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For Immediate Release

SRNS employees selected for Nuclear Weapons Management Orientation Course

AIKEN, S.C. – (April 2, 2025) – A trio of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) employees has been selected to participate in the prestigious Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Nuclear Weapons Management Orientation Course (NWMOC).

NWMOC is a well-known program in the Nuclear Security Enterprise (NSE). Entrance into the program is highly competitive with only 24 participants accepted each year. Half those spots are designated for SNL employees, while the remaining half are for other Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of Defense sites with a max of two participants per site.



Nuclear Weapons Management Orientation Course participants Andrew Walczak, Floyd Stanley and Jason Varble

Andrew Walczak, Machining Training Center/Weapons Support Building Operations Manager, completed the program at the end of March, part of the Class of 2025. “One of the largest takeaways from the course was a deeper understanding and pride for the Savannah River Site [SRS] mission,” he said. “Successful modernization of warheads and our entire deterrence program relies on the entirety of the Site’s National Nuclear Security Administration [NNSA] mission success. The NWMOC has supplied me

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with contacts and the knowledge of each DOE NNSA site's capabilities to progress our mission through collaboration.”

NWMOC provides accelerated nuclear weapon-related education and training to management, while offering professional networking opportunities with other participants from across the NSE. The course covers a variety of topics, from the history of nuclear weapons to nuclear deterrence systems. Participants attend courses via secure virtual teleconference.

Pit Production Operations and Programs Analytical Chemistry Manager Floyd Stanley and Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) Formal Design Review Services Manager Jason Varble have been selected for the NWMOC class of 2026, which begins in April and concludes in March 2026.

“Applying for NWMOC was an absolute no brainer,” said Stanley. “The opportunity to further my technical knowledge in this field with instructor-led deep dives, while making valuable connections with others pursuing the same goal, is exciting and just too good to pass up.”

Varble agreed, “The NWMOC is an opportunity to continue growing my knowledge of the NSE and share that knowledge with the SRPPF workforce to support and advance the SRS pit production mission.”

Leveraging connections formed at other Labs, Plants and Sites through programs like the NWMOC helps to enhance SRS defense program missions, according to Darlene Murdoch, SRNS Senior Vice President, NNSA Pit Production Operations and Programs. “We are proud of these employees for being accepted into the program, for furthering their knowledge of nuclear deterrence and for their service to the nation.”

SRPPF will support the U.S. nuclear stockpile by producing plutonium pits – components in a nuclear weapon – at the quantities needed to support military requirements using a two-site strategy with Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor and HII partnership company, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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