EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS

Summer Issue - 2010

EWC-ACHMM NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Summer of Hazardous Materials

In his recent editorial in *Environmental Science and Technology* (May 1, 2010) my former Professor, Jerald Schnoor, wrote about how humans are now playing a major role in changing our environment more rapidly and extensively than ever before. He concluded that it is not 'the economy,' but it is 'the environment' that is really what we need to see as 'too big to fail.' As a profession dedicated to the responsible management of hazardous materials, we play an increasing role in protecting human health and the environment from hazardous materials.

While the nation's attention is drawn to the Gulf Oil spill, I think we should reflect on 'why we do –what we do' as manager's of hazardous materials. In viewing the largest oil spill in our nation's history, it is interesting to see how many of the defenses we relied upon against oil pollution were either weakened, bypassed, or ineffective. It is beyond frustrating to see how one event could eclipse decades of progress in protecting the environment. It is hard not to wonder if the disaster could have been minimized or prevented by involving better qualified individuals in planning, permitting, and reviewing the adequacy of the controls. What is important now, is that we reflect and learn as we can from this tragic incident.

As is becoming apparent, the logistical problems in dealing swiftly with such a large deepwater incident were poorly thought out. The fact that such a failure could occur seems to have been discounted by an unwarranted belief in the reliability of the control technology and the 49 mile distance to land. How long has it been since anyone has seriously believed that "dilution is the solution to pollution" when it comes to oil? I believe we can do better.

- Mike

2010 AHMP National Conference

This year's AHMP 2010 National Conference will be held in Atlanta from September 12-15, 2010. Atlanta is the headquarters of some of the world's most renowned manufacturing, government, media, educational, research and healthcare organizations. This conference will provide the full gamut of industry issues for attendee exploration.

This year part of AHMP's conference approach will be to implement a comprehensive Quality, Environmental, Health and Safety (QEHS) policy, "Going Green" for every facet of meeting management.

EWC encourages our members to join in this effort, which includes minimizing the use of paper and harmful inks, using recycled paper and two-sided document printing, using recycled and/or organic materials when applicable, and reusing items whenever possible.

Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers
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Upcoming Webinars

If you miss a presentation, it will be recorded for later playback at your convenience. If you have any questions, please email Webinars@ConferTel.net or call 866-930-4500.

OPTIMIZING SUBSTRATE UTILIZATION BY MANIPULATING MICROBIAL ACTIVITY DURING REDUCTIVE DECHLORINATION

Reductive dechlorination is a biological process that is based on establishing and maintaining specific environmental conditions until all of the constituents of concern have been degraded. This is typically accomplished by adding a carbon substrate (an electron donor) that is metabolized by various microbial communities until highly anaerobic, or reductive, conditions are present throughout the treatment zone. Because most uncontaminated ground water systems contain some mass of electron acceptors (dissolved oxygen, nitrates, manganese, iron, and sulfate), sufficient carbon substrate, or electron donor, must be added to satisfy these electron acceptor needs. Ground water systems are also dynamic as electron acceptors are continually being introduced through advection or percolation. To establish and maintain an anaerobic system capable of supporting reductive dechlorination, a balance between introduced electron donors (carbon substrate) and the flux of electron acceptors must be maintained for the life of the remedial action. Carbon substrates include a variety of materials ranging from highly soluble sodium lactate to slowly soluble materials such as vegetable oil. This variability in substrate solubility is instrumental is determining the mass required to promote robust reductive dechlorination. When this balance of introduced electron donors and electron acceptors is not established correctly due to incorrect dissolution or is disrupted, reductive dechlorination can slow to unacceptable rates.

A recent chlorinated solvent site in California reported a reduction in the rate of degradation of contaminants about 8 months after a slowly soluble carbon substrate was introduced. This was evidenced by a drop in pH, an apparent leveling off of contaminant concentrations, and an appearance of acetone that suggested that an alternate fermentation pathway was being favored. In addition, total organic carbon (TOC) levels remained constant at over 1,200 milligrams per liter or declined slowly for over two years indicating that excess substrate was not being consumed. Since it appeared that the kinetics of the system were declining, possibly due to the low pH, a solution to raise the pH or increase the kinetics was sought. The options available included introducing a buffer, introducing a material that would increase general biological activity, and waiting until the system exhausted the carbon substrate until the TOC decreased to a more optimal level. A buffer was considered but not selected as distribution throughout the system would require substantial site work. Waiting for the carbon substrate to degrade was not selected as the time frame was unknown and could extend the project to an unacceptable duration. The introduction of a small quantity of a bioremediation nutrient was selected in a pilot test as this could be accomplished at minimal expense. This presentation reviews the selection process and the results of the nutrient addition.

Speaker/Host: Mike Sieczkowski, Technical Sales Director, JRW Bioremediation, L.L.C.
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2010 **Time:** 10:00AM (Pacific)
Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

SUSTAINABILITY, CSR AND EHS&S REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

More and more companies are increasing their focus on EH&S regulatory compliance as they evaluate their own sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives. This session will address this trend, as well as other trends in EH&S regulatory compliance and their impact on sustainability and CSR.

Speaker/Host: Robert Christie, CEO & President, 3E Company
Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2010 **Time:** 10:00AM (Pacific) **Duration:** 1 hour 30 minutes

MAKING SUSTAINABILITY WORK IN A GLOBAL COMPANY

Migrating EHS&S into a Sustainability Program seems a natural fit. Sustainability includes most EHS&S activities plus a whole lot more. I moved from managing EHS programs to managing a corporate sustainability program at Philips Healthcare (PH). This was a monumental, but rewarding challenge. During this session, I will share with you: (1) How our team developed an exceptional global sustainability program, making sustainability a way of working, (a) Laying the foundation (b) Moving EHS&S programs for products and processes under sustainability and embedding ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 (c) Communication (training) (2) Monitoring and measuring sustainability, (2) Road blocks encountered, and (3) Our leanings/best practices as we continue to grow the PH sustainability program. Wendy Phippen, CHMM Senior Sustainability Manager Philips Healthcare 16600 3rd Ave SE Bothell, WA 98012 (425)218-5869 wendy.phippen@philips.com

Wendy Phippen holds a bachelors degree in Chemistry from Seattle University and Masters in Environmental Engineering from University of Southern California. She worked as an analytical chemist, researcher, and finally moved into EH&S in 1988. She managed EH&S programs for the University of Southern California, University of Washington, and Philips Healthcare. Ms. Phippen is currently a corporate senior manager of the Philips Healthcare Sustainability Program.

Speaker/Host: Wendy Phippen, CHMM, IS Sustainability Sr. Mgr, Philips Healthcare

Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 **Time:** 10:00AM (Pacific) **Duration:** 1 hour 30 minutes

EWC Congratulates New Fellows of the Institute

The Institute of Hazardous Materials Management's (IHMM) Board of Directors recently announced the election of 16 new Fellows of the Institute. Two of the new Fellows have actively supported the India Chapter, EWC's Sister Chapter.

Mr. Denny L. Carlson has been in the hazardous materials field for over 20 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Iowa, is a Professional Engineer in the State of Iowa, and earned the CHMM credential in 1995. Mr. Carlson has contributed to AHMP by serving on the By-Laws Revision Committee and on the Chapter Development Committee both as a member and Chairman. Mr. Carlson also contributed to the Institute for Hazardous Materials Management as a member of the IHMM By-Laws Revision Committee, and as a volunteer peer reviewer; he is currently the inaugural Chairman of the CHMM Recertification Committee. Mr. Carlson was one of the founders of the local Iowa Chapter of the AHMP; has been a strong supporter of the formation of international chapters as well; and has provided financial support for the development and growth of the India Chapter of AHMP.

Ms. Catherine B. Werner currently serves as the Environmental, Health, Safety, and Security Leader for GE Transportation's Global Services Organization. In this role, she provides compliance support to over 50 domestic and international locomotive service centers. Prior to this assignment, she served in several roles in GE's Aviation business including Site Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) Leader, Lean Manufacturing Leader, Six Sigma Black Belt, and Operations Business Leader for a component manufacturing business. She has 20 years of environmental, health, and safety experience, specializing in process-driven EHS systems, safety and environmental compliance and auditing, and pollution prevention. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geology-Environmental Studies from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia and an MBA from the University of New Mexico. Catherine received her CHMM certification in February 1996. She served as National Treasurer for ACHMM (2003-2006) and as Roadrunner Chapter President (1999-2000). She currently resides with her family in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Fellows of the Institute have demonstrated accomplishments such as: Developing or advancing a new technology, apparatus or device; Implementing a new management principle, methodology, procedure, or technique; Advancing the value, importance, and recognition of the profession in the marketplace or the media; Training or developing training materials that improve workforce knowledge and skills; and/or, Performing an honorable or heroic deed.

Looking for New EWC Members!

Membership in the Eastern Washington Chapter is open to all individuals regardless of CHMM status. However, members are encouraged to become certified. If you are interested in joining the local chapter, mail the application (available on the website at EWCachmm.org) to 1370 Jadwin Ave. Suite 113, Richland, WA 99352 and $25 annual dues to the address listed on the application.

B-Reactor Tour Scheduled For EWC Members/Guests

EWC will be taking an exclusive tour of the B-Reactor on the afternoon of September 9th. We have secured our own tour bus and "special" docent. The bus will leave the tour lot on Logston Blvd. in Richland at 12:30 p.m. and return about 4:30 p.m.

The tour is for Chapter members (first) and then their guests (as available). If you haven't already, please sign up if you intend to go. To register, contact Robbie Tidwell, robbie.tidwell@pnl.gov or by phone @ 375-6411.

Mark Your Calendars For the Following General Meetings

- **September 9 – Tour of B Reactor**
- **December 2 – Annual Awards Banquet**

Regulatory News

Resources/Summaries of Gulf Spill Response Activities Now Provided by NIOSH

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) provides a web page on oil spill response provides resources. The page also contains summaries of NIOSH activities in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response. The web page is posted at http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/oilspillresponse. Further information will be posted at this site as it becomes available.

The page notes that workers responding to oil spills may be exposed to many different chemical, physical, biological, and psychological hazards. These hazards vary depending on the type and location of the oil spill, type and stage of response, degree of coordination between entities involved in response and recovery, and the workers' specific tasks. Therefore, occupational and environmental hazards need to be identified, assessed, and monitored in each oil spill response.

NIOSH's activities in the Deepwater Horizon response include:

- Providing information to the Deepwater Horizon Unified Command partners about protecting workers and volunteers from potential safety and health hazards.

- Assisting OSHA and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) with information about tools for training workers, including health hazard risk assessment and personal protective equipment selection.

- Conducting a voluntary survey of workers to obtain a record of those who have participated and a mechanism to contact them about possible spill-related symptoms of illness or injury, as needed. This was a need identified by NIOSH and stakeholders from previous large-scale emergency responses. The survey form and a fact sheet are posted on the web page.

Conducting a health hazard evaluation in response to a request. NIOSH is the federal agency that conducts research and makes recommendations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

EPA Increases Public Access to Chemical Information

EPA plans to generally deny confidentiality claims for the identity of chemicals in health and safety studies filed under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), except in specified circumstances.

EPA will begin a general practice of reviewing confidentiality claims for chemical identities in health and safety studies, and in data from health and safety studies, submitted under the TSCA in accordance with Agency regulations at 40 CFR Part 2, subpart B.

According to the Agency, Section 14(b) of TSCA does not extend confidential treatment to health and safety studies, or data from health and safety studies, which, if made public, would not disclose processes used in the manufacturing or processing of a chemical substance or mixture. Or, in the case of a mixture, it does not extend confidential treatment to the release of data disclosing the portion of the mixture comprised by any of the chemical substances in the mixture.

Where a chemical identity does not explicitly contain process information or reveal portions of a mixture, EPA expects to find that the information would clearly not be entitled to confidential treatment. This builds on similar efforts regarding confidentiality of chemical identities listed on the public version of the TSCA Chemical Substances Inventory (TSCA Inventory) and submitted in notifications pursuant to TSCA section 8(e), discussed in the Federal Register of January 21, 2010.

EPA expects to begin reviews of confidentiality claims — both newly submitted and existing claims -- in accordance with this guidance on August 25, 2010. Though EPA is not required to solicit comment for this action, comments received before this date will inform these reviews.

IHMM LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

IHMM offers opportunities for CHMMs and CHMPs to give back to the industry, and earn valuable recertification CMPs, by serving on one of the Institute's committees, contributing items for the examinations, or participating in item writing workshops. Please contact James Gaidry, IHMM Executive Director at email jgaidry@ihmm.org or 301-984-8969, ext. 14, for more information