



Computer-generated image of the Shchuch'ye chemical weapons destruction facility. Source: U.S. Defence Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)

Second main destruction building

Railway entering the CWDF industrial zone and arriving at the destruction building

Construction of the Shchuch'ye Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility

Canada considers the Shchuch'ye CWDF to be the top CW priority, as it will destroy Russia's most lethal and proliferation-prone chemical weapons. The arsenal consists of 5,440 tonnes of the deadly nerve agents Sarin, Soman and VX, which are stored in more than 1.9 million artillery and rocket-launched munitions. While the Shchuch'ye stockpile accounts for 13.6 percent of Russia's total agent stockpile by volume, it represents almost 44 percent of the total number of chemical weapons in Russia's declared stockpile of 4.5 million.

CANADIAN PROJECTS AT SHCHUCH'YE

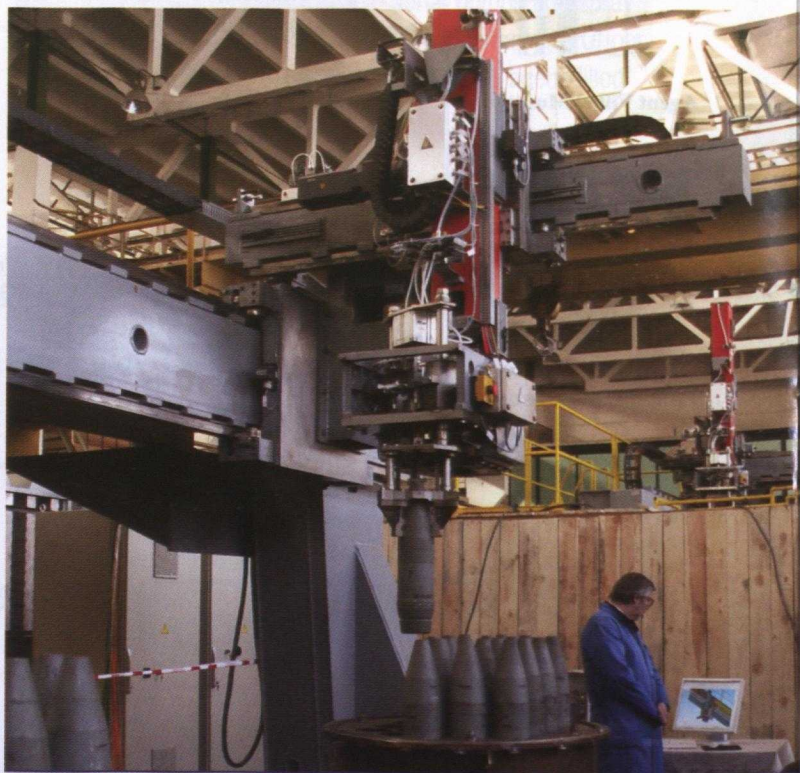
RAILWAY PROJECT

Canada has committed up to \$33 million to fund the construction of an 18-kilometre railway connecting the CW storage depot near Planovy to the destruction facility at Shchuch'ye. The primary purpose of this line is to enable the chemical munitions to be transported to the destruction site in a safe and secure manner. This rail link will also be used to deliver operational supplies and remove waste materials. Canada has received a US\$1 million contribution from the U.S. non-governmental organization (NGO) Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) for this project, which will be applied to the construction of a rail bridge across the Miass River.

Difficulties in the subcontractor tendering process in 2004 were resolved, and a competitive and transparent bid process resulted in the awarding of the construction subcontract in February 2006. Railway construction commenced in March 2006 and will take approximately 22 months to complete.

EQUIPMENT FOR NERVE AGENT DESTRUCTION

In October 2005, Canada announced that it would provide up to \$55 million for the provision of equipment critical to accelerating and completing the destruction of the stock of nerve agents in Shchuch'ye. In particular, Canadian funds are being used to purchase equipment needed to destroy nerve agent munitions within the site's second main destruction building (MDB-2). This building will double the CW destruction capacity of the Shchuch'ye facility, thereby significantly accelerating the destruction of the site's stockpile. Equipment to be funded by Canada includes MDB-2's two demilitarization process lines (DPLs), catalytic reactors (filters), a munitions thermal treatment demilitarization process line (MTTDPL) and the treatment area for leaking munitions. These projects are expected to be completed in 2006-2007.



Manipulators for the second main destruction building at the Shchuch'ye CWDF