

**ASSURED DESTRUCTION
CASE STUDY:
Pharmaceutical Clinical
Trials Company**



Pharmaceutical companies, big and small, design tablets, capsules, sprays and ingredients that don't always make their way to the consumer. Whether the products are manufactured for clinical trials coming to close, are at the end of their lifecycle, or have been recalled, they must be destroyed via a validated process that satisfies the requirements of regulatory agencies and environmental managers, among others.

Covanta Environmental Solutions regularly works with companies in need of this assured and final destruction. When a major Pharmaceutical Clinical Trials company was in search of a new end-of-study destruction service, they reached out to Covanta Environmental Solutions to assist with proper waste management, including turnkey logistics. As always, all work was to be completed utilizing an authenticated, environmentally-sound waste management system that provided certified proof of destruction, robust security protocols, and of course, confidentiality.


The Search for Secure Destruction

The pharmaceutical company was in the still-developing stage of an additional service for their existing clientele. Many of the ever-changing waste inventories were new products, and therefore, MSDS and other information was vague for these items. The staff needed prompt classification that met governmental regulatory approval, while also providing a final destruction home for these items. To compound matters, storage space was at a growing premium.

To accomplish this, Covanta Environmental Solutions approached the project knowing that secure pharmaceutical destruction regularly introduces incineration complexities.

Dan Luchansky, Direct of Client Development, helped forge Covanta Environmental Solution's pharmaceutical assured destruction services, and has steered the company through even the most complex requests. "Load-to-load, we navigate our way through 30, 40, even 100 batches of completely differing pharmaceutical products," said Luchansky. "Additionally, every pharmaceutical artifact sent for destruction arrives with its own individual challenges – both physically and chemically. "

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Often, the products intended for destruction are newly designed formulations, and the companies rely solely on Covanta Environmental Solutions to classify them prior to incineration. However, with a database of more than 20,000 drug products to reference, Covanta Environmental Solutions can rely on its history and experience to get the job done effectively, and quickly.

A Solutions Partner

Covanta Environmental Solutions implemented a data management system to quickly classify the products on an ongoing basis, and secure prompt and compliant approvals to appropriate incinerators. Simultaneously, they coordinated transportation logistics and issued Certificates of Destruction for each specific study group as necessary.

Utilizing a secure, verifiable destruction process, Covanta Environmental Solutions was able to destroy the materials at temperatures approaching 2,000°F, while simultaneously generating clean energy. The entire procedure affords the option of witnessed, recorded, and certified proof of destruction, minimizing risk while maximizing confidentiality for the customer.

“The ability to manage this project in strict compliance with EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) or other regulatory agencies, while still providing the customer with minimized risk and waste liability, was crucial to provide a complete and effective job,” said Luchansky. “The combination of strategy, mechanism, logistics and service provided a complete solution for assured and secure destruction.”

The Assured Result

Providing a documented process for absolute and certain destruction of materials allowed the customer’s new division to rapidly grow, and to provide their own customers with quick, reliable destruction services management. Therefore, as Covanta Environmental Solutions provides proper waste management solutions – from bulk API to finished formulations – they can provide rapid reverse distribution for waste at any stage of the product lifecycle. It’s this peace of mind that materials will never surface again to pose a threat to security or brand reputation that continues to bring customers with certified destruction management requires directly to Covanta Environmental Solutions.

Let’s Get Started!

To learn more about how Covanta can work with you to manage your waste streams more sustainably, call us at 800-950-8749.