

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 16, 2012 U. S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot 45825 Highway 96 East Pueblo, Colorado

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Pueblo Chemical Depot achieves one million hours without a lost workday injury

PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT, Colo.—Civilian government employees completed their workday today, Monday, April 16, with an unprecedented milestone; one million consecutive hours of work without a lost-time injury.

PCD's last workday injury occurred in December 2010-more than 500 consecutive days without recording a lost workday injury.

"Reaching this milestone is a testament to the dedication of each and every employee," said Lt. Col. Timothy Greenhaw, depot commander. "This is the longest stretch of safe work days recorded in the last ten years but more important, we've kept the community safe, and we continue to improve," the commander added.

The chemical depot ended 2011 with an overall 12-month Occupational Safety & Health Administration recordable injury rate of 1.43 employees out of 100 who suffered recordable injuries during a given calendar year, the lowest in six years. The national average is 5.9 employees out of 100 in a given calendar year.

"A zero accident safety culture is our target and focus," said Depot Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Mr. Randy Wojtala.

Since World War II, the U.S. Army post has supported numerous important national defense missions. Through the direction of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, its current primary mission is the safe, secure storage of the chemical weapons stockpile.

The stockpile is scheduled for destruction at the Pueblo Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant, currently under construction at the depot.

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The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) with headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., stores the nation's aging chemical weapons and develops programs aimed at effectively treating and ultimately eliminating chemical warfare materiel. For more information about CMA and its programs, visit <u>www.cma.army.mil</u>.