

# IOWA ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT

## IOWA

### LOCATION

Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAAP) is located in southeast Iowa, Des Moines County, adjacent to Middletown, Iowa. It is surrounded by Lee, Henry, and Louisa counties and is bordered on the east by the Mississippi River and the state of Illinois. The plant is 8 miles west of Burlington, Iowa and 86 miles south of HQ, Joint Munitions Command, Rock Island, Illinois. The installation rests predominately on agricultural farmland with wooded hills intermixed. The installation is mostly bordered by farmland and State Highway 34, which runs along the north perimeter. A newly constructed ethanol plant, which processes corn into a fuel additive, lies directly north of the plant. IAAAP is subject to all four seasons, with an average annual temperature of 48 degrees Fahrenheit and average annual rainfall of 29 inches.

### SIZE

**Acres:** 19,011.42

**Square Footage of Buildings:** 4,263,771 SF

**Plant Replacement Value:** \$1,273,041,000

### HISTORY

The 19,000-acre site for the formerly named Iowa Ordnance Plant (IOP) was acquired in November 1940; construction began in January 1941 with Day and Zimmerman Co., Inc. as the operating contractor. The first item at this government-owned, contractor-operated facility rolled off the line in September 1941. Production was halted at midnight, 14 August 1945 upon official announcement of the surrender of Japan. The plant reverted to a government-owned, government-operated facility completing the work in-process and renovating ammunition in storage. In 1947, the Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co., Inc. of Lexington, Kentucky was selected by the Atomic Energy Commission to design and build the first production facility at the IOP for the manufacture of high explosive components for atomic weapons. In 1975, all nuclear weapons related production was terminated at the plant. At the outbreak of the Korean Conflict, the IOP was reactivated as a government-owned, contractor-operated facility under the management of Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co., Inc. The IOP remained active under their management, since 1951. In 1963, the plant was re-designated as the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant. The workforce has varied from a WWII peak of 13,000 employees to the present day workforce of approximately 800 employees. Current production capabilities and orders include the M795, M107 and M927 artillery Projectile, the Modular Artillery Charge System, 75mm and 105mm Blanks, the entire 120mm family of tank ammunition, and warheads for the Javelin, Mongoose and Hawk missiles. Demil operations are a high priority for the IAAAP.

## MISSIONS

The IAAAP is a vital ammunition production and development facility. The plant is the only producer of 120mm tank training ammunition and is the major supplier of 120mm tactical rounds. It is also the major supplier of 155mm M107 and M795 artillery production rounds. Warhead production capabilities include Javelin, Sidewinder, Stinger, Hawk, Patriot, and others. M231 MACS propelling charges are also produced. Development is ongoing for the Stryker vehicle armor tile system and Mongoose mine clearing system. The plant has a real-time digital x-ray system, which provides state of the art radiographic inspection capability for verifying improved projectile cast quality. The plant recently purchased and installed a large capacity high shear mixer for production of insensitive munitions.

In FY 03, the IAAAP agreed to allow the Iowa National Guard (ARNG) to construct a new Burlington Readiness Center and Organizational Maintenance Shop on IAAAP's northern perimeter as a part of their Long Range Construction Plan. In October 2004, the plant was utilized by the Iowa National Guard 224<sup>th</sup> Engineering Battalion as the rail load out site in support of OIF.

Two major highways pass within the plants. Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad has major rail lines running through southeast Iowa and they provide rail shipment for major ammunition shipments to ports. The Mississippi River provides barge traffic to the area 8 miles from the plant.

## MAJOR UNITS/TENANTS

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Alliant Tech Systems  
General Dynamics- Ordnance Tactical Systems  
East Camden and Highland Railroad  
Advanced Environmental Technologies

## POPULATION

	<b>Authorized</b>
Military	2
Civilian	28
Contractor	843
Student	0
Other	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	886