

EPA recognizes former Defense Depot Ogden, Utah Cleanup Efforts

By Michael Dobbs, DDC Environmental

Max Dodson, Assistant Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region VIII presented Certificates of Appreciation to Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) representatives Dell Fredde and Ron Smith, and Corps of Engineers representative, Paul Feldman, for their outstanding performance in remediating the former Defense Distribution Depot Ogden, Utah (DDOU) property to a level that makes it transferable to the Ogden Reuse Authority while promoting reuse in a ceremony held September 18, 2002.

Dodson, a former DLA employee, said the three key elements that led to Ogden's success and should be used as a benchmark for other DoD sites were "true partnership between all stakeholders, a common sense approach to site restoration, and innovative approaches to phased Findings of Suitability to Transfer (FOST)."

In September 1995, the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended closure of DDOU and the site was officially closed in September 1997. A preliminary assessment of DDOU identified 107 sites that required investigation and or further remediations before they could be declared environmentally safe and no further threat to health.

All 107 sites have now been cleaned up, with two ground-water pump and treatments systems in place that were determined by EPA to be operating properly and successfully.

With long-term monitoring and land use controls in place, the former DDOU is slated to transfer the remaining property, approximately 240 acres, to the Ogden Local Redevelopment Authority by November 2002.

The redevelopment of the former DDOU is well underway with the infrastructure improvements well ahead of plan. By 2007—8 years ahead of schedule - more than \$18 million of improvements will be complete or under contract with another \$30 million of improvements planned.

These investments have already defined Business Depot Ogden as the premier business and industrial park in Utah. Only three-years into redevelopment 1,258 jobs have been retained or created. This is a rate of job creation 100 times faster than job creation for the rest of the county.

Warehouse space has been reused as manufacturing space, new manufacturing space has been constructed and additional construction of pre-leased manufacturing space is underway.



Pictured from left to right are: *Dell Fredde, Max Dodson, Ron Smith, and Paul Feldman.*