SAFETY AWARDS 2020

Legacy Award Winner, Farrukh Siddiqi keeps Ontario Power Generation plant safe

At Ontario Power Generation's (OPG) nuclear facility in Darlington, Ontario, there are over 950 pressure vessels with thousands of pressure relief valves. Diligent inspection of these vessels is a top safety priority.

One of the people responsible for ensuring the facility's pressure boundary and pressure vessels operate in compliance with relevant Canadian codes and standards is Farrukh Siddiqi, Pressure Boundary and Pressure Vessel Specialist. Farrukh has been in this role at OPG since 2002, and is a subject matter expert.

Proud to win the 2020 TSSA Legacy Award, Farrukh says being part of a team responsible for pressure vessel safety at one of the best performing nuclear plants in the world is an honour and also a huge responsibility. "It takes everyone working together to run the plant safely for our employees and the public."

In his day-to-day work, Farrukh provides support to various teams across the plant including Maintenance, Plant Design, Procurement Engineering, Supply Chain, Performance Engineering, Nuclear Refurbishment and Inspection, and Reactor Innovation. In his pressure boundary specialist role, he has certified thousands of Pressure Boundary Inspection and Test Plans, ensuring the scope of repair, replacement and modification meets the requirements of codes and procedures. A key point of contact internally, he also interacts daily with TSSA's on-site inspector. "My job is to ensure the plant is ready for TSSA to perform inspections and that maintenance is completed to code to pass those inspections." Since 2004, with leadership from Farrukh, the Darlington plant has successfully achieved TSSA's Pressure Boundary Certificate of Authorization six times.

Safety is a top priority in OPG and so is continuous improvement. When Farrukh has identified opportunities for improvement, he has ensured they get implemented. For example, when he saw an opportunity to increase operating pressure on the system, he ensured it was re-registered with TSSA for the higher pressure. This re-registration involved inspections and pressure testing of the piping and pressure vessels.

"It's important to make these incremental improvements, and exceed industry standards where we can, especially if it means the system can operate more efficiently and safely."

It's also important to start each day with a safety mindset – and to begin a career specializing in pressure boundaries with a solid foundation in safety best practices. In true winning style, Farrukh has been a generous mentor when it comes to transferring his knowledge of pressure vessels and pressure boundaries to new graduates and co-op students. One more reason why TSSA finds him so deserving of the 2020 Legacy Safety Award.