



CMA NEWS

May 2007

CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.,** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) has decontaminated and disassembled its rocket handling equipment. Preparations of the projectile handling equipment also are under way to process the VX-filled 155 mm artillery shells. With changeover activities nearing completion, preparations are being made to begin delivering stored projectiles to the ANCDF for the next phase of safe chemical munitions disposal operations, which could begin before the end of May.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah,** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) received approval from the Utah Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste to increase the mustard agent and spent decontamination feed to the Liquid Incinerator (LIC) from 75 to 100 percent of the rate demonstrated during the trial burn. TOCDF is now processing at full rate in both the LIC and Metal Parts Furnace.
- **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.,** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility destroyed more than half of the VX stored at the depot. (For more information, see accompanying article.)
- **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.,** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) destroyed the last GB-filled chemical weapon on May 19. The original inventory of GB-filled weapons included 90,409 rockets and two ton containers. The next disposal campaign will be VX-filled M55 rockets with an estimated start date this fall. The PBCDF will be in an outage for maintenance and changeover of the facility equipment.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.,** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) processed 10,526 GB 155 mm projectiles last month and expects to finish all GB agent processing this summer. The Umatilla Chemical Depot has a Mustard Igloo Temperature Conditioning System for testing and training purposes. The units warm igloos containing mustard agent during cold weather. Mustard, which freezes at about 58 degrees Fahrenheit, must be warmed for sampling and processing. The UMCDF will complete both GB and VX agent processing before it begins its final campaign of mustard agent disposal.
- **Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project** Explosive Destruction System at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark., has destroyed 50 percent of the recovered chemical warfare munitions stored at the arsenal. Also at Pine Bluff Arsenal, the German Traktor rocket motor/warhead separation program is approximately 20 percent complete, and the Ton Container Decontamination Facility is modifying its decontamination process and developing equipment for an August start-up.

EPA ACCEPTS ANCDF INTO PERFORMANCE TRACK PROGRAM

The Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) received recognition for its environmental program from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and was presented with a flag to display as part of the honor on April 25.

The disposal facility, operated by Westinghouse Anniston, a division of Washington Group International, was accepted into the EPA's National Environmental Performance Track program in February with the formal recognition taking place in April. The program sets a standard for participating members to achieve before acceptance and requires them to set future environmental performance improvements.

The criteria for being accepted into the Performance Track program include the following: an environmental management system in place; a record of sustained compliance; two past environmental achievements; four commitments to future environmental improvement to be achieved within the three years of membership; commitment to and involvement in community outreach; and annual performance reporting.

The ANCDF's past two accomplishments included the installation of a Pollution Abatement System that removes particulates and other material in the off-gases from three furnaces and implementation of a recycling program for scrap metal from projectiles and for lead acid batteries.

"The Anniston team worked very hard to reach this level of recognition from the EPA. We are honored to be part of such a significant accomplishment," said Timothy Garrett, ANCDF Government Site Project Manager.

The EPA started the Performance Track program to recognize and reward businesses and public facilities for demonstrating strong environmental performance beyond current regulatory requirements. Performance Track will encourage ANCDF to continuously improve its environmental performance and to work closely with their community and employees.

ANCDF earned the national environmental recognition while safely destroying all 142,428 GB munitions and 96,246 gallons of GB nerve agent and then safely eliminating 35,662 VX-filled M55 rockets and warheads containing more than 41,056 gallons of VX.

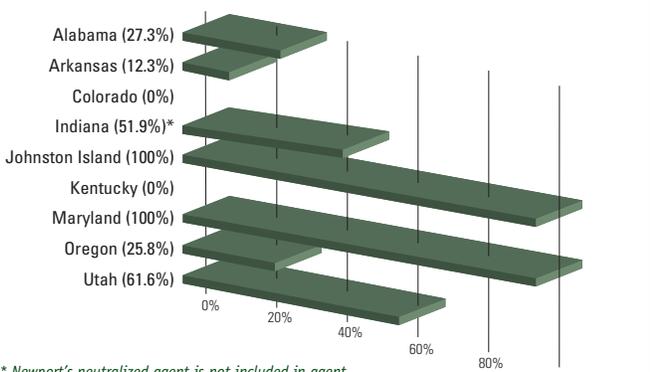
For future accomplishments, ANCDF will vary methods of processing for the mustard campaign, install an Ion Exchange Resin System to remove processing waste material from brine water and establish an oil- and lubricant-consolidation program and a paper recycling program.



Those participating in the flag presentation and raising ceremonies included, left to right, ANCDF Site Project Manager Tim Garrett, Westinghouse Anniston Project Manager Bob Love, EPA Region IV representative Reginald Barrino, ANCDF Environmental Compliance Manager Ralph Nolte, Alabama Department of Environmental Compliance representative Edwin Johnston and Washington Group International representative Craig Beck.

CMA - CREATING A SAFER TOMORROW

42.6 PERCENT OF U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED
(as of May 13 measured by original agent tonnage since entry into force - 29 April 1997)



* Newport's neutralized agent is not included in agent destruction totals until the hydrolysate is drained from its intermodal containers at Veolia Environmental Services.



PBCDF CELEBRATES 9 MILLION SAFE HOURS

On May 9, having safely destroyed approximately 3,850 tons of chemical weapons, the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) achieved the safety milestone of 9 million consecutive man hours without any lost days due to injuries.

"This is such a great accomplishment," said David Reber, Washington Group project General Manager. "Our employees have a mindset of safety and they demonstrate it daily through their work of safely eliminating the stockpile at the Pine Bluff Arsenal."

The safety record began March 2, 2002, and spans 1,894 consecutive days without a lost day from work injury. This safety milestone is equivalent to a person working eight hours a day for more than 3,082 years without experiencing this type of injury.

PBCDF Site Project Manager Mark Greer added, "We are extremely proud of this milestone and we will continue through disposal operations in the same safe and deliberate manner."

PBCDF employs more than 700 workers and subcontractors who are constantly focused on safety for themselves, their co-workers, and the environment.

NSCMP WET AIR OXIDATION PROCESS SUCCESSFULLY DESTROYS QL NEUTRALENT

The Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project, a division of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, finished processing all of the QL neutralent wastewater at the Wet Air Oxidation (WAO) facility located in Texas on April 27. QL, or diisopropyl aminoethylmethyl phosphonite, was a chemical intended for binary chemical munitions.

The U.S. Army developed binary chemical munitions in the 1980s to provide the United States with a modern chemical weapons capability. Binary chemical munitions were designed to make a chemical agent by combining two non-lethal chemicals inside a munition while in flight to a target.

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), an international treaty signed by the United States requiring the destruction of chemical weapons, mandated the destruction of the binary chemicals QL and DF or methylphosphonic difluoride. Accordingly, the U.S. Army destroyed these chemicals using a process known as chemical neutralization. Following the neutralization of the QL and DF, the neutralent wastewater was shipped to the Texas Molecular treatment, storage and disposal facility in Deer Park, Texas.

Prior to disposal, a final treatment step was needed to destroy breakdown products in the neutralent that were still subject to CWC requirements. This step was conducted at a WAO unit built for the U.S. Army by Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure, the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project waste management contractor. After being processed through the WAO facility, the resultant water was disposed of through deep well injection.

Operations to process the DF neutralent wastewater started May 4, and should be complete by the end of 2007.

NECDF REACHES 50 PERCENT DESTRUCTION MILESTONE

The Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) safely reached the 50 percent destruction milestone of its VX stockpile on April 26. Neutralization operations at the NECDF began in May 2005 and the byproduct or caustic wastewater, known as hydrolysate, is now being shipped to Veolia Environmental Services in Port Arthur, Texas. Once the hydrolysate is off loaded from the intermodal containers, it goes into the mixing tanks, it is credited towards the Chemical Weapons Convention agent destruction totals. NECDF's original stockpile of slightly more than 1,269 tons of agent comprised approximately 4 percent of the original United States stockpile.



A member of the Parsons NECDF analytical team conducts lab analysis in their on-site laboratory.



A stacker operator safely maneuvers an intermodal container filled with hydrolysate in preparation for transportation. The intermodal containers are stored in the intermodal container storage area, awaiting further treatment.