



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of May 20, 2009:

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) is scheduled to begin mustard-filled munition demilitarization in June. The past five to six months included changeover activities that will culminate in an operational review. In May, Anniston hosted a Colorado delegation that observed the Linear Projectile Mortar Disassembly (LPMD) machine. The LPMD, robotic technology adapted to safely remove the explosive components of mustard-filled munitions, is undergoing systemization for munitions testing and data collection. When operational, ANCDF personnel will use the LPMD to remove components (fuzes, burster cups and bursters) from mustard-filled 155mm projectiles, 105mm projectiles, and 4.2-inch mortars. Operational reliability and maintenance data will be collected over the next year. Documented experiences and lessons learned will be shared with Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant team members as they prepare for chemical demilitarization operations using an LPMD.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) workers marked a major industrial safety milestone on April 27 – reaching and surpassing seven million consecutive man-hours without a lost workday injury. TOCDF workers have safely disposed of the following mustard-agent filled munitions: 3,484 ton containers, 54,453 155mm projectiles and 336 4.2-inch mortars. Mustard operations began in August 2006.
- **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.:** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility workers continue closure operations. After a shut down at the Drum Repack Facility, workers completed an operational readiness review and safely restarted closure operations on May 8. In the Utility Building, removal of caustic skids is nearly complete. Several proposals for facility demolition are being evaluated.
- **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility received approval from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to increase post mustard agent trial burn feed rates from 50 to 75 percent of the permitted maximum for each furnace. This was achieved after software modifications for conversion to the 75 percent feed rates were completed for both the Liquid Incinerator and the Metal Parts Furnace and ton containers are currently being processed at this rate.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) continues a lengthy changeover from VX to mustard agent (HD), their final campaign. Bob Dikeman became URS EG&G Division's project general manager on May 1. Dikeman came to the UMCDF from Anniston in December 2004 as deputy plant manager and was promoted to plant manager in November 2006. He replaces Doug Hamrick, who retired after working 40 years in chemical demilitarization and nuclear operations. Hamrick began work as UMCDF project general manager in late 2002.

CMA Participates in International Chemical Weapons Demilitarisation Conference

On May 18-21, 2009, representatives from the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) took part in the 12th International Chemical Weapons Demilitarisation (CWD) conference in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, United Kingdom. They were joined by associates from other U.S. government agencies and countries and corporate organizations from around the world.

The conference, designed to promote cooperation between governments, organizations, industry, non-governmental organizations and world research communities, allowed these groups to address problems associated with chemical weapons disposal and focus on potential technical and practical solutions.

CMA was well-represented at the conference with a site and headquarters delegation led by Conrad F. Whyne, CMA Director. Representing CMA in presentations this year in addition to Whyne were Laurence Gottschalk (Project Manager for Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel (PMNSCM)), Tim Garrett (Site Project Manager, Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility), Steve Bird (NSCMP), Ted Ryba (Site Project Manager, Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility), Gary McCloskey (Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility), Richard Eichholtz (Chemical Stockpile Elimination (CSE)), Jeff Kiley (Risk Management Directorate) and Greg Mahall (Public Affairs).

Whyne gave an overall state of CMA disposal operations update. Gottschalk presented the NSCMP program update while Bird discussed the specifics of NSCMP's Explosive Destruction System (EDS) project in Arkansas with his briefing, "Pine Bluff Explosive Destruction System (PBEDS)." Garrett presented two briefings: "Challenge with VX Nerve Agent Landmine Processing at Anniston, Alabama" and "Challenges Associated with Metal Parts Furnace Carbon Testing at Anniston, Alabama." Ryba presented "Distilled Mustard Heels and the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Heel Transfer System," and McCloskey briefed "A Background of Ton Container Processing Feed: Mercury Management at the U.S. Baseline Chemical Weapons Disposal Facility."

Eichholtz presented, "Investigation of Sulphur-Impregnated Carbon for Mercury Abatement in Chemical Weapons Incinerators" and "Mercury in the U.S. Mustard Stockpile – Using History and Numerical Modeling to Understand Where It Came From and Predict Where It Is." Kiley discussed secondary waste and closure with his presentations, "Monitoring Concepts for Site Closure" and "Bounding Transportation Risk Assessment for Agent-Contaminated Secondary Waste."

Mahall briefed conference attendees on CMA's lessons learned regarding the Newport Chemical Depot VX wastewater Shipments. His briefing was titled, "Capitalizing on Commercial Capabilities, VX Neutralization Wastewater." This was an opportunity for CMA Public Affairs to share their expertise and experience in dealing with the successful shipment of Newport-related VX hydrolysate through interstate shipments in the face of numerous challenges.

"At this year's conference, we received positive feedback once again from our international stakeholders. It was a great opportunity to communicate with them on how CMA has overcome some challenging situations concerning VX wastewater disposal," Mahall said. "It's always interesting to garner feedback from our international colleagues in the chemical weapons disposal industry. We look forward to participating each year."

Other presenters related to the U.S. chemical weapons disposal program included Kevin Flamm, Program Manager for the U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives Program (ACWA). Flamm presented an update on the ACWA program.

By sharing their knowledge and expertise at this year's CWD conference, CMA publicly reaffirmed their commitment to keeping stakeholders informed of CMA's program status, missions and milestones and to completing those missions safely and on schedule.

TOCDF Earns Twin VPP "Star" Status Awards

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency's Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) employees recently received the highest work place safety recognition, "Star" status under the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP).

EG&G Defense Materials, Inc., a subsidiary of URS Corporation's EG&G Division, is the Army's prime contractor at the TOCDF. Battelle Memorial Institute is EG&G's analytical laboratory and air monitoring subcontractor. Both EG&G and Battelle had filed separate applications with OSHA, seeking VPP consideration and both contractors were awarded status at the highest "Star" level.

Gary McCloskey, EG&G vice president and TOCDF general manager, said, "This is a tremendous accomplishment for our workers, both EG&G's and Battelle's. They led this initiative and worked with management, not only putting the many pieces into place to prevent accidents and injuries at a high-hazard work site, but also building a culture of safety excellence here. OSHA recognition of the TOCDF as a VPP Star site is a welcome validation of our efforts and commitment to a safe work place."



CMA's Jeffrey Kiley Receives Dellamonica Award

Jeff Kiley, a chemist for the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA), was recently honored as one of the ten top U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) employees of 2008. Kiley received the Louis Dellamonica award for outstanding AMC personnel.

"I am greatly honored. To be recognized as one of the best employees out of 60,000 AMC employees is a career milestone that will be difficult to exceed," said Kiley. He added, "This award also is a reflection on the outstanding work done by the CMA team as a whole in speeding the destruction of the chemical stockpile. This award recognized me individually, but the work was truly a team effort."

Kiley works in the Quality Office of the Risk Management Directorate which provides oversight to ensure that CMA is in compliance with governing public laws, army regulations, interagency agreements and policies at higher headquarters. Kiley is a subject matter expert in areas related to quality, operations, secondary waste and closure. He was nominated for the award by his supervisor.

As this year's recipients, AMC selected employees who stood out as model employees. The award, formerly called the "Ten Outstanding Personnel of the Year," was renamed in honor of Louis Dellamonica, a general engineer with AMC's Hawthorne Army Depot. Dellamonica was both the oldest and longest-serving Department of Defense employee before retiring in January 2007, at the age of 94 with more than 65 years of service.

"These employees competed against other AMC employees for this coveted honor – they are truly the best of the best," said Ann Conyers, chief of AMC's field support division, G-1.



CSM Jeffrey J. Mellinger, U.S. Army Materiel Command, Command Sergeant Major; Gen Ann E. Dunwoody, U.S. Army Materiel Command, Commanding General; Jeffrey Kiley

NSCMP Completes Successful SCANS Mission at Redstone Arsenal

On May 17, the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) completed the safe destruction of Chemical Agent Identification Sets (CAIS) that were recovered during an environmental monitoring effort at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

The recovered CAIS had been overpacked in large steel containers known as "PIGs." Prior to the destruction operation, X-rays taken indicated that the 34 CAIS items, all K941 bottles, contained various amounts of residual mustard.

CAIS are small ampoules, bottles or vials that were once used to train Soldiers in the safe handling and identification of chemical agent. After outliving their usefulness, CAIS often were buried, which was an approved and accepted disposal method until the 1970s. The NSCMP team, which included operators from the 20th Support Command's CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosives) Analytical and Remediation Activity, removed the overpack containers from the bunker where the items had been securely stored since recovered in 1994.

"Our operators and technology exemplify U.S. Army excellence," said Gary Hlavsa, operations lead from NSCMP's Emergency Response Group. "The onsite command center kept us in constant contact with headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and the professionalism of the crew ensured our mission's success."

The team used Single CAIS Access and Neutralization Systems (SCANS) to treat the items containing liquid agent. SCANS, a hand-held, self-contained system specifically designed to treat recovered CAIS, has been used at several military installations to neutralize recovered CAIS.

After treatment, the SCANS were overpacked in a Department of Transportation (DOT) approved transport containers. They will be shipped to a permitted facility for final treatment and disposal of the entire SCANS container and its waste contents.

CMA gets new Senior Enlisted Advisor



Sergeant Major Ricardo Soto-Acevedo

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) welcomes Sergeant Major (Sgt. Maj.) Ricardo Soto-Acevedo as the new senior enlisted advisor, taking the reins from Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Graham as of April 2009.

A native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Soto-Acevedo has more than two decades of military experience since he first enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1984. His military education includes the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, First Sergeant and Battle Staff courses and basic and advanced

noncommissioned officer courses. Soto-Acevedo is a certified counterproliferation instructor through the Department of Defense, the FBI and the U.S. Customs Service. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park with a B.A. in International Relations and is pursuing a Masters in Homeland Security.

No stranger to Maryland, Soto-Acevedo has worked in various capacities at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), both at Edgewood and Aberdeen. His most recent assignment was Detachment Sergeant, U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, Edgewood, Md. Previous assignments included: First Sergeant U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit, Edgewood, Md.; G-3 Sgt. Maj., Soldier, Biological and Chemical Command, Edgewood, Md.; S-3 Sgt. Maj., U.S. Army Guardian Brigade, APG, Md. and Operations Sgt. Maj., 20th Support Command, APG.

In his role, Soto-Acevedo works with employees within CMA to assist with any issues or concerns that arise. He is a personal advisor to CMA's Director, Conrad Whyne.