

For Immediate Release

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First Static Detonation Chamber in U.S. to be Tested at Picatinny Arsenal

Flemington, N.J. (Aug. 6, 2009) UXB International, Inc. has been selected to evaluate and plan the installation and testing of a static detonation chamber (SDC) at Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. The SDC will provide Picatinny with a clean, flexible alternative to incineration and will significantly reduce the amount of explosive materials that require open burning.

“We have successfully processed more than 12,000 tons of munitions worldwide with our advanced SDC technology, but this will be the first time an SDC will be installed anywhere in the United States,” said Michael Warminsky, PE, UXB’s program manager.

Under a \$3.6 million award with the Ordnance Technology Initiative Agreement with National Warheads and Energetics Consortium (NWECE), UXB will oversee the custom design and installation of a Dynasafe SDC in which munitions would be fed through an automated loading system and heated until detonation occurs within an enclosed vessel, containing all munitions fragments for subsequent recycling. A request for funding support of this program has been made through the FY 2010 appropriations process.

SDC technology can handle the widest assortment of munitions, everything from small arms to large projectiles that may contain high-explosive, incendiary, smoke or illumination munition fills. Metal scrap resulting from detonation would be thermally treated inside the SDC and available for recycling. Exhaust gas from the SDC would pass through a pollution control system that would comply with U.S. emission requirements.

“Once it is proven to meet U.S. environmental regulations and requirements, the technology will be available for widespread use for demilitarization of munitions in the U.S. as well as in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Harley Heaton, UXB’s Vice President of Research and Development. “For the government this represents getting out in front of the environmental issues rather than responding to a regulatory crisis.” Certification for standardized US military use will be coordinated through the US Army’s Ammunition Peculiar Equipment (APE) office at the Tooele Army Depot in Utah.

Headquartered in Blacksburg, Va., with a program management office in Flemington, N.J., UXB International, Inc. has provided ordnance and explosive waste services, both nationally and internationally for more than 25 years. As the first private U.S. ordnance and explosive disposal company, UXB maintains a well-earned, highly respected, and internationally-recognized reputation for safety and quality.

UXB has conducted operations around the world – in 44 U.S. states and 23 countries. The company has completed projects in remote and urban areas, under varied climate conditions, and on sites with little or no infrastructure; in culturally, archaeologically, and environmentally sensitive areas; and also on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites, Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), active military installations, and private industry sites.