

## **SCRANTON ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT**

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

#### **LOCATION**

The Scranton Army Ammunition Plant (SCAAP) is located in northeastern Pennsylvania, just one block from downtown Scranton in Lackawanna County. Commercial and residential zones surround the installation. The installation is part of a National Historic District, so the installation's primary buildings are listed in the National Register. The entire installation is developed for industrial use and the operating contractor is one of the area's predominant employers. The local climate is temperate. The normal maximum daily temperature is about 82F; the normal minimum is about 18F. The normal relative humidity ranges from 52 to 88%. The normal annual precipitation is about 38 inches, including the normal annual snowfall of about 49 inches.

#### **SIZE**

**Acres:** 15

**Square Footage of Buildings:** 386,634 SF

**Plant Replacement Value:** \$98,481,670

#### **HISTORY**

The facility was originally constructed in the early 1900s by the DL&W Railroad as steam locomotive erection and repair shops. The railroad abandoned the property in the late 1940s after diesel locomotives made steam locomotives obsolete. The Army acquired the property through condemnation proceedings in 1951 and converted the facility to manufacture artillery shells. Ammunition manufacturing began in 1953 with U.S. Hoffman Machinery as the operating contractor. In 1963 a prolonged labor union strike led the government to terminate the contract with U.S. Hoffman. A subsequent contract was awarded to the Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp., and they have been the operating contractor since then.

During the past ten years over \$30,000,000 has been invested in SCAAP to address problems with the aging infrastructure and to improve manufacturing capabilities. Projects have included the upgrade of existing manufacturing equipment, including computerized controls; the installation of new manufacturing and testing capabilities; and automation equipment to increase manufacturing flexibility. These improvements have made SCAAP the most modern facility of its type.

In 1996, Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp. was awarded a facilities use contract for operation of the installation. This contract provides no government funds and allows the contractor to lease government-owned equipment to manufacture commercial products. This arrangement reduces government costs to maintain the installation. The current contract also requires Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp. to invest a minimum of two million dollars per year in facilities maintenance and improvements. Since the contract was awarded in 2002,

Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp. has invested approximately \$6,000,000 in manufacturing equipment and infrastructure.

In 2000 the installation's environmental restoration program achieved and demonstrated to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) that the installation meets the state's environmental standards for industrial/commercial property. For this, PADEP issued to the Army and Chamberlain Manufacturing Corp. relief from liability for pre-existing contamination. This protects the Army and Chamberlain from being held responsible for any contamination not directly attributable to current operations on the installation.

### **MISSION**

Due to its small size and urban location, only ammunition metal parts (projectiles) are produced at SCAAP. These include the 120 mm mortar family, the 105 mm and 155 mm howitzer family, and 5-inch high explosive projectiles for the Navy. Transportation requirements are met via two rail spurs on the installation and nearby Interstate 81.

Specially manufactured long-stroke and nosing forge presses make SCAAP the only active manufacturing facility capable of producing certain ammunition parts. Manufacturing expertise made SCAAP the only producer of the SADARM (Search And Destroy ARMament) shell body, a high tech munitions that deploys two laser-guided sub munitions. SCAAP production capacity is approximately ten times that of any commercial facility, and is approximately 80% of the total existing North American capacity.

SCAAP also manufactures prototype ammunition for the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC), which is located less than 100 miles away at the Picatinny Arsenal. Developmental work for ARDEC has also included new manufacturing processes. SCAAP also tested the new high-solids/low solvent ammunition coatings developed by the Army Research Laboratory to meet the more stringent environmental requirements.

### **MAJOR UNITS/TENANTS**

The Defense Contract Audit Agency is the only tenant activity on the installation.

### **POPULATION**

	<b>Authorized</b>
Military	0
Civilian	11
Contractor	355
Student	0
Other	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	366