



## Proven Technology in PCAPP Explosive Destruction System

The Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant Explosive Destruction System (PCAPP EDS) is scheduled to begin operations in late 2014 safely destroying chemical munitions that cannot be easily processed through the plant. Approximately 1,300 mustard munitions are expected to be processed through the PCAPP EDS. The first use of EDS was in 2001 at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Denver. In 2003, EDS was used in Spring Valley to destroy 15 mustard-filled munitions found during construction in an area where American University formerly conducted chemical weapons research for the Army. Since then, EDS units have successfully destroyed more than 1,700 munitions without incident.



[Explosive Destruction System: Proven and Reliable for PCAPP](#) [Watch the EDS Video on YouTube](#)

## Blue Grass Selects Explosive Destruction Technology to Destroy Mustard Munitions

When an X-ray assessment confirmed agent solidification in a number of Blue Grass mustard projectiles, it was determined they would be problematic to destroy using the automated equipment in the destruction plant. An Environmental Assessment was conducted on the impacts of installing and operating an explosive destruction technology, or EDT, to safely destroy them. In October, the Army announced a Finding of No Significant Impact resulting from this assessment, and the systems contractor moved to complete its competitive procurement process to select an EDT. In November, Bechtel Parson selected UXB's Static Detonation Chamber to destroy the entire Blue Grass mustard stockpile. At right is the Static Detonation Chamber used at Anniston Army Depot.



["Work Begins for Incorporating Use of Explosive Destruction Technology at Weapons Demilitarization Plant"](#) ["A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction Purpose and Need: EDT at BGCAPP"](#)

## A Year of Progress in Pueblo

Important milestones were achieved in 2013 bringing the plant closer to the start of chemical weapons destruction operations. Accomplishments included major systems being deemed operational and a testing process, known as systemization, becoming a key focus. During systemization of the plant, workers test individual components of every system to ensure they function correctly. Another significant development this year was the increase in the plant's workforce in response to the plant's start-up scheduled in 2015. Take a look back, month-by-month, at the major accomplishments of 2013 via the links below.



["PCAPP 2013: A Year of Testing, Hiring and Progress"](#) [Pueblo Plant Year in Review 2013 Video](#)

## Building Momentum at Blue Grass in 2013

This year, Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant workers completed over 75 percent of main plant facilities construction, setting the stage for the final phases of construction. Several years of systemization will occur before plant operations begin. Recent accomplishments include the completion of structural work for all major process buildings and the placement of processing equipment in those buildings. Interior large-scale mechanical, electrical and piping system installations are also well under way. Via the links below, view highlights of construction activities completed during 2013.



["2013 - BGCAPP Year in Review"](#) [Blue Grass Plant Year in Review 2013 Video](#)

## Hiring on the Horizon in Pueblo

Employment opportunities are increasing at the Pueblo plant as the start of operations approaches. Some 300 additional positions will be filled, including ordnance technicians, munitions transporters and laboratory technicians. The first hiring wave ran from April through December 2013, with a second wave expected in May-June 2014. Some of the specialized positions will require applicants to pass government security investigations and meet and maintain eligibility requirements established under the Army's Personnel Reliability Program.



[Project Manager Rick Holmes' Radio Interview on Hiring](#) [Help Wanted at PCAPP: Hiring Wave on the Horizon](#)

## PLANTS AT-A-GLANCE



### Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction technology: **Neutralization/Supercritical Water Oxidation**
- Construction complete: **77%**
- Systemization complete: **14%**
- Operations begin: **2020**
- Local project employment: **1,331**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$510 million**
- Spent with Kentucky companies: **\$119.4 million**
- Anticipated end of destruction operations: **2023**



### Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

- Destruction technology: **Neutralization/Biotreatment**
- Construction complete: **100%**
- Systemization complete: **44%**
- Operations begin: **2015**
- Local project employment: **973**
- Local payroll paid to date: **\$741 million**
- Spent with Colorado companies: **\$253.6 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.

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