

Washington governor's rep speaks to depot about persons with disabilities



Kris Call of the Washington Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment spoke to a gathering of Umatilla Chemical Depot workers on Nov. 25, offering useful tips and perspectives on how to best help persons with disabilities. Also discussed were effective and respectful communications with and about persons who are blind, deaf or otherwise impaired, and how they contribute well in society and in the workplace. The presentation was part of the depot's commemoration of National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"Let your words emphasize a person's worth and abilities, not the disabling condition," Call advised. "Refer to the person first, rather than the disability."

For example, contemporary words or phrases with dignity that ought to be used are "person who is deaf" rather than "suffers a hearing loss"; "person with mobility impairment" rather than "cripple", "lame", or "deformed"; and "person with a disability" instead of "victim" or "afflicted."

"Don't hesitate to offer assistance, but don't automatically help unless the person asks for help or clearly needs it," Call said. "Also be specific and ask exactly how you can help."

Call travels throughout eastern Washington to assist employers and people with disabilities, offering training and specific advice. In America, 22.8 million people have a disability. That means two out of seven families in our country have at least one family member with a disability.

UMCDF Highlights

- It has been 880 days, or more than 4 million work hours, since a lost-time accident occurred at the UMCDF (July 7, 2006).

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Processing (Nov. 20 - Dec. 3, 2008)

Total number of VX-filled land mines destroyed this period	
Total VX land mines destroyed to date	11,685
Percentage of VX land mines destroyed to date	100
Pounds of VX agent destroyed this period	0
Pounds of total VX agent destroyed to date	734,262
Total munitions destroyed to date since start of operations (Sept. 7, 2004) <i>including non-stockpile GB and VX ton containers</i>	217,969
Nominal tons of chemical agent destroyed to date	1,377.86
Percentage of total agent tons destroyed	37.07

UMCD/UMCDF Milestones

- **Nov. 5, 2008:** Last VX mines destroyed in the Deactivation Furnace System (DFS).
- **Nov. 4, 2008:** Last VX mines transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **Sept. 25, 2008:** First VX mines transported from depot storage to disposal plant and destroyed in the(DFS).
- **Aug. 6, 2008:** Completed VX 8-inch projectile campaign.
- **July 16, 2008:** Processed first VX 8-inch projectile in the Metal Parts Furnace (MPF).
- **July 15, 2008:** First VX 8-inch projectiles transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **June 27, 2008:** Completed VX 155mm projectile campaign.
- **March 21, 2008:** Destroyed first VX 155mm projectile in the MPF.
- **March 20, 2008:** First VX 155mm projectiles transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **Jan. 23, 2008:** Completed VX rocket campaign.
- **Dec. 24, 2007:** Completed VX spray tank campaign.
- **Nov. 26, 2007:** Processed the non-stockpile VX ton container.
- **Nov. 23, 2007:** Destroyed the first VX spray tanks in the MPF.
- **Nov. 19, 2007:** First VX spray tank transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **Nov. 9, 2007:** First VX chemical agent destroyed in the Liquid Incinerator (LIC).
- **Oct. 29, 2007:** Processed the first VX M55 rockets in the DFS.
- **Oct. 26, 2007:** First VX M55 rockets transported from depot storage to disposal plant.
- **July 8, 2007:** Completed GB munitions campaign.

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