

Salty mess in MPF components



During processing in the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) on March 22, operators noticed occasional fluctuations in pressure. Because of the abnormal condition, the decision was made to shut down the furnace manually and investigate why its performance was being hampered rather than keep processing and have a forced automatic shutdown.

What UMCD/UMCDF personnel found was a thick column of salt built up inside the MPF Venturi (above), a component of the Pollution Abatement System (PAS) that removes particulate matter and acid gases from quenched furnace exhaust. Salt also was found in the crossover duct between the Venturi and quench tower. The total weight of the salt removed was about 2,750 lbs.

Once the material was safely removed, the furnace was restarted and processing resumed on March 28.



UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 264 days since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCD/UMCDF (July 7, 2006).
- 155mm GB projectile processing reached the 25 percent completion mark on March 19.
- Chemical agent destruction reached 900 nominal tons during processing on March 20.
- The facility processed 720 projectiles on March 28, a facility record for single-day processing.

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing

(March 15 - 28, 2007)

Total number GB-filled 155mm projectiles processed this period	3,328
Total number GB-filled 155mm projectiles processed to date	13,615
Percentage of total GB projectiles processed to date	28.7
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 8, 2004)	121,752
Total pounds of GB chemical agent destroyed this period	17,296
Nominal tons of GB chemical agent destroyed to date	901.84
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	24.26

UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- **Feb. 1, 2007:** Processed the first GB 155mm projectiles through the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF).
- **Jan. 25, 2007:** Began the GB 155mm projectile campaign with delivery of munitions from depot storage to the disposal facility.
- **Jan. 3, 2007:** Completed the GB 8-inch projectile campaign.
- **Nov. 6, 2006:** Processed the 100,000th munition stockpiled at Umatilla.
- **Sept. 28, 2006:** Began GB M426 8-inch projectile campaign.
- **Aug. 9, 2006:** Completed GB M55 rocket campaign.

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