



## As Summer Simmers, Stay Focused on Safety

By Kevin Smith, SRR Safety and Health Programs Manager

The onset of warmer weather unfortunately brought on some change in our SRR ARRA project safety performance. We had four injuries since the last newsletter and one of those was a broken finger. A quick summary of the cases:

- ◆ insect sting to the neck
- ◆ puncture to the foot from stepping on a protruding nail
- ◆ strain to the elbow while handling a half sheet of 3/4-inch plywood
- ◆ fractured finger while placing tube steel in a pipe stand

These injuries are a painful reminder that any of us can get hurt at any time performing any task. That's the reason we develop the habit of continuously asking ourselves, "how can I get hurt?" or "what could go wrong?" when we're performing any task. Keeping those thoughts in mind helps us stay on our toes and keeps us from getting complacent and thinking that injuries are things that happen to other people.

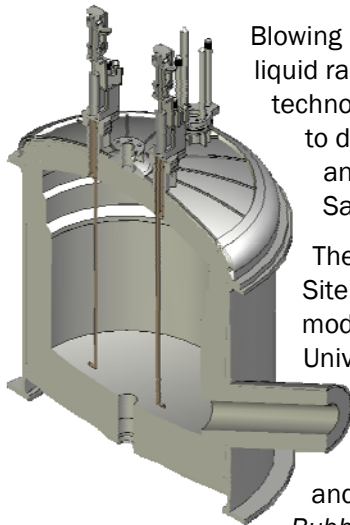
We also need to remember to be our "brother's/sister's keeper." We can do that by observing and correcting safety hazards that may arise in the work area, providing input into pre-job briefs and safety meetings, and by having safety discussions with each other during the course of work to identify at-risk behaviors and positively reinforce safe behaviors.

As the heat of summer sets in, use these safety tools to keep yourself and your co-workers injury-free.



## Blowing Bubbles

### Using Recovery Act Funds, SRS Looks to Apply Novel Solutions to Unique Challenges



Blowing bubbles is not usually associated with processing liquid radioactive waste. Nevertheless, new bubbler technology and other enhancements are soon expected to double the amount of radioactive waste processed annually at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS).

The bubbler technology, which will be used at the Site's Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF), was modified from existing technology by Catholic University's Vitreous State Laboratory (VSL) under contracts with SRS to improve DWPF melter performance. Its implementation and installation at SRS will be funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. *(More information on Blowing Bubbles can be accessed at [www.srremediation.com](http://www.srremediation.com).)*

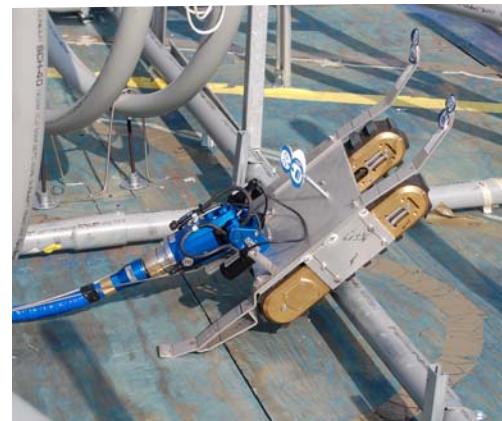
## 'Tizzy'

### Newest Robot to support SRS Waste Tank Closures

Theater-goers may have *Iron Man 2*, but the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS) has its own super hero called "Tizzy," a new tank-cleaning robot.

A throng of SRS onlookers including a film crew, photographers and other admirers watched as "Tizzy," a celebrity in its own right, recently debuted at SRS while readying for its mission of nuclear waste removal.

"Tizzy" and an older sibling, "Frankie," are nicknames for motorized robotic crawlers being used by Savannah River Remediation (SRR) LLC to assess and clean remaining waste material inside large underground liquid waste storage tanks at the DOE facility. *(More information on Tizzy can be accessed at [www.srremediation.com](http://www.srremediation.com).)*



For more information, contact the SRR-ARRA Public Affairs Department: John Lindsay at 208-6253, Timothy Cox at 208-6073, or log on to [www.SRRremediation.com](http://www.SRRremediation.com).

- ARRA - "The Stimulus" legislation
- \$6 Billion - Appropriated to U.S. Department of Energy
- \$1.615 Billion - Allocated to Savannah River Site to create jobs, jump start regional economy and accelerate environmental cleanup
- \$200 Million - Allocated to Savannah River Remediation LLC
- Focus on Liquid Waste Operations (DWPf, SWPF Interface, Tank Farms)

## Health Fair Visits SRR Facilities

### SRS and MCG Unite for Health Event

On April 22, SRR employees visited conference room 22 inside DWPf Operations Building (704-S) and participated in a Health Fair provided by the SRS Wellness Program, in conjunction with MCG Health, Inc. of Augusta.

Kaye Wingard, SRS Wellness Program Coordinator, administered the session that provided employees with screening opportunities while observing height, weight and body mass index; body fat analysis, blood glucose levels for diabetes screening, total cholesterol levels and blood-pressure readings for hypertension screenings.

Wingard called the session "vital for the health and safety of all SRS employees." She was equally encouraged by SRR employee participation.

Health Fairs at SRS can be scheduled within SRS work zones by contacting the SRS Wellness Program, located at 719-5N Medical.

Wingard can be reached at 557-4257 or access Sharon.wingard@srs.gov.



*Left to right:*  
Cynthia McConnell,  
Belinda Peebles,  
Kaye Wingard  
(SRS Wellness  
Program), JoAnn  
Kaminski, and  
Jenny Grimm.



## Dixon's Finance Skills Valued as SRR-ARRA Specialist

After 19 years of working at Savannah River Site, in January 2009, Ruth Ann Dixon retired.

Following a year of relaxing and enjoying family, she returned in February. Her proven accounting skills are being used to support the many American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects under way at Savannah River Remediation (SRR) LLC's Liquid Waste Operations.

"I came back after getting calls concerning SRR's need for experienced project controls professionals. It's good to be back," said the Burke County native.

Dixon now works as a Project Controls Specialist at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPf).

Bob Gilmartin, SRR's Central Project Controls Manager, has lasting memories of her work ethic.

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**"We're very lucky to have her  
back. She's a very hard worker."  
Bob Gilmartin**

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### OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL HOTLINE

Contact the hotline if you suspect Fraud, Waste, or Abuse involving DOE programs or by a DOE employee, contractor, or grant recipient.

Call **1-800-541-1625** or **202-586-4073**, e-mail [ighotline@hq.doe.gov](mailto:ighotline@hq.doe.gov), or write:

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Attn: Office of Inspector General Hotline**

**1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.**

**Washington, DC 20585**



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