

Rinsate system begins operation at disposal plant

Saturday, April 16, the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) began use of the Rinsate Collection System (RCS), an improved process that allows for more efficient use of facility incinerators for the destruction of the Umatilla stockpile of HD mustard agent.



Rinsate Collection System filter assembly

"We are one step closer to fulfilling our Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty obligations well ahead of the April 2012 deadline," said Gary Anderson, site project manager for the UMCDF. "The successful implementation of this unique system is the result of outstanding efforts on the part of our design, installation and operations teams."

The HD ton containers (TCs) typically have a solidified residue that remains after draining the liquid agent. This residue is removed by using high pressure hot water. This mixture is called rinsate. This rinsate has been fed to the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF) in previously used TCs, known as recipient TCs, which reduce the throughput of TCs that could be treated in the MPF each day.

"Our workers are eager to begin operation of the rinsate system, which will safely speed up the process of getting rid of the remaining ton containers of mustard at Umatilla," said Steve Warren, project general manager for URS, the company that built and operates the plant. "The safety of our workers and the public remains our top priority."

The RCS is a series of self-cleaning filters, pumps, valves and piping, and storage tanks that allows rinsate to be processed in one of the two available Liquid Incinerators (LICs). This reduces the amount of material treated in the MPF.

In March, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) granted a modification of the facility's permit to allow rinsate to be processed through a LIC. Installation began in October 2010 following a temporary authorization request approved by the DEQ.

UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 1,748 days, or more than 8.2 million work hours, since a lost work day accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing

(April 14 - 20, 2011)

Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed this period	24
Total number of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	1,556
Percentage of originally stockpiled HD-filled ton containers destroyed to date	59.1
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed this period	10
Total "recipient" HD ton containers* destroyed to date	597
Pounds of HD agent destroyed this period	51,393
Pounds of HD agent destroyed to date	2,761,713
Pounds of total agent destroyed to date <i>Includes GB, VX and HD</i>	6,142,369
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) <i>including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers</i>	219,512
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date	2,758.72
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	74.21

**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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