

Plant-wide EPAS Audit to be Held March 16 - 20

The Army's Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) program auditors will be onsite to review RFAAP's environmental program from Monday, March 16 through 20. EPAS was created to assess active Army installations for compliance with federal, state, and Department of Defense regulations. Under the U.S. Army Environmental Center, the EPAS program assists all Army commanders in attaining, sustaining, and monitoring compliance with federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, as well as with DoD and Army compliance and performance requirements.

The EPAS audit will include assessments of all environmental media (air, water, and ground). Specifically, the auditors will audit the air program; hazardous materials and waste; petroleum, oil, and lubricants; storage tanks; waste water; water quality and drinking water; and the ISO 14001, EMS standard for compliance with environmental regulations and standards. The auditors will provide suggestions for both immediate and long-term corrective actions.

Sarver and Proco Receive Commander's Coins

Solvents Area employees **Herman Sarver** and **Gary Proco** were recently awarded Commander's Coins for their quick action in responding to a spill of ether in the Green Lines (see November 2008 issue of *Eyes on the Environment*). The spill was due to a malfunction in the solvent mix transfer system in the C-Line Mix House in the Green Lines. About 67 pounds of ether was lost, which is below the Reportable Quantity of 100 pounds for ether. Because of the quick response of very alert and responsive production operators, the spilled solvent was captured in sawdust. **LTC (P) Jon Drushal** thanked Herman and Gary for their fast action and environmental awareness. The two were awarded coins by the Commander and given the admonition to "keep up the good work." **Paige Holt** (ATK Environmental Department Manager), **Lou Martin** (ATK Environmental Department Engineer), and **Brad Jennings** (ACO Environmental Engineer) were also in attendance at the coining ceremony.



Herman Sarver (left) and Gary Proco

Commander's Coins

LTC (P) Drushal recently explained that there is a responsibility that goes with the holder of a Commander's coin. After receiving a coin, the recipient has the responsibility to carry the coin with them at all times. The Commander has the right to ask them to produce their coin at any time that he encounters them. If they cannot produce the coin, they owe the Commander the beverage of his choice. Because of a plant-wide concern for the potential of foreign material in RFAAP's products, LTC (P) Drushal understands that plant employees will probably not be able to produce the coins on any given day.



Commander's Coins

Sampling Improvements at the Main Lab

Each week, the Main Lab processes about 125 flash suppressant samples. The samples used to be taken and placed in coffee bags for transport to the lab. The bags were emptied, cut into pieces to look for propellant caught in the folds of the bag, and discarded. Through the 5-S efforts of **Preston Strader** and **Tony Patterson**, the flash suppressant samples are now taken and transported to the lab in a urine cup. Because each cup has a scale on it, the exact amount of sample can be scooped into them and there is no waste propellant.



Preston Strader (left) holds the old coffee bag sample container and Tony Patterson holds a urine cup, which is the new container for flash suppressant samples.

In addition, Tony and Preston have worked with the area to reuse the sample containers making them recyclable, so there is no disposal.

5S is a lean manufacturing tool used for workplace organization and standardization. It provides a system to keep the work area clean, safe, and organized. The 5Ss are:

- Sort – Separate necessary from unnecessary items
- Set in Order – Organize necessary Items
- Shine – Cleaning equipment/area, identifying and labeling items and locations
- Standardize – Establish standards for cleanliness and 5S controls
- Sustain – Maintaining the effort over time

This is a good example of 5-S working to eliminate all kinds of waste.

Greg Twait Joins the Environmental Department

Greg Twait has joined the Environmental Department as an Environmental Engineer. Originally from Springfield, Ohio, Greg graduated from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering specializing in Environmental Engineering. He received a Masters of Science degree in Chemical Engineering specializing in Environmental Engineering from West Virginia College of Graduate Studies (now part of Marshall University). His work experience includes positions on the environmental, health, and safety team at Union Carbide in South Charleston and Institute, West Virginia, and Hoechst Celanese in Charlotte, North Carolina, Rock Hill, South Carolina, Shelby, North Carolina, and Narrows, Virginia on a variety of environmental, health, and safety positions. Most recently, Greg also worked for INVISTA in Charlotte, North Carolina overseeing air permitting and compliance programs for INVISTA plants in North Carolina and South Carolina. Greg and his wife Julie are parents of Emma, an eighth grader at Countryside Montessori School in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Greg Twait

Environmental Department Contacts: The Environmental on Call Cell Phone (24 hours a day) number is 230-8970. For environmental questions, contact the following environmental department personnel:

Matt Alberts (8722)

Kaye Bland (8504)

Marilyn Fields
(7520)

Jeremy Flint

(7668)

Anne Greene
(7340)

Matt Habersack

(7427)

Nichole Herschler
(8766)

Paige Holt (8658)

Patsy Hosner

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Phil Lockard (8344)

Lou Martin (7514)

Shelley Tarbutton

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Greg Twait (8716)

Environmental Questions? Check out the *Ask Kent* section on the ATK/RFAAP intranet.

Eyes on the Environment is an employee newsletter aimed at communicating employee issues and raising awareness of environmental issues and requirements. The newsletter presents basic topics that are critical to protection of our environment, our public health and safety, and the success of our business.

Please use the contents of this newsletter for 5 minute safety meetings.

And the winner is...

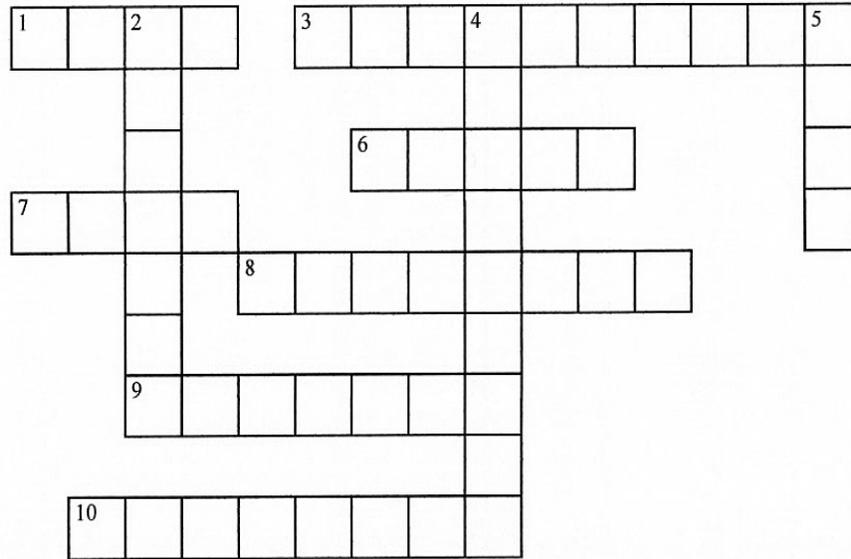
The Environmental Department randomly selected **Debbie Moore's (Nitrocellulose)** correct entry as the winner in the last puzzle contest. The Environmental Department presented Debbie with a **\$30 Wal Mart gift card**. Thanks to everyone who entered!



Debbie Moore

Environmental Crossword Puzzle

Solve the environmental crossword puzzle and enter it in an Environmental Department drawing. One winner will be randomly selected from all correct entries to receive a **\$30 Wal Mart gift card** from the Environmental Department. The puzzle contest is open to all those who work at RFAAP. **Photo copies will not be accepted. Limit one entry per person.**



ACROSS

1. _____ assists all Army commanders in attaining, sustaining, and monitoring compliance with federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations.
3. Greg Twait has joined the Environmental _____.
6. The Main Lab processes about 125 _____ suppressant samples.
7. There is a responsibility that goes with the holder of a Commander's _____.
8. _____ Area employees Herman Sarver and Gary Proco were recently awarded Commander's Coins.
9. Greg Twait has a Masters of _____ degree in Chemical Engineering specializing in Environmental Engineering.
10. EPAS _____ will be onsite to review RFAAP's environmental program from Monday, March 16 through 20.

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2. Auditors will provide suggestions for both immediate and long-term corrective _____.
4. LTC (P) Jon Drushal thanked Herman Sarver and Gary Proco for their fast action and environmental _____.
5. 5S is a lean manufacturing _____ used for workplace organization and standardization.

Send this page to **Jeremy Flint, Environmental Department, Building 220**. Entries must be received by March 26, 2009. The winner will be announced in the next *Eyes on the Environment*.

Name: _____

Area/Department: _____ Badge number: _____

Email (if available): _____ Phone: _____