

### VX 155mm projectile campaign ends



Members of Team Umatilla pose with the last VX 155mm projectile in the depot's stockpile before it is loaded into a tray for processing June 27.

The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) safely completed its 155mm VX nerve agent artillery projectile campaign June 27. The last of 32,313 VX artillery projectiles was destroyed at about 11 p.m. in the plant's Metal Parts Furnace (MPF). The campaign started with the first movement of munitions on March 20, and it was completed ahead of schedule.

"We're pleased to complete another individual munitions disposal campaign in our mission to eliminate all chemical weapons stored at the depot," said Mike Strong, the Army's site project manager at Umatilla. "As we move forward, safety will continue to drive our program, and we're dedicated to remaining compliant with all environmental requirements."

The UMCDF will now reconfigure or "change over" from 155mm to 8-inch projectiles processing. It should take about a month to reconfigure portions of the plant to begin processing this different size projectile. Workers at the plant previously disposed of GB (sarin)-filled 8-inch diameter artillery projectiles or "shells" during a campaign last year.

"Our priority is the safety of our employees, the community and the environment, whether we are processing munitions or in changeover," said Doug Hamrick, project general manager for Washington Defense Group of URS Corporation's EG&G Division. Washington Defense Group built and operates the disposal plant for the Army. "We are pleased with the progress and will continue our careful and deliberate work to finish the job."

### UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 726 days, or more than 3.8 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

#### Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (June 26 - July 2, 2008)

Total number of VX-filled 155mm projectiles destroyed this period	<b>1,506</b>
Total VX projectiles destroyed to date	<b>32,313</b>
Percentage of VX projectiles destroyed to date	<b>93.8</b>
Pounds of VX agent destroyed this period	<b>13,581</b>
Pounds of total VX agent destroyed to date	<b>555,178</b>
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) <i>including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers</i>	<b>202,533</b>
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date	<b>1,289.31</b>
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	<b>34.68</b>

#### UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- June 27, 2008:** Destroyed last VX 155mm projectile in the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF).
- June 24, 2008:** Received last VX 155mm projectiles from depot chemical storage.
- March 21, 2008:** Destroyed first VX 155mm projectile in the MPF.
- March 20, 2008:** First VX 155mm projectiles transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- Jan. 23, 2008:** Completed VX rocket campaign.
- Dec. 24, 2007:** Completed VX spray tank campaign.
- 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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