



MUL034 MULWALA EXPLOSIVES FACILITY



SEP - DEC 2019
THALES (AUSTRALIAN MUNITIONS)
\$1.29 M

DEMEX was engaged as the principal contractor for the high-risk demolition package at the Mulwala Explosives Facility.

The project involved the demolition of four high-risk structures used extensively to produce nitrocellulose (NC) since the outbreak of the Second World War. NC, also known as flash cotton or gun cotton, is a highly flammable compound formed by nitrating cellulose through exposure to nitric acid or another powerful nitrating agent. The structures had undergone remediation works but were still impacted by residual contamination.

Prior to demolition works, DEMEX's hazmat team removed identified

hazardous materials including residual NC, lead flooring and asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in the form of friable pipe lagging, millboard and asbestos roof sheets at a height of 20 metres.

Following the removal of hazardous materials, DEMEX's fleet of excavators, including the specialised 62T high-reach demolition excavator, completed the structural demolition works. Due to the presence of residual NC, all works onsite were conducted in a controlled methodical manner under substantial dust suppression to minimise the likelihood of NC ignition.

