

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

**RCRA Showcase Pilot  
Region 8**

**Development and Application of SWMU Database for Alliant TechSystems, Utah**

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Background Information:

The Alliant TechSystems facility in Utah began operation in 1915 as a producer of commercial blasting powder. In 1958, the facility was remodeled into an aerospace manufacturing facility that performed research and design on solid propellants and produced rocket motors. The facility covers approximately 6 square miles and is located near Salt Lake City, Utah.

Contaminants of concern at this facility include solvents, explosives, metals, and perchlorate. There are more than 77 solid waste management units (SWMUs) at the Alliant TechSystems facility, which are being investigated as part of the RCRA Facility Investigation. SWMUs include sumps, surface impoundments, sewage lagoons, septic systems, buried waste sites, salvage areas, burning pads, open detonation areas, burning grounds, and spill areas.

Many of these SWMUs have been subject to interim measures and/or stabilization actions. Additionally, there is a great deal of historical analytical data and information pertaining to these SWMUs. For example, approximately three and a half years ago, it was determined that perchlorate (a non-regulated ion) was present in the groundwater and had migrated off-site. This discovery launched an extensive sampling effort to determine the magnitude and extent of contamination.

Description of Pilot Project:

An EPA contractor has developed an Access Database that will allow the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (Utah DEQ) to expedite and better manage the complex corrective action assessments, investigations, and closure data at this facility. The database was developed using Microsoft Access 2000, and is divided into two databases. The front-end database contains all user screens, reports, queries, and code. The database tables are found

in the back-end database. Both databases are linked to each other and to an existing UDEQ sampling database so that data may be imported and exported among the various databases. The Utah DEQ project manager will be able to incorporate large data sets electronically. The database will also be adaptable to other RCRA Corrective Action facilities located in Utah.

The SWMU Database will enable the Utah DEQ to maintain and review detailed historical and current information pertaining to SWMUs, sample locations, bore logs, well construction, contaminants of concern and hydrologic parameters.

The overall goal of the SWMU Database is to expedite corrective action at Alliant TechSystems by enabling UDEQ to more easily manage and review the large amount of data generated by the facility.

The milestones which may be evaluated for this pilot project include the overall thoroughness and time frame for the review of various Corrective Action submittals, in comparison with the historical time frames. Other related factors to be evaluated include the usability of the database and other benefits to the Utah DEQ project manager. For example, has this database made it easier for the project manager to do his job?

It is expected that full use of the SWMU Database will begin during August or September 2001. The pilot project will be evaluated on a quarterly basis for one year following start-up of the database.

#### Progress Reports:

Progress reports will be faxed to HQ at the end of each quarter throughout the duration of this pilot project. Nancy Morlock will prepare the progress reports in consultation with Bill Wallner, Utah DEQ. This information will also be posted to the EPA Region 8 RCRA Corrective Action website.

#### Report Format:

- Title
- “Updated as of \_\_\_”
- General Background Facility Information
- Summary of Innovative Pilot Project/Expected Benefits
- Agency and/or Facility Contacts
- Milestones and Date Milestones Were Reached
- Impediments Encountered
- Lessons Learned