

# Environmental Protection Services

The NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency General Services Programme (LG) is committed to achieving the highest standards of environmental performance, preventing pollution and minimizing the impact of its services and activities on the environment by means of continual improvement on behalf of the NATO Nations. NAMSAs LG Programme is aiming to be ISO 14001:2004 (Environmental Management System) certified by the end of 2011 for the services it provides to its NATO military customers.

## Eco-D3

Supporting nations for environmentally responsible dismantling, demilitarization and disposal activities

### Eco-Dismantling

### Eco-Demilitarization

### Eco-Disposal

One of the mainstays for providing a safer environment is the demilitarization of munitions, weapons and equipment that are no longer required in national inventories. Working with the Partnership for Peace Trust Fund, NATO's Science for Peace and Security Programme and national governments, NAMSAs has safely demilitarized a wide range of items including:

- anti-personnel landmines
- small arms and light weapons
- chemicals
- cluster munitions
- ammunition containing white phosphorus, depleted uranium and tungsten.

Obsolete military equipment such as vehicles, ships and aircraft contain harmful elements such as asbestos, PCBs (Polychlorinated biphenyls), lead, chromates etc. NAMSAs is currently engaged in the environmentally responsible disposal of such systems.



## Eco-R3

Assisting nations with expertise to reduce their carbon footprint by recycling, recovery and reusing of their military equipment

### Recycle

### Recovery

### Reuse

One of the mandates imposed by ISO 14001 is the recycling of material whenever possible.



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Many of NAMSA's projects described above contain recycling as part of the overall project plan.

Examples:

- Extraction of valuable metals (resold and the value returned to customer)
- Pesticides and chemicals into fertilizer
- Steel from weapons turned into manhole covers, piping and reinforcing rods for the building industry
- The bodies of demilitarized SA-4 missiles turned into water tanks
- Demilitarized explosives converted to commercial purposes
- Demilitarized White Phosphorous converted into Phosphoric Acid for commercial use
- Plastic landmine bodies converted into children's toys and plastic piping.

### Eco-E3

Providing nations with technical expertise to achieve sustainable targets by reducing energy consumption, with sustainable technologies and trainings

#### Eco-Energy

#### Eco-Engineering

#### Eco-Education

Cold War legacies are large areas blighted by a lack of environmental responsibility.

At the request of national governments NAMSA continues to work assiduously in cleaning up such areas. To date:

- 571 Hectares of land contaminated with unexploded ordnance as a result of an explosion have been cleared, and the land returned to the local population for agriculture.
- NAMSA is currently extracting contamination from former military airbases having accumulated oil and other heavy metal deposits seeped into the sub-strata.
- Out of date pesticides and other chemicals badly stored in areas of population are being removed and rendered harmless.
- Inhibiting Red Fuming Nitric Acid (IRFNA) known as Mélanj, used as a rocket propellant has been successfully neutralized in several nations and has been converted into a non toxic and environmentally friendly substance that can be used as a soil enhancer using a mobile plant designed by NAMSA and the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme.



NAMSA also recognizes its responsibility towards future generations in the equipment that is procured today. It is for that reason that military equipment procured for our customers is tested against stringent national



*The plastic bodies of landmines were recycled into children's toys*

and EU regulations to ensure compliance with environmental standards. Recent acquisitions include:

- Environmentally friendly Waste Incinerators, Water Treatment and Sewage Treatment equipment
- Deployable Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) laboratories
- A complete Munitions Disposal facility that meets all EU environmental regulations

To address public concern about potential environmental problems many governments are requesting training and surveys be carried out. NAMSA has provided:

- ISO 14001 training for national armed forces
- Environmental surveys carried out on government owned property
- Pollution prevention and control.

