

In case of an emergency



Members of the Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) A-Crew munition handlers tend to a simulated injury in the plant's Container Handling Building (CHB) during an emergency exercise Wednesday. The disposal facility "played along" with the depot's quarterly Chemical Accident/Incident Response and Assistance (CAIRA) drill in which an explosion in a munitions storage area was also simulated. Both organizations, along with others outside the depot, are preparing for the massive full-scale Service Response Force (SRF) exercise in May. This year, the drill will be held during a three-day period.

UMCDF employee's dramatic rescue featured on TV show

In 1988, UMCDF Assistant Control Room Supervisor Jeff McCanch was stationed in West Germany as a member of the U.S. Air Force. On Aug. 28 of that year, one of the worst air show disasters occurred at the Ramstein Air Base, which McCanch and his family attended. In the accident, 70 people were killed and nearly 400 injured when an Italian aerobatic jet crashed into the crowd. McCanch, who was a mere 30 feet from the crash, was caught on camera picking up a child — his own two-year-old son J.J. — just inches away from the resulting inferno (below).

McCanch's story, along with the story of the Ramstein disaster, was aired as part of the program "Shockwave" on the History Channel last Friday. The feature was one of several McCanch has been interviewed for in the past several years.



UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 600 days, or more than 2.6 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (Feb. 21 - 27, 2008)

Total number of VX-filled rockets destroyed this period	
Total VX-filled rockets destroyed to date	14,519
Percentage of VX rockets destroyed to date	100
Total number of VX-filled spray tanks destroyed this period	
Total VX-filled spray tanks destroyed	156
Percentage of VX-filled spray tanks destroyed	100
Pounds of VX agent destroyed this period	11,307
Pounds of total VX agent destroyed to date	363,641
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers	170,219
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date (stockpile only)	1,192.37
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	32.08

UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- **Jan. 23, 2008:** Completed VX rocket campaign.
- **Dec. 24, 2007:** Completed VX spray tank campaign.
- **Nov. 26, 2007:** Processed the non-stockpile VX ton container.
- **Nov. 23, 2007:** Destroyed the first VX spray tanks in the MPF.
- **Nov. 19, 2007:** First VX spray tank transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **Nov. 9, 2007:** First VX chemical agent destroyed in the Liquid Incinerator (LIC).
- **Oct. 29, 2007:** Processed the first VX M55 rockets in the Deactivation Furnace System (DFS).
- **Oct. 26, 2007:** First VX M55 rockets transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **July 8, 2007:** Completed GB munitions campaign.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS:

Bruce Henrickson
Phone: (541) 564-5312
bruce.henrickson@us.army.mil

Jim Hackett
Phone: (541) 564-5418
james.s.hackett@us.army.mil

OUTREACH OFFICE:

Steve Meyers
Phone: (541) 564-9339
steve.meyers@umcdf-fo.org

SYSTEMS CONTRACTOR:

Hal McCune
Phone: (541) 564-7304
hal.mccune@wgint.com

Umatilla Chemical Disposal Outreach Office

190 E. Main St.
Hermiston, OR 97838
Phone: (541) 564-9339
Fax: (541) 564-9532

Information Line:
(888) 866-5928
(541) 564-7103

Outreach Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
Monday - Friday
(Additional hours available upon request)