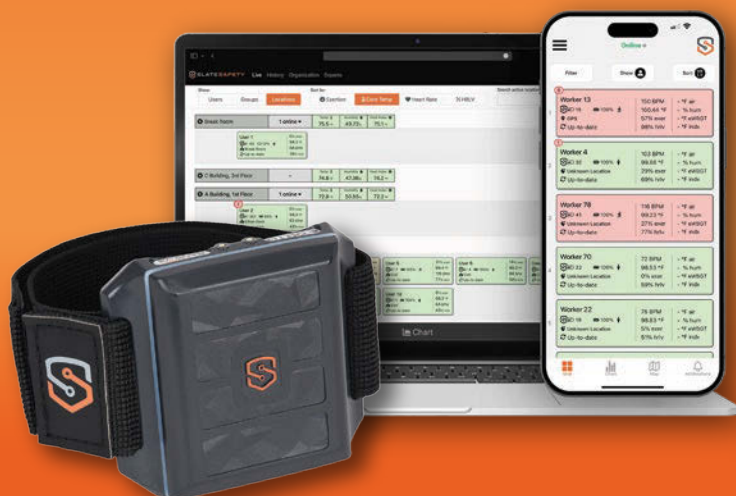


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DOE Contractor Introduces Tech to Eliminate Heat Stress Incidents

At nuclear waste cleanup organizations such as the Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) in Aiken, South Carolina, high outdoor temperatures and heavy PPE put workers at high risk for heat-related illnesses.

These range from mild heat exhaustion to life-threatening heat stroke, and symptoms can escalate quickly, sometimes with little warning. Because incidents posed such a threat to workers and slowed down production, safety leaders knew it was time to implement a modern, proactive solution.

Reactive vs. proactive safety

SRMC, a contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), manages liquid and radioactive waste cleanup at the Savannah River Site (SRS). There, summer temperatures consistently over 90°F are a serious risk for workers.

Traditional methods of monitoring for heat safety often rely on lagging indicators such as manually recording Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) readings and relying on workers to self-monitor for symptoms, which can often come on suddenly and unexpectedly.

The wearable tech difference

SRMC implemented the SlateSafety BAND V2, a physiological monitoring device worn on the upper arm that sends alerts in real-time. The device empowers safety professionals by offering instant insights on core temperature, exertion levels, and heart rate, alerting safety professionals via SMS when safety thresholds are passed.

Safety professionals at SRMC found there were zero heat-related incidents during monitored summer months. With SlateSafety, safety managers configured notifications

at specific thresholds to allow them to intervene immediately when one is passed. This gave crews the chance to pause, rest, and cool down before heat stress set in.

Commitment to worker safety

“Proactively safeguarding our workforce is at the core of our mission,” said Wes Bryan, SRMC senior vice president of environment, safety, health and quality, in an article on the SRMC website. “With updated metrics and expanded oversight capabilities, SRMC continues setting the standard for safety innovation, ensuring our employees continue to remain safe.”

SlateSafety was rolled out at SRMC in 2025, and in 2026, they have expanded the number of devices for workers at their site. For more information, visit: slatesafety.com/srmc.