Internationally Recognized INPO Organization Provides Nuclear-Related Training for SRNS First Line Managers

AIKEN, S.C. – November 14, 2016 – The recognized leaders in nuclear operations and training, the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO), recently led a group of two dozen of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions’ (SRNS) managers and management candidates through a First-Line Leadership Essentials (FLLE) Seminar.

“The INPO organization chooses to work with and train the best of the best in the nuclear industry,” said Rhonda Whitley, SRNS Talent Management. “INPO is recognized worldwide, so this is a great opportunity for these first line managers who were hand-picked by their facility managers or vice presidents.”

The four-day, ten-hour a day training was packed with intensive instruction, networking opportunities, role playing scenarios, case studies and various exercises, all emphasizing the importance of leadership, integrity and communication in the role and responsibility of a first line manager.

According to Whitley, the level of support from the SRNS leadership team was evident with their daily visits and enthusiastic interaction with the students. The attending INPO instructors stated that they have never seen this level of commitment by an organization during previous training sessions across the nation.

“I have been very impressed with the quality of supervisors selected for this training,” said the
INPO seminar mentor Jim Glass, a maintenance manager at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station with 32 years of experience in the nuclear field. “Nuclear sites can’t afford to underestimate the importance of training and equipping our front line supervisors. There is no position in the nuclear industry that is more important and more critical to the safety and success of an organization. So, equipping your supervisors to be the best they can be and making their teams successful is very important.”

Janice Lawson, SRNS K and L Facility Manager and FLLE management sponsor, noted that SRNS is experiencing a lot of employee retirements, and this training is critical for the next group of first line managers. “In order to get it right in the field, we need to ensure the needs of our future leaders are being met. Even the senior first line managers attending this seminar acknowledge its high value,” added Lawson.

“INPO has great qualities concerning leadership and the teaching of their students to be managers,” said Dennis Bush, Operations Support, SRNS Site Utilities, a student at the event. “The instructors are extremely talented and polished, and the information is easy to assimilate. In fact, my intentions are to take what I’ve learned and disseminate it throughout our organization. The instruction was definitely value added, and the booklets they provided … ‘gold.’ It’s some of the best stuff I’ve seen.”

Bush further explained that INPO clearly illustrates the difference between a leader and a manager. A leader is someone who is going to inspire and motivate people, while managers simply manage a process. Bush believes this seminar does a great job of combining those aspects.

The Institute of Nuclear Power Operations mission is to promote the highest levels of safety and reliability – to promote excellence – in the operation of commercial nuclear power plants. These skills also apply to the high hazard nuclear work that is performed on a daily basis at the Savannah River Site.

_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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