



# PRESS RELEASE

## U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY **Deseret Chemical Depot**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **FACILITY RESUMES CHEMICAL AGENT DISPOSAL OPERATIONS**

**DESERET CHEMICAL DEPOT, STOCKTON, Utah** – Workers at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) today began using specially-designed cutting equipment to assist destruction of Deseret Chemical Depot's (DCD's) remaining explosively configured chemical weapons.

The remaining mustard agent-filled 4.2 inch mortar cartridges and 155-millimeter projectiles, currently sealed in larger, air-tight containers, will be processed utilizing a modified disposal process and specially designed equipment that allows TOCDF operators to access the munitions and safely remove explosive components for destruction. Plant furnace systems will destroy the chemical agent and explosive components and decontaminate munition casings for permitted disposal.

A secondary system, which is a type of explosive destruction technology, is scheduled to destroy those mustard projectiles which have sustained the greatest degree of deterioration. This system is referred to by its acronym, DAVINCH, which stands for Destruction of Ammunition in a Vacuum Integrated Chamber. Preparations for DAVINCH operations are ongoing, with destruction operations expected to begin late this year.

These two separate systems will jointly destroy the remaining stockpile of mustard rounds in an effort to meet the international treaty deadline of April 29, 2012.

Disposal operations for the depot's remaining small stockpile of Lewisite blister and GA nerve agents, using the Area Ten Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC), are scheduled to begin later this year. The entire DCD chemical weapons stockpile is expected to be safely eliminated by early 2012.

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