TVA gets top-notch work from Southern Millwright crews

Southern States Millwright Regional Council

The Southern States Millwrights continue to provide their signature safe, precise and productive work for contractors hired by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for work on hydro, steam and nuclear plant turbines as well as outages.

For about the past eight years, Southern Millwrights have specifically excelled at the TVA’s Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, helping to turn a construction site into an operating plant while also achieving zero reportable safety incidents.

The Watts Bar Unit 2 is a $4.4 billion federal refurbishment project. Southern Millwrights from Local 1554 in Tennessee and 1192 in Alabama so far have logged about 200,000 man-hours under contractors Jochel and Williams Plant Services. Some of those millwrights work with the project’s Start Up Group, where they help to train machinists regarding fine-tuning pump alignments, polar crane refurbishment, and setting and calibrating motor-operated valve actuators.

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— Thomas E. Carson Jr., TVA

The millwrights’ performance in the Watts Bar Unit 2 Start Up Group was very good. They were dependable and could be counted on to perform any task given to them in a professional manner,” said Thomas E. Carson Jr., nuclear projects director for the TVA.

“The main scope of their work was on pump refurbishments, where many unforeseen challenges were discovered, ranging from internal damage to obsolete parts. Despite these issues, all of the work was completed before the pumps were needed to perform their tests. Overall, I was satisfied with their performance,” Carson added.

Southern States Millwright Regional Council (SSMRC) millwrights are known for their elite training, which expertly prepares apprentices and journeymen alike for any project. For the Watts Bar project, Southern Millwrights completed specialized training in radiation, motorized operated valve actuators and nuclear general employment.

Safety is a critical component of training, and the SSMRC ensures the knowledge level is maximized for confined space, disaster response, fall protection, MSDS, OSHA 10 and OSHA 30, ergonomics, bloodborne pathogens, first aid, CPR and automated external defibrillation.

“Our professionals are meeting and exceeding their goal to work in cooperation with TVA and the other building trades to finish this project safely and with the quality our customer expects,” said SSMRC’s Executive Secretary-Treasurer Wayne Jennings. For more information, visit www.southernstatesmillwrights.org or call (479) 967-0639.

Adding Fuel to the Fire

Precision and productivity is the standard work product delivered to the Oil and Gas Industry by Southern States Millwrights every day.

Hiring a contractor who employs Southern States Millwrights means:

Productivity—our skills and experience keep your project on time and on budget

Competitiveness—tailor-made contracts and work schedules meet your project’s specifications

Reliability—disciplined crews arrive where, when and for as long as they’re needed

Accuracy—certified specialists are trained in the latest products and techniques

Safety—intense safety training helps create the safest possible work site

Leadership—foreman and superintendent training is available for solid jobsite leadership

Professionalism—union staff members are dedicated to making the project a success

We are trained, certified, qualified and ready for:

- rigging and signaling
- aerial lift
- machinery alignment
- optical alignment

Special attention to safety

A safe work site is achieved only by comprehensive training for every millwright on every project. Our members must achieve mastery in skills such as:

- Fall arrest
- Worker safety
- Hazardous waste worker safety
- Blood-borne pathogens
- Cardio pulmonary resuscitation
- Ergonomics

Your Goal is our goal

Visit SouthernStatesMillwrights.org. See how fast and how well we can service your needs.

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Our certified riggers and signalers are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. The certification exceeds all requirements for riggers and signalers in the USA and Canada.