



Program Manager Assembled  
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

## A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

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### Government Site Project Manager Selected to Lead Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – James A. Fritsche has been selected as site project manager for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, reporting to the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, known as ACWA, headquartered here. Fritsche will be the lead government engineer responsible for management of the plant's field office and will oversee the systems contract with Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass.

The Indiana native began his Army career in 1981 at Jefferson Proving Ground, Ind., serving as base manager until the time the installation closed in 1995. Since then, he has served at the Blue Grass Army Depot near Richmond, Ky. in the capacity of top civilian at the Blue Grass Chemical Activity, where his technical responsibilities involve the safe, secure storage of the chemical weapons stockpile.

"With his superior technical skills, his professional demeanor, and his sharp perspective on the issues, I'm confident that Jim is the best person to lead the Blue Grass project," said Michael A. Parker, ACWA program manager. "His working knowledge of the Blue Grass Army Depot, the Blue Grass Chemical Activity, as well as the ACWA program makes him a natural fit."

A member of the Indiana Army National Guard, Fritsche recently returned from a year-long active duty tour supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Edinburgh, Ind., where he directed multiple public works projects associated with soldier training and equipment maintenance.

Fritsche said he is pleased to become part of the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant team.

"Since this is one of the last of the chemical destruction projects, we will be using all the experience and lessons learned from previous projects to make this the best effort possible," he said.

He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Southern Illinois University and earned his professional engineering registration in 1979. Among his many career awards is the Department of the Army's Superior Civilian Service Award.

Fritsche and his wife, Nelma who live in Richmond, Ky., have three children.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives Public Affairs at 410-436-3398. Blue Grass Army Depot Public Affairs can be reached at 859-625-6221, or call Blue Grass Chemical Activity Public Affairs at 859-625-6897. Additional information on chemical stockpile disposal is available at the Blue Grass Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office at 859-626-8944 and Bechtel Parsons Blue Grass at 859-625-1291.

News Release

