



# BLUE GRASS CHEMICAL ACTIVITY FACT SHEET

## REAL TIME ANALYTICAL PLATFORM (RTAP)

The Real Time Analytical Platform (RTAP) is a self-contained mobile monitoring and detection system. Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) RTAPs use gas chromatographs called Miniature Continuous Air Monitoring Systems (MINICAMS®) that can detect agent within three to five minutes.

The RTAP can detect chemical agent vapors at levels lower than levels that would cause effects to unprotected persons. These levels are equal to the Department of Health and Human Services requirements to which unmasked workers can be exposed to agent for a 40-hour work week with no harmful effects.

The RTAP is used to support personnel with real-time monitoring requirements for nerve and blister agent storage operations. The units are also used to support Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program requirements.

Proper operation of the RTAP is verified using strict quality control procedures.

### MINICAMS®

BGCA primarily uses the MINICAMS®. These near-real-time monitors sample the air every six to nine minutes and are capable of 24-hour operation when monitoring igloos. Near-real-time data collection is the ability to collect data automatically and analyze quickly enough to support monitoring and control decisions. MINICAMS® are very sensitive and can detect extremely low levels of chemical agent vapor by using a process called gas chromatography.

### DAAMS

The DAAMS is a portable air sampling unit that draws a controlled volume of air through a glass tube filled with a sorbent material that collects the chemical agent vapors. Sampling times vary from as few as 30 minutes to 12 hours. After sampling is complete, workers remove the tubes from the DAAMS station and send them to the laboratory for analysis by gas chromatograph.



*An RTAP monitors a chemical agent storage igloo.*



MINICAMS®



DAAMS

REV: 11022020

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