



FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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ARCTECH Announces Deployment of Actodemil® Technology System for Safe and Effective Decontamination and Deformation of Projectile Shells, Egyptian Armament Authority

For the Egyptian Armament Authority (EAA) ARCTECH has deployed a complete turn-key solution to enable the EAA to decontaminate empty projectiles from autoclave operations.

ARCTECH's approach combines its Actodemil® technology to first decontaminate the projectile shells to remove any residual TNT that might be present on the surface of the projectiles. The destruction of TNT is accomplished by hydrolyzing the compounds with the a-HAX chemical reactant. After decontamination has been accomplished to the required 5X levels the shells will be cut in two using a bandsaw machine so that they cannot be reused for the originally intended purpose. The two step process of decontamination to the 5X level and the cutting of the projectiles after decontamination will ensure that the projectiles have been effectively demilitarized. Following the effective demilitarization, the empty projectile shells can be recycled at a metals smelting facility.

The list of projectile sizes that can be decontaminated with the Actodemil® decon/demil process range from 37mm to 155mm. The decon-demil system is capable of treating multiple casings, of multiple sizes, at any given time. The design criterion incorporates treating up to 300, 100mm projectiles per day.

In the ARCTECH decon/demil facility, the first step in the process is to load the projectiles into metal cages. After the cages have been loaded they are immersed in a decontamination tank which is filled with the a-HAX decontamination fluid, which has already been heated to an initial temperature of 195 degrees F, or 90 degrees Celsius. This accomplishes the complete destruction of any TNT that might be present on the surface of the projectiles.

After the cages have been immersed in the a-HAX reactant for approximately 1 hour they are slowly removed from the tank and all liquids are completely drained from the projectiles. The completely drained cages are then slowly moved to the next step which is rinsing of the projectiles. Rinsing is accomplished in a 2 tank system. The baskets are lowered slowly into the first rinse tank at an angle until it is completely submerged in the water. After a quick immersion the cage is removed slowly from the first rinse tank, and is then ready to be lowered into the second rinse tank. Again after a quick immersion the cage is removed from the second rinse tank and is then ready to be fed into the drying chamber where it is dried. After about 8 to 10 minutes in the drying chamber, the basket is deposited onto a gravity conveyor.

The final step is the deformation of the projectiles and this is accomplished by using a bandsaw to cut the projectiles into two pieces. The cut pieces are collected and loaded onto mobile bins for transportation to a smelter for recycling.

The Actodemil® decon-demil system offers an alternative to thermal treatment processes. It is safer, equally effective, more easily implementable and offers a 70 to 80% savings on costs.

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