



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY

MONTHLY UPDATE

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Two major milestones

Last ONC delivery for DCD; TOCDF destroys its last scheduled munition

May will certainly be a memorable month, with both Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) and the Tooele Chemical Disposal Agent Facility (TOCDF) accomplishing major milestones.

On May 11, DCD made its last On-site Container (ONC) delivery, transporting the last two mustard-agent filled ton containers from storage to the disposal facility. Since August 21, 1996, when the first ONC loaded with GB rockets was delivered, depot workers have made more than 24,000 safe ONC deliveries.

"We have looked forward to this for 15 years," said DCD Commander, Col. Mark B. Pomeroy. "We have safely reached this milestone because of the workers that have done their job day in and day out, and I thank everyone for their part in reaching this accomplishment."

Employees gathered at various viewing points to watch the historic move. For Bob Moll, the last ONC delivery to the TOCDF brought his long career in chem demil full circle.

"I was there when the first munition—an M55 GB rocket—was delivered to CAMDS in 1979," reminisced Moll. "Since I was here for the first one in, I wanted to be here for the last one out."

At the ONC's final destination, the Container Handling Building (CHB), Jeff Lughton awaited like he had countless times before. As the TOCDF's operations munition coordinator, Lughton has witnessed nearly every delivery and has kept the munitions



After safely loading the depot's last two mustard-filled ton containers into an on-site container (ONC), DCD Area 10 workers pose for a group photo, celebrating more than 24,000 safe ONC deliveries and the last planned transportation of chemical munitions to the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility.

under careful watch until they were transported to the Unpack Area to be unloaded and sent through the disposal process.

"The last ONC is a great achievement. We've done our part for the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty in an environmentally and safe manner," admitted Lughton. "This also ends my working career. There are no more munitions for me to coordinate; my job is done."

The ONC was uniquely TOCDF's; it was the only style with 17 bolts that had to be manually fastened and unfastened. Now that they are no longer needed at the TOCDF, and since no other chem demil or commercial sites are interested in utilizing them, TOCDF is looking into recycling all 45 of the large stainless steel vessels.

End of an Era

On May 16, five days after the last ONC delivery, the last mustard-agent filled ton container was punched, drained and thermally decontaminated at the TOCDF, marking the destruction of the last scheduled munition through the disposal facility.

"I am proud to have been here on that first day of destruction operations on August 22, 1996, and even more proud to be able to report today that the TOCDF has safely processed its last bulk container of chemical agent," said Ted Ryba, TOCDF site project manager.

Over the past 15 years, the TOCDF has destroyed the vast majority of DCD's stockpile, which was originally the single-largest, most diverse stockpile in the nation, consisting of more than 1.3 million munitions and more than 13,600 tons of chemical agent.

(See TWO MAJOR MILESTONES on page 2)



Workers (left to right) Jay Nelson, Lonny Anderson, Jay Van Noy, Nick Alverson, Dustin Shields and Shawn Sorenson stand by Deseret Chemical Depot's last ton container filled with mustard blister agent. Its destruction marks a major milestone: The last scheduled munition to be destroyed at the TOCDF. URS photo.

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Deseret rises to creek's challenge

Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD) officials are eyeing the mountain ridge north and east of the installation during a winter and spring of seemingly continuous snows.

The closest that long-time workers and nearby community members can remember this much snow was during the winter and spring seasons of 1983 and 1984. During the spring of '83, the Great Salt Lake flooded; main streets in Salt Lake City became rivers and the water pipe feeding a reservoir on DCD washed out and broke. The Army is taking a proactive approach to this potential threat to Deseret's property and is attempting to fix the problem at the source.

Deseret Chemical Depot's commander, Col. Mark B. Pomeroy, is helping DCD by working with the nearby town of Ophir, where the creek bed that supplies the reservoir is fed by melting snow-capped mountains. DCD provided a barrier system for the community to set up and ensure the flowing water does not escape the creek bed.

As this will prevent flooding in the small town, it will also keep free-flowing water from eroding soil around the pipes leading to the reservoir. The pipe to Rainbow Reservoir took almost four

(See OPHIR CREEK on page 3)



Barriers on loan from DCD effectively contain the high water levels running down Ophir Creek.

Two major milestones

(continued from front page)

"We have successfully destroyed multiple types of chemical munitions—including rockets, bombs, spray tanks, mines, projectiles and ton containers," reflected Gary McCloskey, vice president and general manager of URS, the systems contractor that operates the TOCDF. "We have faced countless challenges along the way, but it has been our commitment to safety and our dedication to destroying these aging chemical munitions that has persevered."

While TOCDF now undergoes closure work—decontamination, dismantling and demolition—two separate facilities located within the depot's Area 10 storage yard will wrap up DCD's disposal efforts.

Approximately 330 mustard projectiles and mortars will be destroyed in a detonation chamber known as the DAVINCH (Detonation of Ammunition in a Vacuum Integrated Chamber). These munitions have leaked or are badly deteriorated, and are now safely stored in overpack containers. The DAVINCH can destroy munitions while they are inside their overpack containers, keeping workers from having to handle them.

The depot's small stockpile of GA nerve and Lewisite blister agents, which is stored in ton containers, will be destroyed by the Area 10 Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC), a small-scale liquid incinerator similar to those used at TOCDF.

Both the ATLIC and the DAVINCH are expected to safely complete disposal operations by early 2012.

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Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Mustard Processing

(as of May 16)

Total mustard agent-filled bulk containers destroyed	6,399
Total mustard agent-filled 155mm projectiles destroyed	54,453
Total mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch mortars destroyed	63,274
Percentage of total mustard agent stockpile destroyed	99.94%

By the Numbers

The TOCDF has destroyed the vast majority of DCD's stockpile, which was the nation's single-largest, most diverse stockpile, totaling more than 1.3 munitions and 13,600 tons of chemical agent. Here's a look at what the TOCDF has destroyed since August 22, 1996:

GB Nerve Agent		VX Nerve Agent		Mustard Blister Agent	
105mm Cartridges	119,400	155 mm projectiles	53,216	4.2-inch Cartridges	63,274
105mm Projectiles	798,703	8-inch projectiles	1	Ton Containers	6,399
155mm Projectiles	89,142	Land Mines	22,690	155mm projectiles	54,453
M55 and M56 Rocket Warheads	30,001	M55 and M56 Rocket Warheads	7,822		
Weteye Bombs	888	Spray Tanks	862		
750-lb Bombs (MC-1)	4,463	Ton Containers	632		
Ton Containers	5,709				

Continuous environmental improvement

Although chem demil operations are nearing completion, the URS environmental department continues to seek improvement opportunities as they work to achieve an independent, third party ISO-14001 certification of their Environmental Management System (EMS). While their current U.S. Army-certified ISO-14001 EMS is acceptable, earning an independent certification will take it one step higher by demonstrating their commitment to an outside party.

"Receiving this independent certification will demonstrate URS's recognition—from top management down through the work force—of the importance of being environmentally aware of and responsible for its operations at Deseret Chemical Depot," said Chris Mair, URS environmental engineer.

During the assessment, a team of auditors will conduct employee interviews, observe routine work activities and review procedures and documents to ensure that URS has an active EMS program in accordance with ISO standards.

As part of the ISO standards, Environmental Management Program Plans (EMPP) must be established to address areas on which the company can focus to reduce environmental impacts. Objectives of current EMPPs include the purchase and use of recycled materials and environmentally friendly products, reducing the amount of hazardous waste generated and placed into storage, and reducing the amount of water, fuel and power used for operations.

In addition to compliance with applicable environmental regulations and continual improvement, communication to the work force and community stakeholders is key to a successful EMS program.

"Though the TOCDF is moving toward closure, our chemical weapons destruction work is not quite finished," said TOCDF Deputy Site Project Manager Trace Salmon. "We still have a lot of important work to do and I'm pleased that URS continues to demonstrate their commitment to the environment."



Ophir Mayor Walt Shubert and DCD's Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge, SFC Eric Ryals, begin unloading some of the barricades the depot loaned to the local community to help keep water from escaping Ophir Creek.

DCD Preparing for Cleanup

Permitting underway to bring mobile destruction system on site

The U.S. Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) hosted a public meeting at the Tooele Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office on May 16. The pre-application meeting was held to discuss plans to request a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) environmental permit for potential use of the Explosive Destruction System (EDS)—a transportable chemical weapons treatment system—at Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD).

The EDS was designed by NSCMP to provide on-site treatment of Recovered Chemical Warfare Materiel (RCWM) and has been deployed and operated in many locations, including Dugway Proving Ground in 2004 and 2009. NSCMP provides centralized management and direction to the Department of Defense for the assessment and treatment of RCWM in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

DCD is preparing for the remediation of its contaminated land or Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and expects to discover RCWM during cleanup efforts. "DCD's SWMU sites were originally used as acceptable disposal areas for conventional and chemical weapons," said DCD Environmental Manager Troy Johnson. "Therefore, we are putting in place contingencies for the treatment of RCWM. Since it can take up to a year for the permit to be approved, we are getting a head start on things so the EDS will be ready to deploy when we need it."

DCD has sufficiently remediated 14 of its 29 identified SWMUs, all varying in size and level of contamination. The remaining 15 SWMUs are either undergoing cleanup efforts or remediation planning is underway. Specifically, DCD's largest and most contaminated SWMUs, 1 and 25, are in the contract proposal stage, which DCD anticipates to be awarded late this summer with cleanup activities to begin as early as next summer.

Ophir creek

(continued from page 2)

years to replace. Ophir Mayor, Walt Shubert, is grateful for the depot's assistance.

The water runoff created such havoc during the massive flood year of '83, it tore their culinary water line out. Multiple bulldozers were unable to keep up with the amount of debris clogging the creek. Shubert remembered that the depot helped them back then too.

"Back when it flooded," the mayor said, "the water got so high it couldn't go under the bridges. It could only go around and that's when it started breaking out."

The runoff and following floods from the spring of 1983 caught many people unprepared and Tooele County suffered approximately \$4.5 million in damages according to FEMA.

Past experiences have provided valuable lessons learned, allowing the depot to lessen the possibility of damaging water flows before they get to the depot.

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