



EG&G Division

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## **UMCDF surpasses 4 million safe work hours**

**UMATILLA CHEMICAL DEPOT, Hermiston, Ore.** – The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) recently surpassed four million work hours without a lost-time injury.

The facility has gone 860 days or nearly two and a half years without a lost work day accident. It surpassed four million hours on Nov. 8. The last lost-time accident at the site occurred on July 6, 2006.

“Reaching this milestone is a testament to the dedication of each and every employee here at UMCDF and all of our subcontractors to work safely,” said Doug Hamrick, project general manager for the Washington Defense Group of URS-EG&G Division. Washington Defense Group built and operates the incineration plant for the Army.

Hamrick told the more than 800 employees at UMCDF that “each difficult task that you plan ahead and foresee the hazards to avoid, each entry you make (into the Munitions Demilitarization Building) with vigilance, each time you slow down to walk across icy spots, each time you stop to get the correct personal protective equipment (PPE), you are contributing to the safety culture here. Each and every member of Team Umatilla is responsible for this achievement.”

UMCDF had reached three million safe work hours twice before, but this is the first time in project history it has surpassed four million safe hours. It’s equivalent to an individual working 1,923 years without missing a day of work due to an injury. The accomplishment is all the more impressive, Hamrick said, because of the heavy industrial nature of much of the work that is done at the plant.

UMCDF maintains an exemplary health and safety program. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) awarded UMCDF Star Status in the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) at the end of 2006. It’s the highest safety honor bestowed by the federal government.

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