.C. (Dec. 28, 2016) – The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) has played a leadership role in the development of RAPID, the Rapid Advancement in Process Intensification Deployment Institute.

A collaboration developed by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), SRNL and the Georgia Institute of Technology, RAPID is forming public-private partnerships to help meet the nation's manufacturing challenges. The AIChE RAPID partners include 75 companies, 34 academic institutions, seven national laboratories and other organizations, and they have committed to cost shares that leverage DOE's \$70 million contribution over five years with the total project spending exceeding \$140 million.

The institute will train engineers and technicians in the workforce, as well as undergraduate engineering students in the application of new modular process intensification tools. RAPID's goal is to increase efficiencies in chemical processes and lower the capital cost of facilities.

SRNL plans to work with other RAPID partners in a statewide partnership that includes Clemson University, University of South Carolina, Fluor Corporation and the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership (SCMEP) by conducting research and development in support of RAPID and serving in various leadership positions.



The RAPID Institute of AIChE was developed in cooperation with Savannah River National Laboratory and the Georgia Institute of Technology. T. Bond Calloway Jr. (pictured above), 2017 AIChE President and SRNL's Associate Laboratory Director for Clean Energy, will serve as a member in the governance committee, which provides oversight of the manufacturing institute for AIChE.



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The SCMEP plays a critical role in RAPID and will serve as the bridge between the medium and small businesses in the state and the RAPID Institute, South Carolina universities and SRNL. “This role recognizes SRNL’s continued growth on a national level while also bringing benefits to our federal customers as well as South Carolina and U.S. manufacturing,” said SRNL Laboratory Director Dr. Terry Michalske.

T. Bond Calloway Jr., 2017 AIChE President and SRNL’s Associate Laboratory Director for Clean Energy, will serve as a member in the governance committee, which provides oversight of the manufacturing institute for AIChE.

“SRNL has unique capabilities and expertise that will continue to aid in the success of RAPID,” said Calloway. “The partnership between AIChE, companies, academia and government is one that displays total commitment to support the chemical engineering community and our nation’s manufacturing needs. The RAPID institute will bring both innovation and talent to DOE Environmental Management and National Nuclear Security Administration missions.”

SRNL has more than 30 years of experience with modular chemical process intensification. Over the past three years, SRNL has led a national effort to highlight modular chemical process intensification as a method to transform the chemical industry and DOE’s nuclear chemical manufacturing facilities.

The RAPID Institute is a member of Manufacturing USA, a network of public-private partnerships that work towards securing the nation’s future through manufacturing, innovation, education and collaboration.

RAPID Video: <http://energy.gov/eere/videos/boosting-manufacturing-through-process-intensification>

The Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) is a multi-program applied research and development laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy. SRNL applies state-of-the-art science and engineering to provide practical, high-value, cost-effective solutions for our nation’s environmental cleanup, nuclear security and clean energy challenges. Visit us on the web at <http://srnl.doe.gov>

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