



One Step Closer

Site transformation continues as construction wraps up, equipment arrives

Construction activities including site clearing, placement of a concrete pad and road work are complete at the Operation *Swift Solution* site on Blue Grass Army Depot, or BGAD, where deteriorating steel containers holding a mixture of the nerve agent GB (sarin) and its breakdown products will be safely eliminated in the near future.

Army agencies headquartered in Maryland, including the U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, or ACWA, and the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, known as ECBC, along with the Chemical Materials Agency, are continuing to partner with depot authorities to mobilize equipment and complete other necessary activities in preparation for destruction operations.

Temporary structures are being erected and equipment needed for destruction operations continues to be transported to the depot. Materials and structures now on site include the Chemical Agent Transfer System, or CHATS, which will destroy the nerve agent. The operations shelter, chemical agent filtration system, analytical lab, trailers for command, personnel and treaty activities, and the radio communication system are in place. Other items and materials will be transported to the site during the next few weeks, including the isotainers that will store the caustic waste water known as hydrolysate produced during destruction operations.

An operational readiness review, a mock exercise that will determine the team's readiness for destruction operation, is also imminent.

In the meantime, ACWA and its program partners will continue to work with the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection, or KDEP, to finalize permitting documents. Once these documents are complete, operational readiness is verified and approval from the state is received, destruction operations will begin.

Visit www.pmacwa.army.mil for previous advisories and additional information on the project.

If you have questions or comments about Operation *Swift Solution*, please contact ACWA Communications and Congressional Affairs at 410-436-3398.



The Chemical Agent Transfer System, or CHATS, was recently transported from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center in Maryland to the Blue Grass Army Depot. The CHATS will drain the three deteriorating steel containers and transfer their contents into neutralization reactors. Once empty, the containers will be decontaminated, cut in two and recycled.



The general purpose operations shelter (center) will house the CHATS technology that will drain the deteriorating steel containers and destroy their contents.



U.S. Army Element, Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

A PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact the U.S. Army Element, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives
Communications and Congressional Affairs Office at 410-436-3398 or visit www.pmacwa.army.mil.

