

# After Fumigation

## Trenton Processing and Distribution Center – Hamilton Township, NJ

*This is one in a series of fact sheets providing information on the anthrax decontamination activities at Trenton Processing and Distribution Center in Hamilton Township, NJ.*

### **What are the next steps after the building is fumigated?**

After the building has been fumigated the following will be performed:

**Gas Removal:** The building will be cleared of chlorine dioxide gas using a chemical scrubber to neutralize the gas and turn it into harmless byproducts – salt and water. Byproducts will be removed from the building, sealed in tanks and disposed of according to federal, state and local standards and regulations. In addition, professionals wearing personal protective equipment will use sensors to monitor the air inside and outside the building.

**Environmental Sampling:** Numerous spore strips will be placed throughout the building to validate the efficacy of the chlorine dioxide gas. Environmental sample locations will be targeted throughout the building before fumigation. Test strips will be removed and tested to determine if the decontamination was successful and the standard of “no growth” of anthrax spores was achieved.

**Environmental Clearance:** After reviewing the results of the environmental sampling, an independent Environmental Clearance Committee will make a recommendation to the Postal Service as to the safety of reentering the building. Once deemed safe, crews can begin to perform secondary cleaning and refurbishment activities.

### **What will happen during secondary cleaning?**

All surfaces, including ceilings, joists and walls will either be vacuumed using High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) vacuums or wiped down. This will remove any dust or residue left over from the fumigation process. The dust collected will be sealed in containers and properly disposed of. Special attention will be given to the sorting machines and the areas where contaminated letters were processed.

### **How will the building be refurbished?**

Refurbishing will include testing and rehabilitating all mail-processing equipment. Crews will also paint, install new carpet, ductwork and ceiling tiles and upgrade the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning system and repair the parking lot. This process is anticipated to take about six months.