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## Virginia Tech Staff Employee of the Week

July 18, 2005

**Name:** Byron Nichols

**Job Title:** Power Plant Superintendent

**Employee's Home Department:** Power Plant

**Employee's College or VP Area:** Vice President for Business Affairs

**Nominated For:** President's Award for Excellence and Governor's Award for Workplace Safety

**Nominated By:** Phillip Fincher, Interim Co-Director, EHSS

**Virginia Tech Hire Date:** May 1, 1991



### Summary

Bryon Nichols has been with the University for 18 years; nevertheless, the last 13 years have been in his current position of Power Plant Superintendent. Bryon is responsible for supervising all operations employees in the operation of coal, gas and oil, fired boilers and auxiliary equipment. He is also responsible for the steam turbine generation operation and all associated plant equipment. These responsibilities require Bryon to stay abreast of the federal, state and local regulations. Bryon willingly accepts this challenge and relays pertinent information to university employees and departments.

Bryon has worked diligently to improve the safety procedures of the power plant. He developed and implemented the power plant's confined space entry program. This program is used as a model for EHSS and other groups around campus. "His efforts have earned him the respect of his employees as well as those in other departments that have worked with Bryon." (Rodney Altizer, Building & Grounds Director).

Bryon is the recipient of the 2004 Virginia Tech President's Award and the 2004 Governor's Award for Workplace & Safety.

About the ["Staff Employee of the Week"](#) Program

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