

Depot wins Army safety award

The Umatilla Chemical Depot (UMCD) is the winner of the Army Material Command Exceptional Organization Safety Award for 2010. This plaque is awarded each fiscal year to the battalion through division and garrison organization with the most effective overall safety program.

"The team work displayed by the UMCD workforce to improve their safety culture should serve as the example for the rest of the Army's material enterprise," said Conrad Whyne, director, U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA).

The mission of Umatilla Chemical Depot is to provide a safe, secure and environmentally sound domain for the storage and disposal of the chemical weapons stockpile while concurrently providing maximum protection to employees, the public, property and the environment.

"Over the past several years, UMCD has worked hard to improve safety awareness, reduce accidents and prevent injuries," said Lt. Col. Kris Perkins, UMCD commander. "Most significant are employees taking ownership for safety."

UMCD employees recognized the need to take control of their own safety and formed a Safety Leadership Program team with the purpose of moving from a reactive to a proactive safety approach. The Safety Office hosts a safety stand-down twice each year to seek out conditions and circumstances with potential to cause injuries. Ergonomic, fire extinguisher, personal protective equipment and active shooter scenario training are completed by all employees.

UMCD now competes against nominees from all Army major commands. The winner of the competition will be announced in the spring of 2011.

Chemical Soldiers check out weapons disposal operations



Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) Plant Manager Bob Dikeman (right) shows members of the 110th Chemical Battalion from Fort Lewis, Wash., a thermally decontaminated ton container during a plant tour Wednesday. About 22 Soldiers watched operations in the Container Handling Building, Unpack Area and Munitions Processing Bay during their visit.

UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 1,308 days, or more than 7.6 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (Nov. 17 - Dec. 1, 2010)

Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed this period	42
Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	1,077
Percentage of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	40.9
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed this period	34
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed to date	364
Pounds of HD agent destroyed this period	67,790
Pounds of HD agent destroyed to date	1,897,170
Pounds of total agent destroyed to date <i>Includes GB, VX and HD</i>	5,277,826
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) <i>including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers</i>	218,937
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date	2,326.45
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	62.58

**Recipient ton containers are byproducts of mustard disposal and were not a part of the original stockpile.*

UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- June 27, 2010:** Completed mustard Agent Trial Burn for Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) and Liquid Incinerators (LICs).
- June 11, 2009:** Began first HD ton container destruction in the MPF.
- June 4, 2009:** First HD ton containers transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- Nov. 5, 2008:** Completed VX munitions campaign.
- Oct. 26, 2007:** Began VX munitions campaign.
- July 8, 2007:** Completed GB munitions campaign.
- Sept. 7, 2004:** Began GB munitions campaign.

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