

**For Immediate Release
November 13, 2020**

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WRPS named one of ‘America’s Safest Companies’

RICHLAND, Wash. – *EHS Today*, a leading national occupational health and safety publication, has named Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) as one of “America’s Safest Companies.” The designation recognizes companies that exemplify excellence in safety leadership and promote a world-class safety culture.

“Over the past 12 years, safety has been the hallmark of our outstanding performance record as the Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Tank Operations Contractor at Hanford,” said John Eschenberg, WRPS President and Chief Executive Officer. “We look out for each other and maintain a keen focus on safety requirements to ensure we all go home every day in the same healthy condition as when we arrived on the job.” It is because of this commitment that WRPS leads all contractors in the DOE-EM complex in safety performance over the past five years.

Winning organizations for the prestigious magazine award must demonstrate excellence in support from management and leadership, employee involvement in safety and health, and innovative solutions to safety challenges. They must also demonstrate illness and injury rates lower than the average for their industries, comprehensive training programs and evidence that prevention of incidents is the cornerstone of their safety process. Good communication about the value of safety is also required.

WRPS received many other significant safety awards in 2020, including the DOE Voluntary Protection Program’s Star of Excellence for the sixth consecutive year. It also received several awards from the National Safety Council, including the Industry Leader & Occupational Excellence award, the Safety Leadership award and the Community Advancement award. In addition, WRPS was recognized by the Council for One Million Safe Work Hours.

“The common theme among these awards is employee ownership and engagement throughout the entire company and in the community,” Eschenberg said. “As one of “America’s Safest Companies,” we are proud to be setting the standard for safety excellence in our industry.”

About WRPS

WRPS, a prime contractor to the DOE Office of River Protection, is responsible for the safe and efficient management of radioactive and hazardous wastes stored in Hanford’s underground tanks while preparing to deliver the waste to Hanford’s Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant for vitrification.