

ITR at Savannah River

**A Key Step in Developing
a Safe and Effective Path Forward
for SRS Tank 48**

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WM '07 - Tucson, Arizona



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The Problem

- Significant TPB contamination in Tank 48
- Hazardous in-tank condition:
 - TPB produces combustible gas (benzene)
- Tank needed to support HLW processing campaign
- Problem is over ten years old:
 - Resolution has been elusive



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Independent Technical Review (ITR)

- In Concept:
 - Broader base of available experience, expertise
 - A fresh look at the problem
- The Simple Objective:
 - Offer constructive HELP (not criticism)
 - Identify and illuminate a success path



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SRS ITR: Lessons Learned

1. Prior planning and agreement was very valuable
2. Small team size enhances effectiveness
3. Aggressive, well planned and managed schedule:
 - Yields a better product, faster and at lower cost



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Lessons Learned (continued)

4. LOIs:

- Need to be meaningful and flexible
- Engage the team in developing

5. Real-time assembly of report

- Structures and focuses the work
- Produces clearer output
- Simplifies review and concurrence

6. Open process yields benefits at the end



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Bottom Lines

- SRS process built on prior successes
- The ITR produced constructive input:
 - Validated main elements of WSRC approach
 - Pointed out areas warranting attention
- Overall, very successful:
 - Efficient, effective and very fast

The SRS approach merits consideration in other applications



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