

Air & Waste

Management Association

News for people with environmental vision

The Georgia Chapter

Fourth Quarter/2002

2002 Annual Conference Summary Edition

The Georgia Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association held its annual Environmental Conference on October 22, 2002. The conference was extremely well attended with over 100 environmental professionals in attendance from industry and government. The morning session consisted of a Keynote Address and Panel Discussion. The Lunchtime program included a luncheon address as well as the presentation of our Scholarship and our Annual Environmental Awards. In the afternoon, we split up into two concurrent sessions, one concentrating on Air related issues, and the other on Waste related issues. Summaries of each of the various sessions and addresses follow.

Morning Session Summary – Keynote Address & Panel Discussion

By Rochelle Routman, Georgia Power Company, Moderator

Keynote Address: “Regulation, Innovation & Environmental Performance: What Have We Learned” presented by **Dan Fiorino**, Director, Performance Incentives Division, Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation with US EPA Headquarters.

Dan gave a very thought provoking presentation, which described EPA’s compliance efforts from a historical perspective, the movement toward innovation and environmental performance, and also some ideas for new environmental initiatives. Dan explained that regulation has resulted in some important components of compliance, including increasing the costs of mismanagement (noncompliance). Regulation has also created a foundation for policy evolution. However, some environmental managers as well as some members of the regulatory community have identified shortcomings of the regulatory approach. These complaints include high transaction costs (for industry as well as for agencies), over controls and under controls, and importantly, little incentive for continuous improvement. Innovation is seen by some as a more efficient approach to environmental management that will result in greater improvements. To build on this concept, Dan described four “Themes from the Innovation World”:

- From *compliance* to *performance*
- From *control* to *learning*
- From *adversarial* to more *collaborative*
- From just *deterrence* to *multiple strategies*



Panel from Left: Dan Schaffer, Greg McKibben, Dan Hughes, Susie Spivey-Tilson, Dan Fiorino

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Last Chance...We’re Going Paperless!

This will be the last issue of our newsletter routinely printed on paper and distributed through the US Mail. If you received this issue in the mail, and would like to receive future issues via email, we need to have your e-mail address! Simply send a quick e-mail to us at tbills@rindt-mcduff.com or go to our web site (www.gaawma.org) and subscribe.

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Air & Waste Management Association Newsletter is a quarterly publication of The Georgia Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association.

Our mission is to promote a cleaner, safer environment in Georgia by focusing on air and waste issues. We achieve our mission through information transfer, technology exchange, education and environmental leadership.

Comments or questions about this newsletter or any of the functions of Air & Waste Management Association are encouraged.

Articles printed in the Air & Waste Management Associations Newsletter are intended solely to provide the reader with information on topical issues and to spur discussion on these issues. They do not constitute legal advice and do not attempt to offer solutions to specific problems. Neither Air & Waste Management Association nor any of the contributors to this newsletter are responsible for any loss or damage incurred by any part as a result of reliance on any information provided herein.

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Rindt-McDuff Associates, Inc.



AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION
♦
GEORGIA CHAPTER

Morning Session Summary - Keynote Address & Panel Discussion

Continued from Page 1

Dan ended his presentation with some ideas worth trying, including contracts with core facility indicators, regulatory tiers (based on performance), alternative compliance models, and voluntary binding commitments in place of new regulation. In order to facilitate these programs, Dan explained that new capacities would be needed to integrate tools, as well as measure environmental performance.

We applaud Dan for his innovative work at EPA, and look forward to updates on this new approach to environmental improvement!

PANEL: Environmental Management Systems – A Candid Industry Perspective

Four panelists first presented an overview of their environmental management system, and a question and answer session followed. A summary of the presentations follows:

Dan Schaffer, Director, Environmental Compliance with Acuity Specialty Products Group, in Atlanta, GA spoke about their Environmental Management Information System (EMIS) – which helps Acuity keep track of compliance requirements at five manufacturing facilities and 36 warehouse/distribution facilities. Acuity Specialty Products Group, which manufactures industrial cleaning and maintenance products including Zep, Enforcer, Selig and National needed a system with the flexibility to help manage a range of issues, including reporting requirements for all of the major regulations (RCRA, CAA, SARA, etc.) as well as voluntary self audits and a unified compliance manual. Their system, which is completely automated, internet based – and secure – has resulted in a wide range of benefits, including enhanced measurement capabilities, efficient and effective recordkeeping, as well as the elimination of paperwork.

Greg McKibben, Environmental Health and Safety Manager with Southwire Carrolton Building Wire Plant spoke about EPA's Performance Track program and Southwire's participation in that program. Southwire was one of the 228 facilities selected as a charter member. Currently, approximately 300 companies have joined. Requirements for the program include a commitment to continuous environmental improvement, an Environmental Management System that has been in place for once complete cycle, community outreach, and a history of sustained compliance. Incentives for participation include recognition by EPA, the opportunity to network with other Performance Track member companies, and low priority for routine inspections. Greg also discussed proposed regulatory changes, including reduced paperwork, permission to

store hazardous waste up to 180 days, and consolidated reporting of data that are routinely submitted under the CAA, CWA, RCRA, and EPCRA into a single report. For additional information and the latest information on the proposed regulatory changes, see <http://www.epa.gov/performancecrack/>

Dan Hughes, Environmental Manager with General Motors was the third speaker. Dan provided some background information on ISO 14001, and told the audience about GM's experience in developing an ISO 14001 certified Environmental Management System. GM achieved their ISO 14001 certification in December 2000 – about 4 years after the ISO 14001 standard was adopted. Dan gave an overview of the ISO 14001 model, which includes five elements: 1) Environmental Policy; 2) Planning; 3) Implementation and Operation; 4) Checking and Corrective Action and 5) Management Review. Dan explained that the benefits of implementing ISO 14001 include improved environmental performance, waste reduction and increased profits, improved public image, reduced liability, and improved compliance. When GM received ISO 14001 certification, they experienced international recognition, and enhanced marketing capabilities. According to Dan, successful implementation of an EMS can not occur without top management support, and resources for training, document control, and plant-wide ownership of the EMS.

Susie Spivey-Tilson, Environmental Director of the Southeast Region of Skanska USA Builders was the final speaker. Susie began her discussion with a discussion of global environmental issues, and the impact of construction on the environment. Beers Skanska's challenge is "To build smart and use minimum nonrenewable energy. To minimize pollution and still increase the comfort, health, and safety of the people who live and work in these buildings." A means to help them achieve this goal is their Environmental Management System. In fact, Beers Skanska, the first US construction firm to achieve ISO 14001 certification and is still the only construction firm to be ISO certified. Susie went into details about their EMS, explaining that Beers-Skanska has two sets of significant environmental aspects (defined as any activity, process, or service that Beers Skanska provides which has an impact on the environment). The two categories are 1) Required - Aspects that are related to legal and regulatory requirements, and 2) Elective – Aspects that are not directly related to a legal and/or regulatory requirement, but are still important from a sustainable operations perspective. Susie ended her discussion with some hard numbers – money saved by Beers Skanska as a result of their environmental efforts - \$985,000 in waste diversion, \$16,970 in energy.



Air & Waste Management A s s o c i a t i o n

Karen Dorman, Chair

GEORGIA CHAPTER

“BROWN BAG LUNCHEON”

Date: Friday, December 6, 2002
12:00 Noon - 1:00 P.M.

Speaker: Randy Nattis, GIS Specialist/Project Manager
TetraTech, EMI

Topic: ***“ANTHRAX: Facility Management using GIS -
The US Capital Hill Incident”***

Location: Powell, Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP
Sixteenth Floor
191 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 572-6600

Directions:

From North Atlanta

Take I-75/85 South to Courtland Street, Continue on Courtland to J.W. Dobbs Avenue and turn right. Go one block to Peachtree Center Avenue and turn right. The parking lot is on Peachtree Center Avenue and Ellis Street. Turn left into the first driveway and crossing Ellis Street.

From South Atlanta

Take I-75/85 North to International Boulevard Street exit. Turn left on Peachtree Street and left onto Ellis Street. Turn left into the second driveway past the Ritz Carlton entrance.

Please Bring Your Lunch
Drinks Will Be Provided
Guests Welcome

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Dorman, 770-690-9552,
kdorman@gesinc.com

Annual Scholarship

Summary by Rochelle Routman,
Georgia Power Co.

Sheldon Gen, a doctoral student at the Georgia Institute of Technology School of Public Policy, was the 2002 GA Chapter Scholarship winner. Sheldon's research in the area of cost-benefit analysis was selected because it stood out as timely, original, and universally beneficial. Sheldon is conducting an analysis of existing environmental valuation practices to measure their consistency and test their external validity. The analysis will be performed on a sample of environmental valuation studies representing the current practices in each method. The results of his research will describe the contexts in which valuation methods can be properly used. Sheldon's immediate goal is to obtain a teaching position at a university.

Good luck Sheldon! We hope you will join us at a future AWMA conference –as a speaker!



Sheldon Gen receives his scholarship from Chapter Director Rochelle Routman and Chapter Chair Karen Dorman

A&WMA Georgia Chapter Environmental Awards – 2002

Summary by Tom Bills, Awards Committee, Rindt-McDuff Associates

Each year, the Georgia Chapter has the opportunity to recognize private firms and governmental entities which have instituted practices or procedures demonstrating a dedication to go beyond regulatory compliance to yield real environmental improvement. Competition for these awards, which fall into four categories, is always tough, but this year was by far the most closely contested. Each winner demonstrated environmental improvements which also translated directly to the bottom line in the form of cost avoidance, energy savings, or through the sale of reclaimed materials. Awards were presented by Awards Committee Chair, Sean Nicholl of Rindt-McDuff. This year's winners are described below:

Synthetic Minor/Area Source: Compliance Management Program

C.W. MATTHEWS CONTRACTING COMPANY is the largest privately owned road and bridge contractor in Georgia. The company also owns and operates 12 asphalt plants to supply their construction projects and for product sales to the general public. CWM's Plant #6 in Cartersville produces nearly 160,000 tons of asphalt per year. As part of a comprehensive Compliance Management Program, this facility has undertaken the following activities:



Awards Chair Sean Nicholl and Brian Lawrence

- The emission control system recirculates unburned fuel and product VOCs back into the burner;
- Dust generated during the process is captured and reintroduced into the final product;
- Waste oil makes up 90% of the burner fuel consumed;
- The final product contains 30% to 40% recycled pavement.

Major Source: Compliance Management Program

THE AMERICAN PROTEINS, INC. facility in Cumming, GA accepts approximately 25 million pounds per week of by-products from the poultry processing industry. These materials are rendered into saleable high protein feed additives for livestock and pet foods. The rendering process is energy intensive, generating air emissions which must be managed under the facilities Title V permit, as well as large quantities of wastewater. The nature of the business can also lead to objectionable odors, which the firm works hard to manage on behalf of their neighbors.



From Left: Ken Smith, Sean Nicholl and Roger Smith

American Proteins' Compliance Management Program has led to the implementation of two particularly noteworthy initiatives:

- Using a large scale biofilter, the plant removes over 40,000 pounds per year of VOCs from the facility's air emission stream, as well as controlling much of the odor problems. Frequent and consistent monitoring of the biofilter beds ensures optimal operation of the system.
- The plant captures and compresses biogas from their anaerobic wastewater digestion lagoon, and introduces it as fuel into their boiler system. The methane in the biogas offsets an equivalent volume of natural gas, yielding considerable cost savings while reducing NOx emissions by over 14,000 pounds per year.

Hazardous Waste Management Program

ADVANTIS TECHNOLOGIES develops, manufactures and distributes water treatment chemicals for use in swimming pools, spas, ponds, irrigation systems and cooling water reservoirs. End products are in liquid or solid form, packaged in containers ranging from 4 ounces to 275 gallons. Advantis implemented a variety of parallel programs to control hazardous waste, wastewater requiring treatment, and air emissions, increase recycling, reduce raw material inventories and increase employee commitment and awareness.

To date, Advantis' hazardous waste management program has yielded the following results:

- Reformulated certain products to eliminate hazardous raw materials, including all flammable solvents and sulfamic acid;
- Eliminated all solid hazardous waste;
- Eliminated hazardous wastewater discharges to sanitary sewer;
- Reduced by 25% the volume of wastewater hauled for commercial treatment;
- Discontinued use of PVC containers in favor of clear PETP containers;
- Recycled all polyethylene bottles, aluminum, fiberboard and paper.



From Left: Sean Nicholl, Kent Connole and Peter Belle

Waste Minimization/Pollution Prevention

The **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (GDC)** Composting and Baler Recycling Programs were initiated to respond to two separate challenges:

- Some local landfills had banned prison kitchen food waste. Also, local POTWs were considering applying surcharges for treating prison wastewater high in solids and BOD due to kitchen food waste.
- Tipping fees were high and rising for all categories of solid waste.

Under their new programs, food waste at each of the participating prison facilities is mixed with landscape trimmings and then composted in managed windrows. GDC Farm Services uses the finished compost as a soil amendment, in place of chemical fertilizers. Aluminum, corrugated paper board, office paper, plastics and steel are separated and baled for collection and sale. Revenues from sale of recyclables are used to offset fuel, maintenance and equipment costs of the program.



From left: Boyd Leake (Community Environmental), Sean Nicholl (Rindt-McDuff), Larry Latimer (Asst. Director DOC Engineering), Bob Plemons (Community Liaison DOC Engineering), Nancy Allen (Community Environmental), Joe Ferrero (Asst Commissioner DOC), Steve Neadow (EMS Manager DOC Engineering).

Total cost savings in avoided tipping fees and reduction in chemical fertilizer expense are in excess of \$600,000 for FY 2002. The total quantity of solid waste diverted from landfills totals over 12,000 tons over this period.

Luncheon Speakers

Michael DeBusschere, Past President of the International A&WMA, joined us to bring the group up to date on news from our parent organization, including upcoming conferences, training opportunities and publications. For more information, please visit www.awma.org.

Rick Durbrow, Program Analyst in the Office of Policy and Management, USEPA Region 4 delivered our Luncheon Address, entitled "The Business of Greenspace". He described the unique ecological character of the southeastern US, and the adverse impacts of ecological fragmentation caused by human activities and development. Examples of impacted ecosystems include long leaf pine forests and wetlands. Mr. Durbrow explained how using a regional framework as an organizing principle for ecosystem protection provides the business community with opportunities to work with federal, state and local governments, community groups and non-profit organizations to leverage scarce resources to meet broad environmental goals. State Implementation Plan (SIP) Projects and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) were examples cited for co-benefit between state governments and the business community.

Air Session Summary

By *Karen Dorman*, Global Environmental Solutions, Moderator



Ron Methier
Georgia EPD

The afternoon air session covered a wide variety of topics from regulatory updates and strategies for addressing upcoming Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standards to emissions controls and emissions monitoring.

Ron Methier from the Georgia EPD provided a Georgia air regulatory update, including the status of Atlanta's ozone non-attainment status, the upcoming particulate matter (PM) standard, and the status of processing Title V permits. Georgia has implemented several regulations and programs to address the Atlanta ozone non-attainment area. Upcoming actions in 2003 and 2004 include further reductions in nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions at Georgia Power plants, other large industrial sources in Georgia, and large power plants and industries in neighboring states. A stricter peaking generator rule is also scheduled for 2003. To address the upcoming 8-hour ozone standard, Georgia EPD is conducting a Fall Line air quality study that includes monitoring, modeling, collecting emissions inventory data, and developing possible control strategies. Three new counties, outside of the Atlanta area, may potentially be designated as non-attainment under the new 8-hour standard (Muscogee, Bibb, and Richmond).

Mr. Methier indicated that the upcoming PM_{2.5} standard will also affect many counties throughout Georgia. The PM_{2.5} issue appears to be a regional problem for most areas, and therefore will require a regional/national solution. With regards to Title V permitting, Georgia EPD is on schedule for issuing Title V permits and plans to have all Title V permits issued by the end of 2003.

Brian Soucy of Global Environmental Solutions, Inc. presented case studies of how different industries may be impacted by upcoming MACT standards and how understanding emissions data and business needs properly can help industries gain a competitive advantage. Gaining a better understanding of a facility's emission inventory is critical for many reasons. For example, overstating emissions could mean that a facility could be synthetic minor for HAPs. Obtaining more accurate source specific emissions information can also aid in determining where add-on controls or process modifications are truly required to meet MACT requirements. Careful planning that addresses business needs will also enable companies to make informed decisions on where to relocate processes and plan expansions or process modifications.

Wesley Box of Pavilion Technologies discussed predictive emission monitoring systems (PEMS), which can be used as an alternative to continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS). Mr. Box provided a regulatory history of PEMS and information on the development of PEMS in the field, implementation of a PEMS, and the utilization of the PEMS design of experiments for developing and deploying multi-variable controls. When compared to a CEMS, PEMS have advantages and disadvantages. Some of the advantages include decreased implementation time and reduced maintenance.

Thomas McGowan of TMTS Associates, Inc. discussed NO_x control for stationary sources. During his presentation, Mr. McGowan provided an overview of the chemistry of NO_x formation. Practical and cost effective ways to reduce NO_x at the source, as well as "end-of-pipe" methods were reviewed for major sources of NO_x such as coal fired boilers, gas and oil burners, and gas turbines. An array of combustion modifications are available, including low NO_x burners, reduced nitrogen-bearing fuels, and fuel air staging. Post combustion controls include selective catalytic reduction (SCR), non-selective catalytic reduction (SCNR), and injection with urea/ammonia.



Tom McGowan
TMTS Associates, Inc.

Waste Session Summary

By Della Ridley, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Moderator

Jennifer Kaduck, Chief, Hazardous Waste Management Branch, GA EPD, presented information on the 2002 amendments to the GA Hazardous Site Response Act (HSRA) and the GA Hazardous Site Reuse & Redevelopment Act (“Brownfields” amendment). HSRA, passed in 1992, provided a fee program over a 10-year period for EPD to use to investigate and cleanup contaminated sites. With the fee program ending, state auditors predicted a \$281 million shortfall in funds needed to complete the cleanups. A Joint Legislative Study Committee recommended reauthorization of the fees, tax relief for purchasers of Brownfield properties, and further study of cleanup cost effectiveness. The fees have been extended for 10 more years, with increases of 15 – 33% for the generation of hazardous and solid wastes.



Craig Brown, PCB Coordinator, EPA Region 4, gave an overview of PCBs and the federal regulations – 40 CFR Part 761. Approximately 1.4 billion lbs. of PCBs were produced between 1930 and 1975. Their characteristics of fire resistance and low electrical conductivity made them useful as dielectric fluid in transformers, hydraulic fluids, and in carbonless paper. PCBs are nearly insoluble in water but dissolve easily in fats. Suspected health impacts include irritation of skin, liver disorders, and reproductive and developmental effects. The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) of 1976 bans most use of PCBs. The compliance program is administered by EPA (no state delegation) and is involved in inspections, disposal, and cleanup. Region 4 has 12 commercial storage facilities and 4 disposal facilities – 1 each in GA. Information can be obtained at the PCB home page at www.epa.gov/pcb.

Craig Brown

Darahyl Dennis, Remediation Projects Manager, GA Power Company, presented an overview of the remediation program during the last 10 years. During that time GA Power has completed 126 site cleanups, with 34 in progress for a total of 160 site projects. They anticipate spending \$100 million total for the work. Darahyl focused on four projects – three former Manufactured Gas Plants (MGP) located in Columbus, Brunswick and Athens and an old steam plant in downtown Atlanta. The projects involved an array of factors including land usage, health/exposure concerns, innovative technology & engineering, multiple sources of contamination, and environmental awareness by local residents.



Darahyl Dennis

David Pass, PG, Manager of Environmental Engineering, Rindt-McDuff Associates, presented a paper titled “DNA Analysis Answers Basic Bioremediation Questions”. David explained the science of DNA analysis in bacteria and provided web links and reference sources. The process has a practical application in determining whether the bacteria present are capable of completely degrading target compounds and if there would be a benefit in adding nutrients, air or more bacteria. DNA analysis can be used to measure available biomass, identify specific degraders, and monitor the efficiency and progress of the bioremediation process.

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Message From The Chair

By Karen Dorman
Chapter Chair

Well, it seems like the holidays sneak up on you again each year.

Likewise, before you know it, it's time to start planning for another conference. But this coming year will be something especially to look forward to! Not only will the Georgia Chapter be hosting an annual conference – we will be hosting the entire Southern Section A&WMA Conference! Rather than our traditional one-day conference, this will be a two and a half-day affair with regulatory updates from the Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee agencies plus technical presentations from industries and experts from throughout the Southeast.

The tentative date and location for the 2003 Southern Section Conference will be the **end of July 2003 in historic Savannah Georgia.**

As always, we'd love to hear from you if you'd like to help make this coming year's conference a success. In the near future we will be sending out a call for conference presentations and sponsorships. If you're eager to start helping now, please contact our conference chair, Brian Queen at bqueen@asi-lab.com or 770/734-4200, or contact Karen Dorman at kdorman@gesinc.com or 770/690-9552, ext. 225.

Finally, a HUGE thank you to all the Georgia Chapter Board Members and Sponsors who worked hard to make this year's conference a great success!

Also, may you all have a blessed and peaceful holiday!

SAVE THE DATE!



The Georgia Chapter will have the opportunity to plan the 2003 A&WMA Southern Section Annual Meeting and Technical Conference.

Save the dates and join us at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront - July 29th to August 1st, 2003.

Send your comments or questions to:

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Mission

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