News from Savannah River National Laboratory
We put science to work.™
A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL LABORATORY • OPERATED BY SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS, LLC

Principal Media Contact: Lindsey MonBarren
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC
803.952.8053
lindsey.monbarren@srs.gov

DOE Media Contact: Bill Taylor
803.952.8564
bill.taylor@srs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SRNL's F/H Analytical Laboratories Achieve International Standard Accreditation

AIKEN, S.C. Sept. 1, 2015-- Savannah River National Laboratory's F/H Analytical Laboratories have achieved ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation, which represents an independent validation of two analytical methods against a set of world-class specifications.

The accreditation was formally awarded by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation, a non-profit, non-governmental body that provides world-class accreditation services for testing and calibration laboratories.

"Becoming ISO/IEC 17025 accredited is not only a benefit to our customers on site, but it will also put SRNL in a better position to attract external business," said Curt Gardner, Director of Analytical Laboratories for SRNL. "It demonstrates F/H laboratories commitment to quality, and positions the laboratory as a provider of analytical services capable of meeting stringent international standards."

The F/H Analytical Laboratories have supported SRS operations for more than 60 years, providing high quality analytical, radiometric and environmental monitoring data to a range of SRS and external customers. The two analytical methods both relate to mass spectrometry analysis; mass spectrometry is an analytical chemistry technique the helps to determine the amount and type of a chemical present in a sample. The F/H Labs perform a wide range of analyses on both radiological and non-radiological samples for process control, product quality, environmental compliance, industrial hygiene, nuclear material accountability and nuclear criticality safety.

The Labs' quality, administrative and technical operations were evaluated against the ISO/IEC 17025 general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories international standard. The two methods included the inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS), which is used to detect metals and several non-metal impurities at concentrations as low as one part per trillion. The other method employs a thermal ionization mass

spectrometer (TIMS), which is a magnetic sensor mass spectrometer that is capable of making very precise measurements of isotope ratios of elements that can be thermally ionized, including isotopes of uranium and plutonium.

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is the world's largest developer of voluntary International Standards. The organization has published more than 19,500 international standards covering a broad range of aspects of technology and business.

SRNS2015 - 388