Mission Support Alliance Employee Honored as Washington State Fire Mechanic of 2019

RICHLAND, Wash. – Joshua Wright, an employee with Hanford Site contractor Mission Support Alliance (MSA), was recognized as the 2019 Washington State Fire Mechanic of the Year by the Washington Fire Chiefs Association.

Wright, a mechanic for MSA’s fleet services organization, received the award for providing quality service and ensuring Hanford’s firefighting equipment is in proper working order.

“Our fire mechanics are an important part of keeping the Hanford Fire Department ready for any emergency,” said Corey Low, DOE Richland Operations Office assistant manager for mission support. “Thank you, Joshua, for your hard work and exemplary support of the department and fleet services.”

Within the fleet services organization, Wright is recognized by his peers for his ability to identify a mechanical issue and resolve it efficiently.

“Joshua is a mentor to the other mechanics at the shop, showing them what it means to be innovative, motivated, and quality oriented,” said Dave Baie, MSA’s fleet services director. “That includes his drive for continued education above what is required, to ensure his knowledge and training are of the highest quality.”

The Hanford Fire Department is managed by MSA on behalf of the Department of Energy at the Hanford Site.

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Mission Support Alliance fire mechanic Joshua Wright, center, receives the 2019 Washington State Fire Mechanic of the Year award. Also pictured are the Hanford Fire Department's deputy fire chief Adam Moldovan, left, and battalion chief Mark Cope.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for the federal government’s cleanup of the legacy of more than 40 years of plutonium production at the Hanford Site near Richland, Wash. The DOE Office of River Protection (ORP) is responsible for the safe and efficient retrieval, treatment and disposal of the 56 million gallons of chemical and radioactive waste stored in Hanford’s 177 underground tanks. The River Protection Project is the largest and most complex environmental remediation project in the nation. ORP oversees the tank waste management mission and the building of the world’s largest radioactive waste treatment plant, which will immobilize the legacy tank waste through vitrification. The DOE Richland Operations Office is responsible for all remaining Hanford cleanup and is currently focused on demolishing the high-hazard Plutonium Finishing Plant, excavating and disposing of contaminated soil and waste, treating contaminated groundwater, moving radioactive sludge out of the K West Basin and away from the Columbia River, and configuring Hanford Site infrastructure for the future, with an emphasis on supporting the tank waste mission. The two offices oversee Hanford Site work that is conducted by a federal and contractor workforce of approximately 9,000 personnel. Visit www.hanford.gov for more information about Hanford Site.