

Richard (Rich) Zaharek

Senior Vice President, Chief Engineer and Nuclear Safety Officer Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC

EDUCATION

United States Merchant Marine Academy Bachelor of Science, Marine Systems Engineering

University of New Haven
Master of Science, Engineering and Operations Management

EXPERIENCE

Richard (Rich) Zaharek is Senior Vice President, Chief Engineer and Nuclear Safety Officer for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS) near Aiken, South Carolina.

He is responsible for engineering management and systems engineering for SRNS, as well as nuclear and criticality safety, design and operations engineering.

Zaharek has more than 32 years of experience in nuclear operations, design, construction, testing and program management in the DOE complex and nuclear shippards. He most recently served as SRNS Engineering Director, Engineering Technical Services and was responsible for Fire Protection Engineering, Material Acquisition Engineering, Startup and Commissioning Engineering and Packaging & Transportation Engineering.

Prior to SRNS, Zaharek spent 28 years employed by Newport News Shipbuilding, Inc. (a subsidiary of HII, Inc.) delivering nuclear-powered submarines and aircraft carriers to the U.S. Navy as well as defueling/deactivation of nuclear prototype reactors at Idaho National Laboratory.

Zaharek currently serves on the Aiken County Family YMCA Board of Directors and supports several initiatives focused on wellness, education and economic development.

