



PEO ACWA QUARTERLY BRIEF

Program Executive Office
Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives

December 2012



Pueblo Start-up Countdown Under Way

Like the advanced planning for a space launch, a myriad of activities are under way now to prepare the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant for the start of destruction operations in 2015. This will culminate in a rigorous Operational Readiness Review to test whether or not the people, the plant and the procedures are ready to initiate their critical national mission.

[Read more on our website](#)



Blue Grass Checks Off 2012's Construction Projects

The Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant marked multiple milestones on its 2012 construction to-do list. In addition to completing the extensive concrete in the main processing building, the Laboratory Building is now finished and several key items of chemical agent-processing and support equipment arrived on site, to include the Nitrogen Receiver Vessel pictured at right.

[Read more on our website](#)



Pueblo's Medical Facility Is Up and Running 24/7

The Pueblo plant's Medical Facility is open for round-the-clock operation as plant construction wraps up with the finalization of interior projects and punch list items. The facility is equipped for handling emergency response, medical screening and work-related injuries as plant systemization accelerates to prepare for the start of destruction operations.

[Read more on our website](#)



Stepping Up Construction On The Blue Grass "Dance Floor"

Using a unique platform tagged the "dance floor," Blue Grass workers are stepping up construction in the plant's main processing building, the Munitions Demilitarization Building. This specially rigged platform allows construction tasks to be completed without the use of time-consuming lifts and chain hoists, thereby increasing safety and decreasing difficulty.

[Read more on our website](#)



Home Away From Home: International Treaty Inspectors' Pueblo Office In Finishing Stages

The modular building where international treaty inspectors will oversee the Pueblo plant's destruction operations is in place and being prepared for occupancy. The Treaty Building, as it is known, will be the on-site headquarters of a team from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the multinational body that promotes and verifies adherence to the Chemical Weapons Convention. The team will verify the destruction of the chemical weapons as well as the integrity of the plant's processes and procedures during destruction operations.

[Read more on our website](#)



ACWA's Robotic Arms Reach Out To Students

By manipulating miniature robotic arms and simulated munitions, students learned firsthand how the ACWA program applies science, technology, engineering and math, known as "STEM," to destroy chemical weapons. Participating in Aberdeen Proving Ground's STEM Expo, Program Executive Officer Conrad Whyne explained the ACWA program mission to the students and emphasized the importance of studies in the STEM fields. This Army-wide program encourages the development of the next generation of scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians.

[Read more on this topic](#)



PLANTS AT-A-GLANCE



Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction Technology: **Neutralization/Supercritical Water Oxidation**
- Construction complete: **60%**
- Systemization complete: **4%**
- Operations begin: **2020**
- Local project employment: **995**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$390 million**
- Spent with Kentucky companies: **\$103.9 million**
- Anticipated end of destruction operations: **2023**



Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction Technology: **Neutralization/Biotreatment**
- Construction complete: **100%**
- Systemization complete: **36%**
- Operations begin: **2015**
- Local project employment: **674**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$626.3 million**
- Spent with Colorado companies: **\$221.6 million**
- Anticipated end of destruction operations: **2019**

ABOUT PEO ACWA

The Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is responsible for managing the safe and environmentally sound destruction of the chemical weapons stockpiles stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot in Kentucky and the Pueblo Chemical Depot in Colorado.

www.peoacwa.army.mil

