SUSTAINABLE RECYCLING OF EXPLOSIVES FROM DEMILITARISATION

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ABSTRACT
Nammo Vingåkersverken AB is one of the sites in the Nammo Demil Division specialized in handling excess, outdated and obsolete conventional ammunition.

All processing at the Nammo Vingåkersverken AB site is focused to the R3 philosophy: Resources, Recovery and Recycling.

Today the magnitude of explosive recovery from ammunition depends on the type of explosives that is useable in civilian explosive manufacturing processes. To be cost effective in this recycling, Vingåkersverken’s processes have been adjusted to produce the explosives as bulk products. In a normal year, the total fraction of recycled explosives is over 95% of the mass of the incoming amount.

Since Nammo Vingåkersverken is one of the leading R3 demil sites in the world we are trying to find ways to improve explosive recycling so as to include more difficult explosives not normally useful in civilian explosive manufacturing processes. Vingåkersverken has started cooperation directly with the Swedish mining industry. Successful tests in Sweden’s biggest open pit mine, Aitik, New Boliden, opens up possibilities for Nammo Vingåkersverken to increase the magnitude of explosive recycling even more.