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## **WRPS president ‘Gets It’ when it comes to safety** *National Safety Council honors Eschenberg for protecting employees*

RICHLAND, Wash. – John Eschenberg, President and Chief Executive Officer of Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS), has been named as a “CEO Who Gets It,” an annual recognition presented by the National Safety Council to leaders who go above and beyond to protect employees both on and off the job.

“I am honored to receive this designation from the National Safety Council,” Eschenberg said. “I share this honor with the entire WRPS team – the men and women who work hard each day to ensure we maintain one of the most outstanding safety records in the entire Department of Energy complex while successfully accomplishing our critical mission. They deserve the credit.”

Each year, the National Safety Council selects an elite group of CEOs who have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to safety. [The list](#) includes CEOs from both national and international organizations. Each honoree has built his or her organization’s safety strategy using four key components: leadership and employee engagement, safety management solutions, risk reduction and performance measurement.

“These leaders understand that safety is the cornerstone of every world-class business,” said Lorraine M. Martin, President and CEO of the National Safety Council. “They have set a standard for their peers and colleagues, and we are proud to recognize their efforts.”

Eschenberg is among eight recipients of this prestigious award for 2021.

WRPS is an Amentum-led partnership with nearly 3,000 employees responsible for management, retrieval and treatment of 56 million gallons of radioactive and hazardous waste. The waste is part of Hanford’s legacy from the Manhattan Project and the Cold War – a legacy that helped end World War II and kept America safe and secure through the decades of unprecedented international tension that followed.

Over its 13-year contract, WRPS has maintained one of the best safety records in the DOE complex, while proudly flying the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s Voluntary Protection Program Star flag for its robust safety program. In addition to other awards and recognition in 2020, WRPS was recently named one of America’s safest companies by *EHS Today* magazine.

Eschenberg said the WRPS mission is extremely challenging, demanding the talents and experience of trained professionals and skilled crafts people represented by the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council and the Central Washington Building and Construction Trades Council.

“From chemical workers and electricians to laborers, pipefitters, millwrights, teamsters and steelworkers, the expertise of union crafts men and women is central to the safe and efficient execution of the tank cleanup mission,” Eschenberg said. “Our highly skilled workforce is dedicated to protecting each other and the environment, and achieving our Zero Accident policy.”

## **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 immobilization in glass, a process known as vitrification.