# Material Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard:

"Doing our homework"

Tim Alexander
Timothy.a.alexander@us.army.mil
US Army Environmental Center
Training Support Division
(410) 436-4322

Brian Helmlinger
Brian\_helmlinger@urscorp.com
URS
Program Manager,
Range Sustainment
(703) 418-3340

### Agenda

- Define MPPEH
- DoD Policy Background
- Project Overview
  - Requirements Analysis
  - Web-based Survey
  - Forum

### What is MPPEH?

### Material Potentially Presenting an Explosive Hazard (MPPEH):

- Material potentially containing explosives or munitions (e.g., munitions containers and packaging material, munitions debris remaining after munitions use, demilitarization, or disposal; and range-related debris)
- Material potentially containing a high enough concentration of explosives such that the material presents an explosive hazard (e.g., equipment, drainage systems, holding tanks, piping, or ventilation ducts, that were associated with munitions production, demilitarization or disposal operations)

AKA – AEDA, Range Residue, Munitions Residue, Range Scrap...

## Material potentially containing explosives or munitions (e.g., ...)



**Munitions Containers and Packing Material** 



Munitions Debris Remaining after Munitions Use
Range Residue Processing Operation



Munitions Debris Remaining after Demilitarization
Disassembled Munitions Components - Projectiles



**Range Related Debris** 

### Material potentially containing a high enough concentration of explosives such that the material presents an explosive hazard (e.g., ...)

### Equipment, ... Associated With Munitions Production, Demilitarization or Disposal Operations



Building Remediation/Demolition Cornhusker AAP



**Building Remediation/Demolition Kansas AAP** 

### What is **NOT** MPPEH?

- Military munitions within the DoD's established munitions management system.
- Other hazardous items that may present explosion hazards (e.g., gasoline cans, compressed gas cylinders) that are not munitions and are not intended for use as munitions.

### **DoD Policy Background**

- April 1997: Scrap metal worker fatality in Fontana, CA. High explosive anti-tank round mistaken for scrap metal.
- <u>September 1997:</u> DoD IG report, Evaluation of the Disposal of Munitions Items, contains 25 recommended actions.
- <u>Late 90's</u>: Several DoD groups/IPTs unsuccessfully attempt to address issues.
- Oct 99 Jan 00: Joint Workgroup drafts DoD policy.
- 2000-2004: DoD formal coordination, many hits & misses....
- <u>December 04</u>: <u>Finally!</u> *DoDI 4140.62, Management and Disposition of MPPEH*, issued but it requires development of DoD guidance containing MPPEH management procedures (DoD Manual).

### **Primary Source Documents for MPPEH Policy**

- DoDI 4140.62, Management and Disposition of MPPEH
- DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, Ch. 16 – MPPEH
- DoD 4160.21-M, Defense Material Disposition Manual
- DoD 4160.21-M-1, Defense Demilitarization Manual
- Army TB 700-4, Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment
- + NAVSEA OP 5, Ch. 13, Paragraph 15, Material Potentially Presenting and Explosive Hazard

Most influence over MPPEH management methods.

Nearly all requirements can be traced to these documents.

#### **Current Policies Requirements Include...**

- Multiple visual inspections\*
- Signed certification/verification of "inert and/or free of explosives or related materials" \*
- X, XXX, XXXXX, and zero(0) standards for "degrees of decontamination"
- Qualification of receivers
- Segregated and secured storage \*
- Maintain chain of custody (...through final disposition) \*
- Processes to provide "positive assurance" that explosives are not present
  - Thermal treatment? \*
  - Closed circuit processes?
- Venting internal cavities
- Segregation of type "1a, 1b, and 2 range residues"
- Demilitarization requirements \*
- Environmental requirements
- Transportation requirements, including hazard classification
- ...etc.

Need: Clear corporate objectives and procedures for MPPEH management.

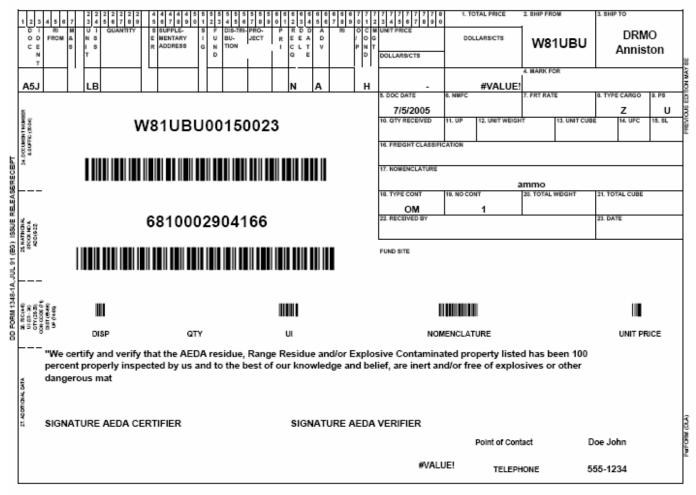
Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



Step 1

Multiple Visual Inspections: Removing Live Rounds at the ASP

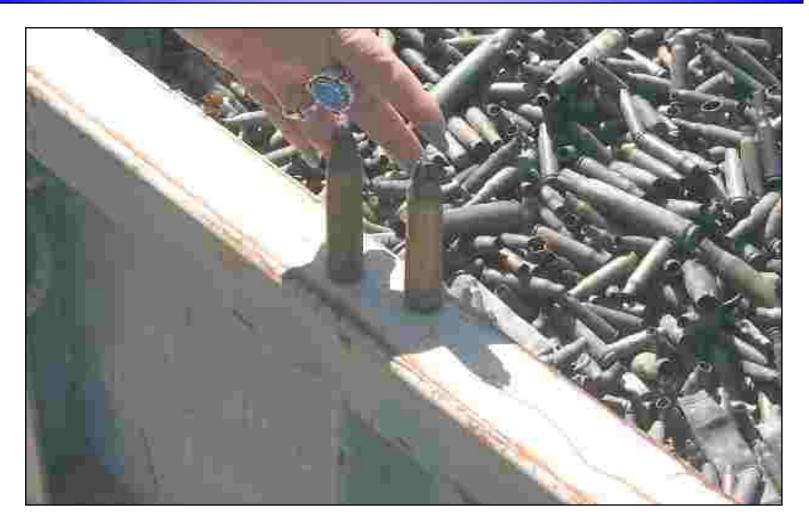
Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



Step 2

Certification and Verification that material is "inert and/or free of explosives or related materials"

Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



"Certified" Brass at the Qualified Recycling Program

Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)







Step 3

Security and Storage at QRP Yard

Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



Step 4

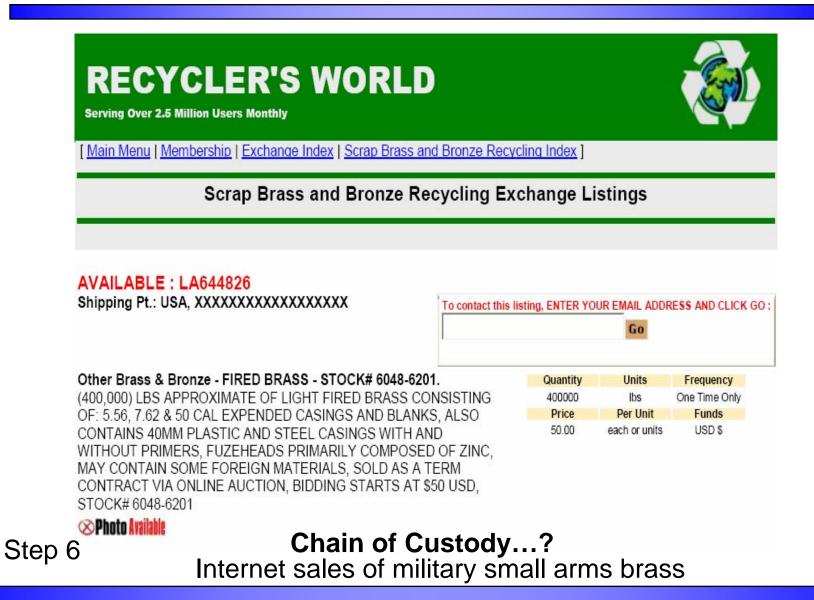
APE 1408 Safety Certification System For Small Arms Brass

Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



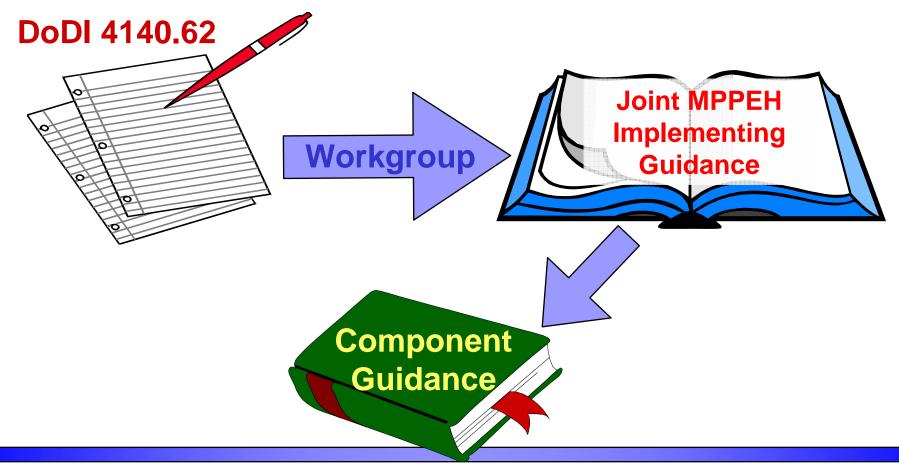
Step 5 Mobile Deformer System For Small Arms Brass

Small Arms Brass (a "simple" case)



# Project Overview: What are we trying to accomplish?

Develop a DoD procedural manual for the management and disposition of MPPEH.



### **Project Overview: Doing our homework**

- Purpose: Ensure the knowledge base necessary to develop DoD Guidance on MPPEH:
  - Understand/clarify our corporate objectives for MPPEH management
  - Understand the methods/processes employed in the field
  - Identify most efficient and cost effective ways to meet corporate objectives
- Project Overview:
  - Requirements Analysis
  - Field Survey
  - MPPEH Forum

**Business Process Analysis** 

**Three Step Process** 

# Business Process Analysis Step 1: MPPEH Requirements Analysis

- Identify (DoD) policy documents responsible for MPPEH management behavior;
- Describe management objectives, intent, roles and authorities of the proponent organizations for these documents;
- Analyzes key issues that require resolution and clarification in DoD MPPEH management guidance;
- Make recommendations to resolve and clarify key
  management issues in a way that meets the intent of the
  DoD policy documents and their proponent organizations.

### Some Questions Going In...

- What <u>are</u> the current requirements?
  - What do they actually say?
  - What do they really mean (intent)?
  - How do they interface with one another (interoperability)?
- Do current policies generate corresponding levels of risk reduction?
- Do current policies <u>require</u> over-processing of MPPEH?
- Is the <u>confusion</u> over the current set of requirements driving over-processing?

Want the DoD guidance to promote safe and cost-effective MPPEH management.

### Requirements Analysis Key Issue 1: Terms and Definitions

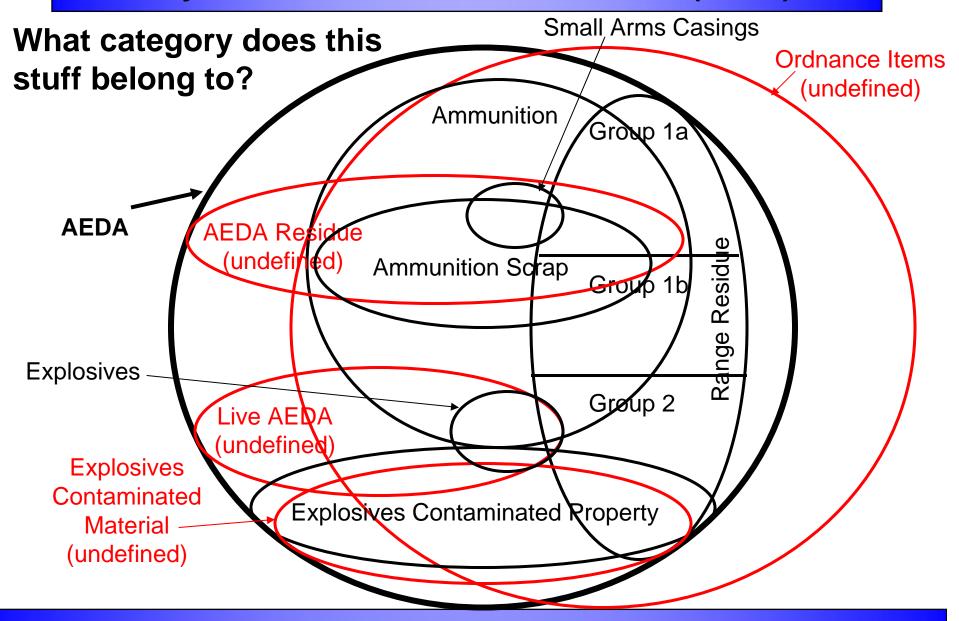
#### Materials:

- AEDA, AEDA Residue, Live AEDA, Ordnance, Range Residue, Explosives Contaminated Material, Explosives Contaminated Property, Brass, Cartridge Casings, Small Arms Cartridge Casings, ETC.
- All trigger specific requirements. Eliminate all that are unneeded and clearly define those that are needed.

#### Certification Standards:

- X, XXX, XXXXX, 0 (zero)
- 1X, 3X, 5X, 0 (zero)
- Inert and/or free of explosives or related materials
- Contains no items of a dangerous or hazardous nature
- Safe or Hazardous
- Pick one and equate it to an acceptable level of risk and measurable/observable conditions.

### Requirements Analysis Key Issue 1: Terms and Definitions (Cont.)



# Requirements Analysis Key Issue 2: Standards/Methods for Determining/Mitigating Explosive Hazard

#### Standards:

- "free of explosives" unnecessarily stringent
- "X" standards broadly misinterpreted/misapplied
- "safe and hazardous" OK but need more precision

#### Methods:

- Visual Inspection: Required? Sufficient? When?
- Chemical/Thermal Treatment: Required? When? Safe? Visual inspection too?
- Venting: When? Why?
- No longer resembles munitions: When? Why? All?
- Chain of custody: How? Who? Realistic?
- Closed Circuit Process: When? How?

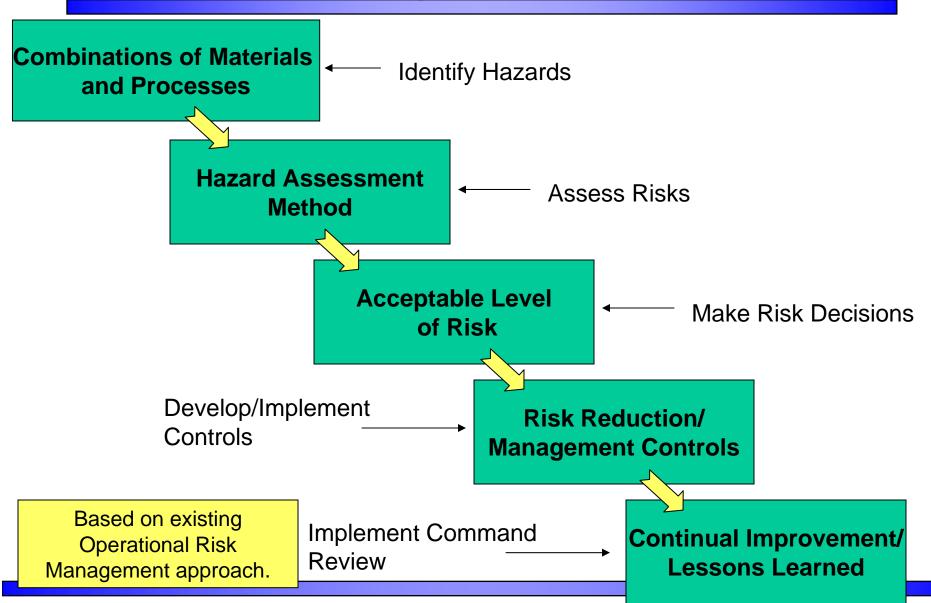
# Requirements Analysis Key Issue 2: Standards/Methods for Determining/Mitigating Explosive Hazard (Cont.)

#### "Safe or Hazardous" is first hurdle

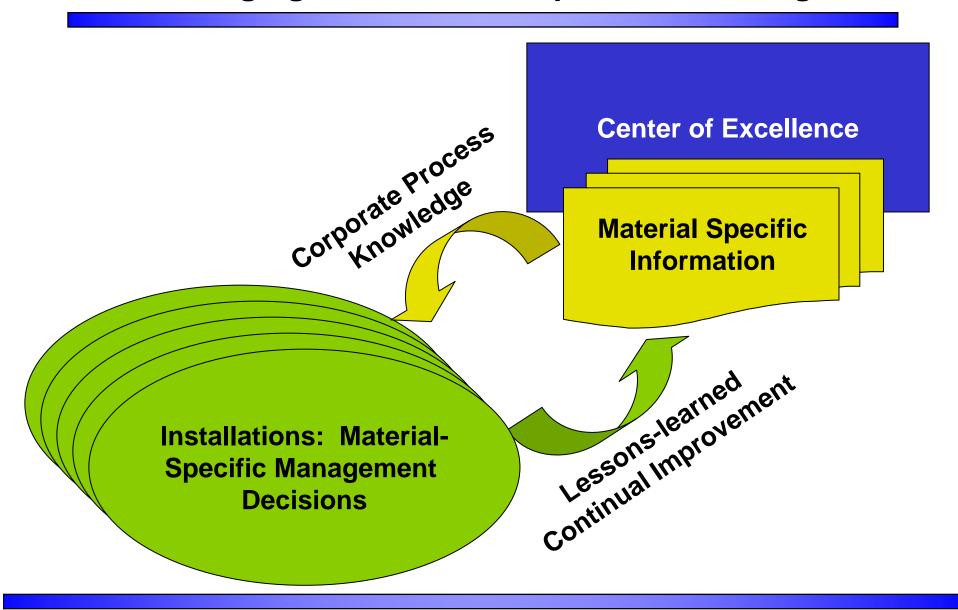
- What does "safe" mean? Safe for what?
  - Unrestricted use?
  - Recycling?
  - Processing by "qualified" MPPEH handlers?
- Most MPPEH is recycled as scrap metal:
  - Transported on public highways
  - Processed (exposed to heat, shock, or friction)
  - Smelted
  - Need a partnership with scrap metal recycling industry
- Recommendation: Safe (generally) = "safe for methods, processes and levels of care common to the scrap metal recycling industry"
- Recommendation: Use a standardized hazard assessment (e.g., RAC)

Risk is a function of both material conditions and management methods.

# Requirements Analysis Recommendation: Make Decisions Based on Risk Management Process



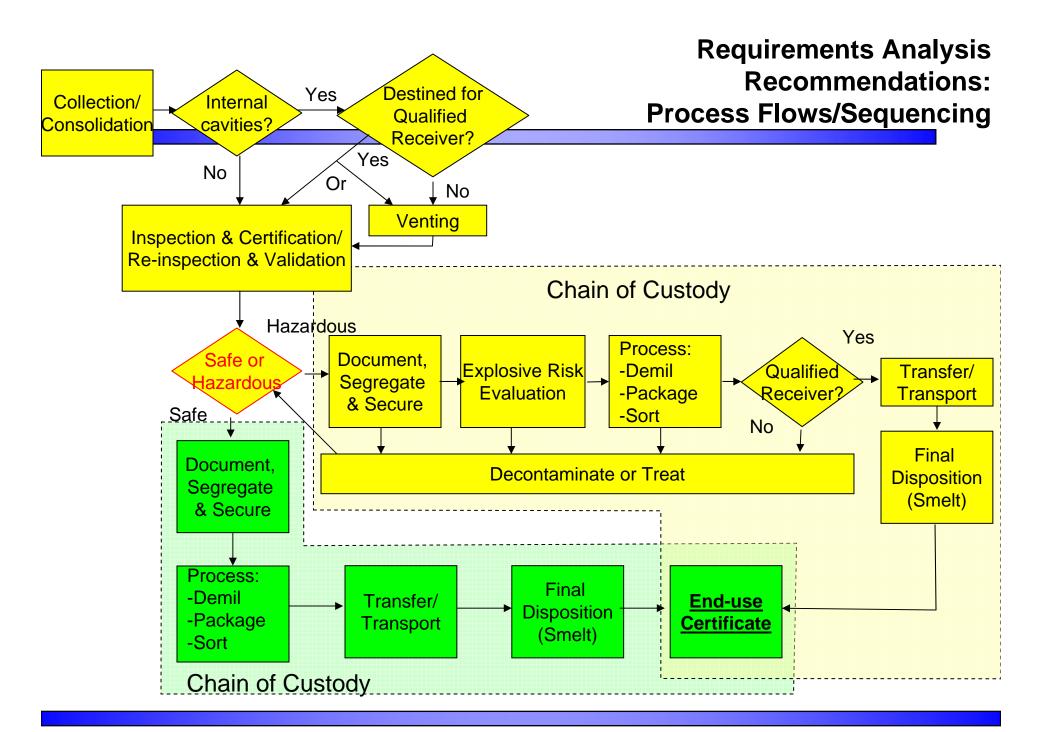
#### Recommendation: Leveraging a Source of Corporate Knowledge



# Requirements Analysis Recommendation: Processes and Controls for Managing Explosive Hazards

- Guidance must address <u>How</u> and <u>When</u> to Apply:
  - Visual Inspection
  - Treatment
  - Venting
  - Deforming
  - Receipt by Qualified Buyers
  - Chain of custody
  - Closed-circuit process
- Address intent, standards, and sequence
- Suggest viable process flows

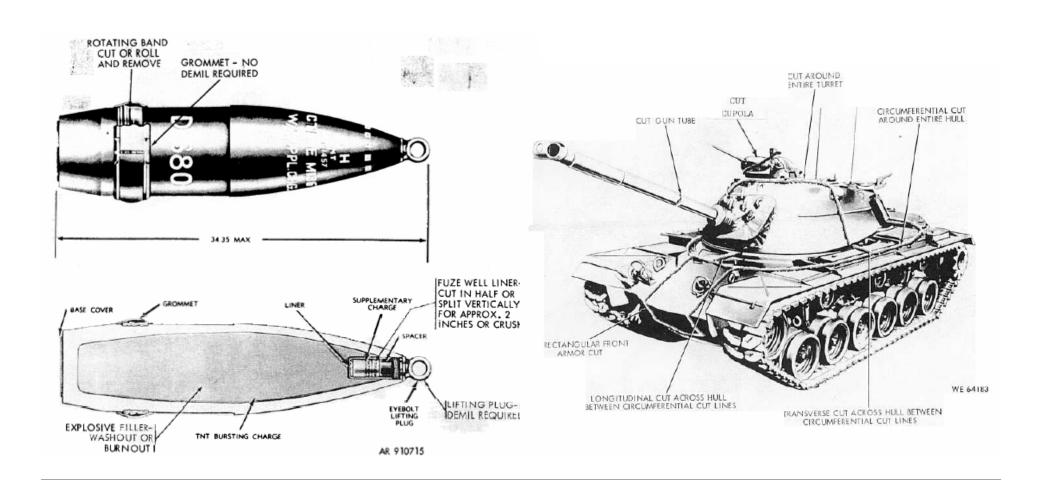
Controls applied based on results of risk analysis/management process.



### Requirements Analysis Key Issue #3: Demilitarization and Trade Security

- Application of Demil Codes (particularly G) is poorly understood
- Munitions Demil method: "As economically as possible to ensure freedom from explosive (or other)...hazards"
  - Inert projectiles: remove rotator bands and expose filler
  - Target hulks: May require "key point" demilitarization
  - Some components of munitions and equipment require "total destruction"

# Requirements Analysis Key Issue #3: Demilitarization and Trade Security



Applicability of Item-specific demil requirements to used items.

### Requirements Analysis Key Issue #3: Demilitarization and Trade Security

- IF most MPPEH is recycled as scrap metal (smelted), chain of custody required, venting required, no explosive hazard...
  - Doesn't this equate to demil?
  - Potential for administrative processes to resolve demil requirements?



Can we streamline or cut out process steps?

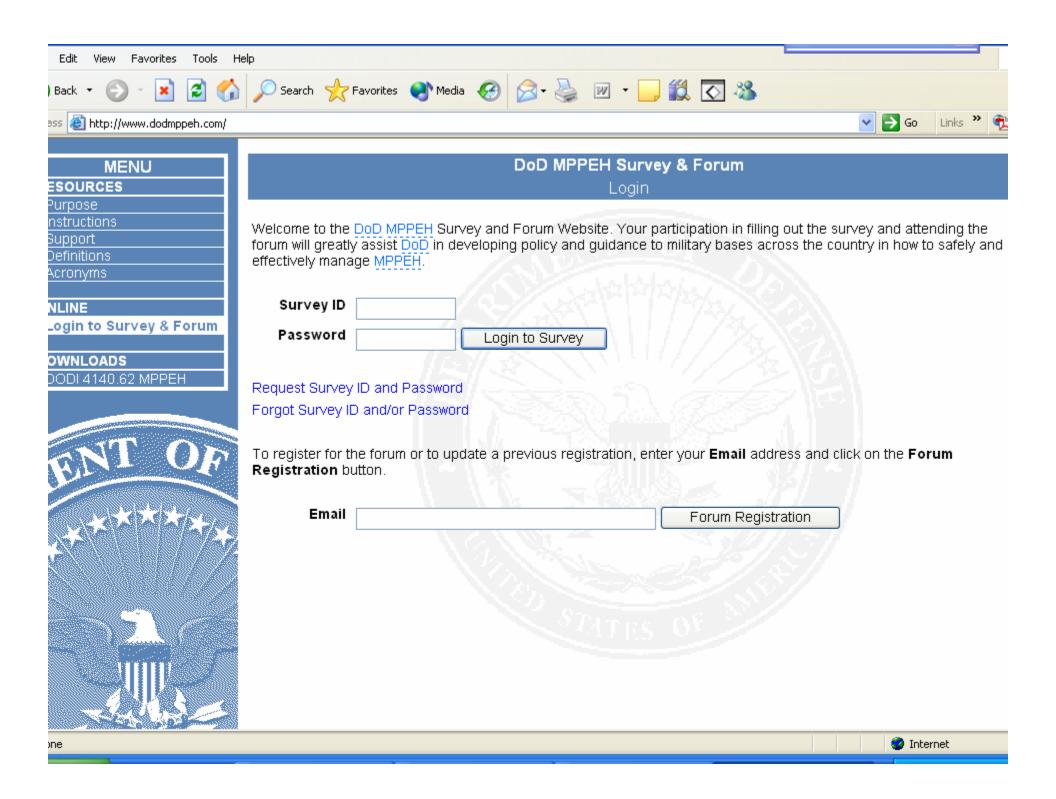
### Requirements Analysis Key Issue #4: Transportation Requirements

- Current policies require assignment of hazard classifications prior to MPPEH shipment
- How are hazard classifications assigned to MPPEH?
  - Testing
  - Analogy
  - Pre-1980
  - Non-new item
  - UXO? (Ship as 1.1, compatibility, blocking/bracing/packing)
- Recommendation: Stress MPPEH certified "safe" does not require explosive hazard classification
- Recommendation: Capture/provide decision criteria for RCRA exclusions and exemptions for recyclable material

### **Business Process Analysis Step 2: MPPEH Survey**

### Purpose: Ensure understanding of MPPEH processes currently used by the DoD

- Participants: Over 150 respondents
  - OSD (DDESB, I&E)
  - Army (IMA, ATEC, JMC, COE, DAC)
  - Navy
  - Marine Corps
  - Air Force
  - Scrap Metal Recycling Industry (ISRI liaison)
  - Ordnance Contractors (NAOC liaison)
- Format: Web-based survey (16 Jan 16 Feb)



### Overview: DoD MPPEH Web-based Survey

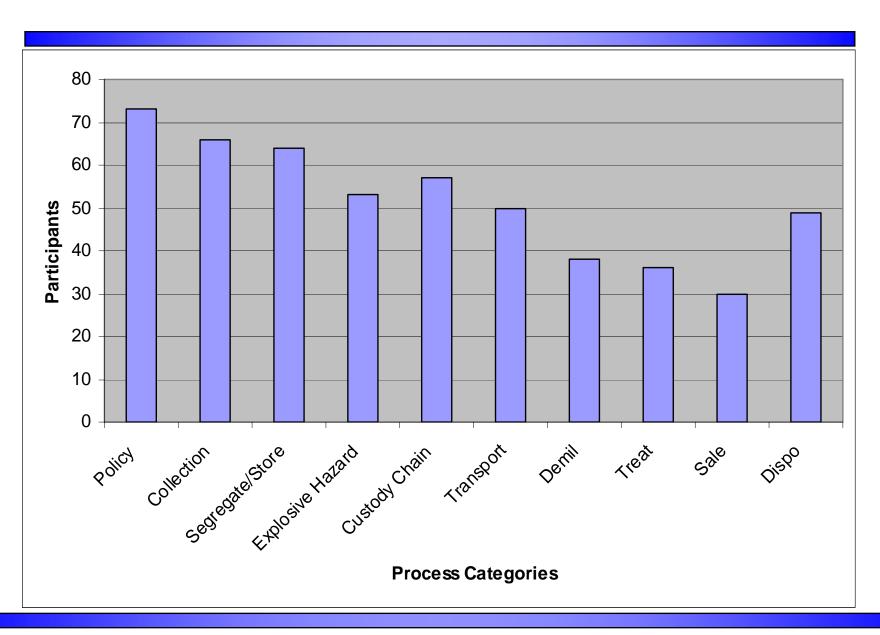
- Personal Information:
  - Who are you?
  - What do you do w/ MPPEH?
- What kinds of MPPEH do you manage?
  - How (processes and equipment) do you manage this material?
  - Why (requirement citation) do you manager this material in this way?
- Challenges?
- Successes and innovations?
- Most problematic/least understood requirements?

### **Participant Activity**

Service	Password Sent	Started Survey	Finished Survey
Air Force	2	4	4
Army	25	52	17
USMC	3	5	8
Navy	5	9	5
Contractors	19	15	3
Other	12	8	8
TOTALS	66	93	38

**Total Active Participants (Started or Finished) = 131** 

#### **MPPEH Processing Categories (contd)**



### **MPPEH Survey Results**

What is the #1 Challenge????

# LACK of CLEAR, CONSISTENT GUIDANCE!!!

#### Others:

- Lack of manpower/funding
- Equipment maintenance

Several requests for consolidated guidance and cross-referencing within existing guidance documents.

#### **MPPEH Survey Results**

**Most confusing/problematic requirements????** 

- Costly/time consuming inspection and certification.
- Conflicting requirements for inspection and certification.
- Understanding demil requirements for specific items.
- Application of RCRA requirements.
- Proper storage space limitations.
- Chain of custody/security.

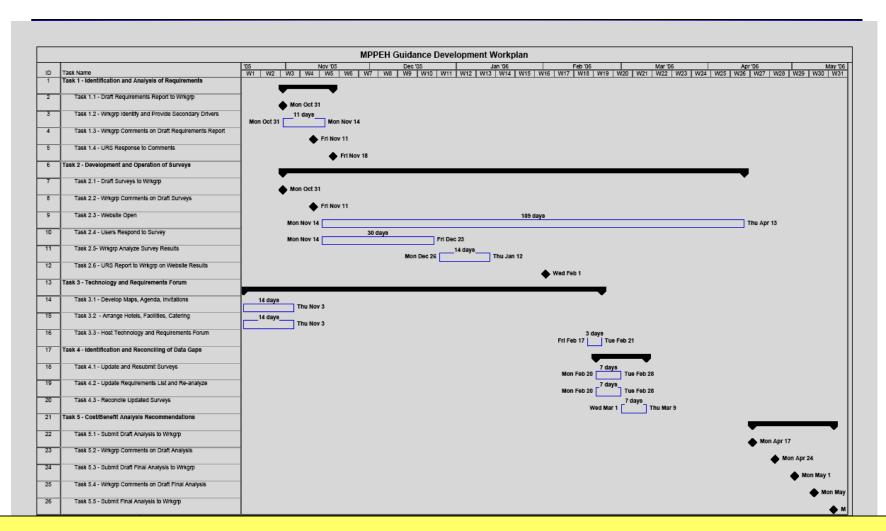
Evidence of terminology inconsistencies and cost constraints.

## **Business Process Analysis Step 3 MPPEH Forum**

- 7-9 March 06, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD
- 90+ attendees from public and private sector
- Opportunity for MPPEH requirement "owners" and MPPEH managers to present and discuss:
  - the methods and rationale for specific MPPEH management practices (i.e., How we manage MPPEH? Why we manage MPPEH the way we do?);
  - the effectiveness of current DoD guidance; and
  - the challenges faced by installation personnel in the management of MPPEH.

Frank and open discussions about what works and what doesn't.

### **Business Process Analysis: Project Timeline**



Bottom-line: Started in October. Requirements Analysis completed in January. Survey completed in February. Forum in March. Procedures in development.





Brian Helmlinger URS 703-18-3340 Brian\_helmlinger@urscorp.com