

VX rocket campaign ends



Members of UMCDF Operations "A" crew pose with the final VX rocket to be processed in the Umatilla Chemical Depot stockpile. From left to right are: Nicholas Hiatt, Ron Bazzel, David Nahol, Jesse Adams, Nick Colborn, Paul Foes, Jimmy Reynolds and Del Holden.

Third VX munitions campaign completed

Workers at the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) safely destroyed the last of 14,519 M55 VX nerve agent rockets and warheads at about 5 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 23. The rockets were the last self-propelled chemical munitions in the Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) stockpile.

"This is a true team accomplishment," said Don Barclay, site project manager for the Army. "The Army and its contractors worked many years to reduce the risk of chemical munitions and reach this important milestone. Our community is just that much safer now."

"The most important accomplishment was to reach this milestone safely and in compliance with all environmental requirements," said Doug Hamrick, project general manager for URS Washington Division, the company that built and operates the disposal plant for the Army.

"I'm proud of our dedicated storage workers, who have safely moved more than 170 thousand munitions to the disposal plant without incident or accident," said Lt. Col. Bob Stein, depot commander.

Other completed VX campaigns include spray tanks and a non-stockpile ton container.

UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 565 days, or more than 2.5 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCD (July 7, 2006).

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (Jan. 17 - 23, 2008)

Total number of VX-filled rockets destroyed this period	2,109
Total VX-filled rockets destroyed to date	14,519
Percentage of VX rockets destroyed to date	100
CAMPAIGN COMPLETE	
Total number of VX-filled spray tanks destroyed this period	156
Total VX-filled spray tanks destroyed	156
Percentage of VX-filled spray tanks destroyed	100
CAMPAIGN COMPLETE	
Pounds of VX agent destroyed this period	18,483
Pounds of total VX agent destroyed to date	350,705
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers	170,219
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date (stockpile only)	1,192.37
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	32.08

UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- Jan. 23, 2008:** Destroyed the last VX rocket in the depot arsenal.
- Dec. 24, 2007:** Destroyed the last VX spray tank in the depot and U.S. arsenal.
- Nov. 26, 2007:** Processed the non-stockpile VX ton container.
- Nov. 23, 2007:** Destroyed the first VX spray tanks in the MPF.
- Nov. 19, 2007:** First VX spray tank transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- Nov. 9, 2007:** First VX chemical agent destroyed in the Liquid Incinerator (LIC).
- Oct. 29, 2007:** Processed the first VX M55 rockets in the Deactivation Furnace System (DFS).
- Oct. 26, 2007:** First VX M55 rockets transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- July 8, 2007:** Completed GB munitions campaign.

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