

The logo for DOE NEWS. The letters 'DOE' are in a large, bold, blue serif font, and 'NEWS' is in a smaller, bold, blue serif font to its right. Above the 'DOE' text are several horizontal blue lines, resembling a ruler or a set of guidelines.

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**DOE ENGINEER CRAIG CHRISTENSON  
NAMED FEDERAL ENGINEER OF THE YEAR**

The National Society of Professional Engineers has named Craig Christenson as a federal engineer of the year for the U.S. Department of Energy. Christenson is a fire protection engineer for the DOE Office of River Protection at the Hanford Site in Washington state.

Christenson serves as DOE ORP's technical authority for fire protection engineering for Hanford's tank farms and the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant Project, the largest and most complex federal project currently under design and construction.

The multi-billion dollar WTP is being designed and built to treat millions of gallons of radioactive tank waste, a legacy of the Cold War plutonium production era. DOE, with Christenson's technical assistance, is implementing a number of defense in depth engineered control strategies designed to prevent, control, and reduce fire consequences by applied engineering fundamentals, fire hazard analyses and design of fire protection and prevention systems.

"Craig's technical expertise and experience has resulted in a number of unique and innovative applications," said DOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management James Rispoli. "His expertise is invaluable as we design and build the Waste Treatment Plant complex, an unprecedented nuclear facility for Hanford cleanup."

The Federal Engineer of the Year is selected by a panel of judges established by the NSPE. These judges consider engineering achievements, education, continuing

education, professional/technical society activities, NSPE membership, awards or honors, and civic and humanitarian activities.

To be eligible, an engineer must be employed by a federal agency with a minimum of 50 engineers. The employing federal agency nominates candidates. Christenson was nominated by DOE ORP Manager Shirley Olinger.

“Over the past seven years, Craig has continued to impress me with his technical expertise and professionalism,” said Olinger. “He is an invaluable member of our team at the Office of River Protection.”

The NSPE is the recognized voice and advocate of licensed Professional Engineers (PE). Founded in 1934, NSPE strengthens the engineering profession by promoting engineering licensure and ethics, enhancing the engineer image, advocating and protecting PE’s legal rights at the national and state levels, publishing professional news, and providing continuing education opportunities.

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