

Air & Waste



Management Association

News for people with environmental vision

The Georgia Chapter

First Quarter/2001

2000 Environmental Conference A Success

Tom Bills
Rindt-McDuff Associates, Inc.

All Conference Photographs Courtesy of Carrie Chin
Camp Dresser & McKee

The Georgia Chapter's Annual Environmental Conference, held on September 14, was by all accounts a great success. About 100 environmental professionals from industry, government, and academia were in attendance to hear presentations on a variety of topics. A joint session panel discussion on regional air quality made up the morning program. In the afternoon, the program was split into two concurrent sessions, one on Air issues and one on Waste issues. At lunch, the Chapter presented five Environmental Awards, acknowledging proactive and effective environmental programs at facilities around Georgia. For the first time, the Chapter awarded cash scholarships to students based on posters submitted describing active research projects.

Keynote Address – Michael Kenny

The morning session began with the Keynote Address, delivered by Michael Kenny, CEO of the California Air Resources Board (CARB). For many years, California has been struggling with the same issues of air pollution and haze that Georgia has begun to face more recently. Mr. Kenny told the audience that CARB approaches air quality primarily as a public health issue. Their efforts to date have lead to decreases in ground level ozone, particulate matter, and air toxics even while population, vehicle travel and the economy all continue to grow.

CARB approaches this challenge along a broad front. CARB has the power to influence vehicle emissions by requiring cleaner fuels and cleaner, more fuel efficient vehicles. They regulate on-road and off-road vehicles, jet skis, and fast food restaurants. They offer incentive programs such as lawnmower



GA Chapter Chair Joe Rozza (L), Camp Dresser & McKee and CARB's CEO Michael Kenny

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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.

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AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
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Waste Session

Della Ridley
Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

The Waste Session featured four speakers:

Jennifer Kaduck, Chief, GA EPD, Hazardous Waste Branch. EPD's waste program has focused on three goals during 2000:



Jennifer Kaduck
of GA EPD

1. Reduce generation of Persistent, Biological, and Toxic (PBT) wastes. Recycling of these wastes is encouraged. EPD is conducting "White Hat" inspections of generators of PBT wastes, where no fines are issued for minor violations. Compliance brochures have been developed for Dry Cleaners and Body Shops.

2. Ensure safe handling of hazardous waste. There are approximately 95 permitted treatment, storage or disposal facilities in Georgia and 7,000 generators. Current compliance rate is estimated to be 91-92%.

3. Find, investigate, and cleanup waste sites. Sites with potential human exposure receive highest priority. Goal is to have 70% of contaminated groundwater mitigated by 2005.

Site inspections are targeting "significant" violations. These include not identifying hazardous waste, burning hazardous waste, not using a manifest for shipment, and inadequate financial assurance.

The HSRA program was recently audited and found to be an estimated \$240 million short of the funds needed for cleanups.

Ms. Kaduck is on a national task force looking at improvements to the RCRA program. One idea is to expand the program to include hazardous materials.

Beth Antley, US EPA Region 4: Beth spoke on the Hazardous Waste Combustor MACT Rule. The MACT Phase I Rule applies to incinerators, cement kilns, and lightweight aggregate kilns. The final compliance date is 9/30/2002, with interim actions required. Upon submission of the Notification of Compliance, certain RCRA regulations will no longer apply, such as emission standards in Subpart O. But most RCRA requirements will continue to apply – facility standards, financial assurance, etc.

EPA has prepared a "toolkit" for compliance assistance. There are currently six fact sheets, with others being developed. The web site for the toolkit is:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/combust/toolkit.htm>

2000 Environmental Conference A Success

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buybacks, diesel engine replacement for applications such as agricultural irrigation pumps, and cleaner car purchase programs. California has also begun regulating over 80 categories of consumer products, enforcing limits on VOCs, reactivity, etc.

Going forward, CARB plans to focus more on diesel engines and their high NO_x emissions. Mr. Kenny pointed out that from the perspective of air emissions, it would be preferable to have 20 people drive their cleaner cars using cleaner gas than to all ride in a single diesel bus. In response to a question from the audience, Mr. Kenny concluded that CARB's successes to date are primarily based on technology based programs rather than behavior modification such as car pooling, mass transit or land planning.

Panel Discussion – Regional Air Quality: Ozone and Beyond

Moderator and Chapter Vice Chair **Craig Smith** presided over an interesting and timely discussion on air quality issues in Greater Atlanta. **Ron Methier**, Chief of the Georgia EPD Air Protection Branch, brought us up to date on state efforts to understand the interrelation of air, water and energy production. He reported early data from a long term, statewide study of fine particulates, which show that every monitoring station in Georgia exceeds annual PM standards



L to R: Bill Chameides, David Waldrop, Steve Ewald and Ron Methier.

CARB's **Mike Kenny** returned to present a case study from the Sacramento region, using a public-private partnership for a regional solution. He cited lessons learned that could benefit other areas of the country. **David Waldrop** of the Department of Energy described several alternative fuel programs under review, including conversion of sugar cane to ethanol, biomass-to-energy programs using switchgrass or willow, and community scale fuel cell technology. **Bill Chameides** from Georgia Tech presented data models identifying the southeastern US as a hot spot for high PM_{2.5} levels, leading to haze and potential health effects. The cause for this is unknown, and remains the subject of continuing study. **Steve Ewald** from Georgia Power brought an industry perspective to the discussion of NO_x transport, OTAG, the Atlanta SIP, 8-hour ozone standards, PM_{2.5}, and regional haze. He predicted that the large reliance on coal will continue into the future, but that by 2003, Selective Cathode Reduction pollution control devices will be installed on all Georgia Power plants in the vicinity of Atlanta.



Jim Croy

Luncheon Speaker – Jim Croy

The Luncheon address was delivered by Jim Croy, Director of Transportation Operations for the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA). He told the group about some of the transportation challenges facing Greater Atlanta, and about how GRTA is going about finding solutions.

Waste Session

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Douglas Henderson, Esq., Troutman Sanders, LLP: Douglas presented the new environmental trends in tort litigation. “Torts” are a subcategory of common law civil wrongs based on a generalized legal duty to avoid causing harm to others and not on a specific statute or contract. Judgements on torts are made based on previous rulings, causing tort litigation to be referred to as “judge made law”.

Recent environmental lawsuits have been filed alleging:

1. Increased risk of cancer or other illness: exposure to hazardous substances caused an increased risk of developing cancer or other illness.
2. Fear of cancer or other illness: exposure to hazardous substances caused the plaintiff to fear contracting cancer or other illness.
3. Medical monitoring: environmental conditions created a future risk of harm, although no current symptoms have been identified.
4. Contamination stigma: past or present contamination created a stigma to a party’s property, thus devaluing the property.

In particular, the medical monitoring suits are increasingly successful. Courts have ruled that plaintiffs exposed to contamination are entitled to routine medical tests paid for by the party responsible for the contamination.

For additional information, Mr. Henderson can be reached at 404-885-3479.

Brent Callihan, Brown & Caldwell: Brent presented a HSRA case study at the University of Georgia, utilizing a proactive approach. In May 1999, UGA officials became aware of a drum disposal site where drums containing DDT had been buried 15-20 years ago. In June 1999, UGA filed the HSRA Notification with the state and was placed on the state HSRA list in Feb. 2000. Meanwhile, they decided to proceed immediately with the removal of contaminated soil instead of spending time and resources on further studies and report preparation. Compared to the traditional approach involving extensive sampling/analytical work and studies of potential treatment technologies, this remediation project was completed in much less time and cost.

For additional information, Mr. Callihan can be reached at 770-673-3693.

Air Session

*Paul Smith
Trinity Consultants*

In the breakout session on Air Quality issues, five speakers provided information on current hot topics of interest to industry. First, **Terry Johnson** (Air Protection Branch, Georgia EPD) discussed the banking and trading of VOC and NO_x emissions in Georgia. He described which sources may participate in the program, how the emissions credits are calculated and used, and how the program is administered. More information is available on the Internet at <http://167.193.59.200/bank/>. Mr. Johnson can be reached at 404-363-7097.

Michael McDonald (URS Corporation) spoke next. He presented a case study on NESHAP development and compliance for the aluminum industry, which is grouped into primary and secondary producers. He explained the differences in the two groups’ emissions, their approaches toward MACT rules, and the costs associated with compliance. He also provided information on the operational, monitoring, testing and record-keeping requirements associated with the new standards. Mr. McDonald can be reached at 404-888-8800.

The third speaker was **Ryan Gesser** (Trinity Consultants) who provided an overview of the current developments in regulatory-driven dispersion modeling. He described the features, advantages and disadvantages of the current model in widespread use (ISCSTS) in comparison to several emerging models (ISC-PRIME, AERMOD and CALPUFF). In addition, he discussed some of the rule-making activities that the EPA and state agencies are likely to pursue in the coming year with regard to the Guideline on Air Quality Models. Mr. Gesser can be reached at 770-394-4001.

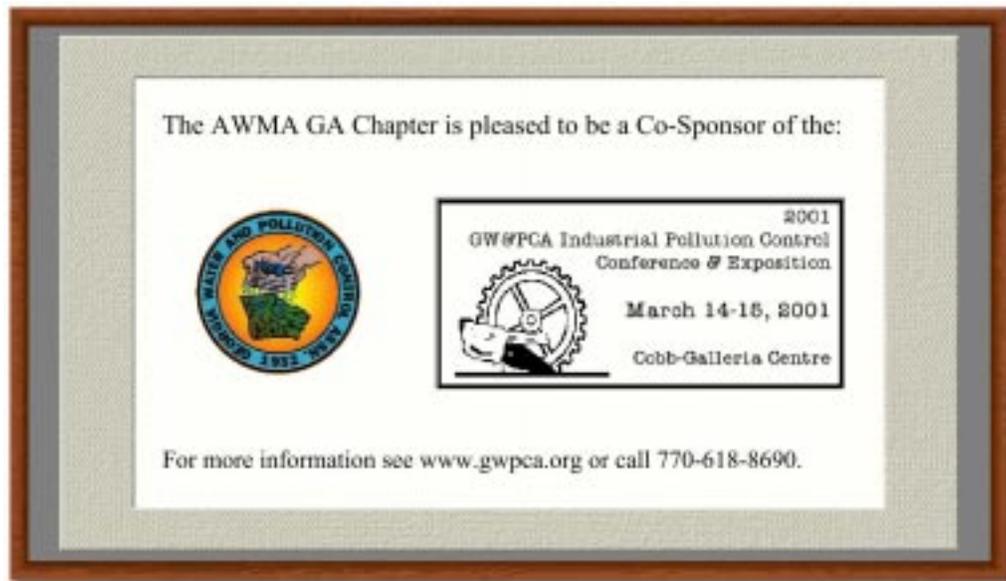
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Air Session

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Lee Page (U.S. EPA Region 4) was the fourth presenter. He summarized the status of the of EPA's Air Toxics Regulations, of which there are two types: technology-based standards (e.g., MACT) and risk-based standards. Mr. Page reviewed the process of risk assessment, and the various programs available to assess toxic emissions, such as the Urban Air Toxics Program and the National Air Toxics Assessment. He also reviewed the implementation schedule of these standards. He estimated that these regulations could reduce toxic emissions by about 1.2 million tons per year. More information is available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/uatw>. Mr. Page can be reached at 404-562-9131.

The final speaker was **J. Stephen Shi, Esq.** He discussed the influence of politics on regulation and policy development. He cited examples such as the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) and the issue of "Smart Growth." GRTA and local officials can often be at odds on transportation policy. "Smart Growth" is no less controversial, having such connotations as "anti-business," "anti-suburb," or "anti-roads/vehicles." However, "Smart Growth" is favored by the voters. Mr. Shi pointed out that more than 90% of the Smart-growth initiatives passed in local or state elections (pre-2000). Mr. Shi believes that environmental policy and regulation often become political issues because of the diverse stakeholders that are involved. Mr. Shi can be reached at 770-886-4707.



Message From The Chair

Joe Rozza, Chair
Camp, Dresser & McKee

I want to personally thank all those that attended our annual conference in September. By all accounts it was a bonafide success and the best Chapter conference in recent memory. This is due principally to the tireless efforts of the Conference Committee...great job! A special thank you goes out to all those that presented at the conference. We must now move forward seeking to achieve our goal to be the preeminent environmental professional organization in the State of Georgia and to provide a rich and rewarding experience for our members.

In order to reach our goals, the Board is currently working to upgrade the Chapter web page (www.gaawma.org). Over the next few months we will add the capability for members to subscribe to our electronic newsletter and to register for the annual conference and other events. Currently the web page offers an excellent overview of the organization and I encourage you to visit the site. Moving the bulk of the administrative tasks and communications to the web will save the Chapter a lot of money and allow us to better serve our current and prospective members. With all of this in mind, we have included a "call for email addresses" in this newsletter. Please respond and provide your email address. We know that everyone is busy these days and promise to keep our correspondence brief and to the point.

With the ever changing landscape of our profession and the corporate world in general, participation in an organization

focused on technology exchange, and making/developing relationships within our chosen field is a must. The Chapter membership is comprised of consultants, lawyers, regulators, academics, and professionals from the industrial sector. This diversity is the Chapter's greatest strength and the principal source of its value to members. Information regarding upcoming events is contained within this newsletter. I want to encourage you to mark you calendar and plan to join us. Thanks!

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AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT
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GEORGIA CHAPTER

Mission

To promote a cleaner, safer environment in Georgia by focusing on air and waste issues. We achieve this through information transfer, technology exchange, education, and environmental leadership.



Environmental Conference Awards Ceremony 2000

Scholarship Awards

The Georgia Chapter is pleased to have begun awarding cash scholarships to deserving graduate students in Georgia. Scholarships were awarded based on abstracts of active research projects relevant to the charter of the AWMA. Winners presented their projects and preliminary findings on poster displays at the Conference. The Georgia Chapter plans to make this program an annual feature of the Conference.

This year's winners were:



*Scholarship Winner Duane Nakabata, (L) Georgia Institute of Technology and Scholarships Chair Steve Jefferds (R) Tetra Tech EMI.
Title/Topic: Effect of Dichlorophenol Substitution Pattern on Furan and Dioxin Formation
Scholarship award: \$1000*



*Scholarship Winners Jackie Tront (L) and James Day (R), Georgia Institute of Technology Chapter Chair Joe Rozza is at Center
Title/Topic: Phytoremediation of Chlorophenols by Lemna minor
Scholarship Award: \$750*

2000 AWMA GA Chapter Environmental Awards

This was the third year that the Georgia Chapter has acknowledged excellence in environmental planning and program execution at industrial facilities in Georgia. Awards Chair **Sean Nicholl** reported that the competition this year was tougher than ever, with many very strong applicants participating. Picking winners was a difficult choice for the Awards Committee, but the number of great environmental programs is good news for Georgia.

Recipients of the 2000 Annual Environmental Awards were:

Certificate of Achievement – Delta Air Lines, Atlanta World Port

A winner in 1998, Delta continues to demonstrate superior overall environmental performance under difficult conditions. Minimization of environmental impacts is an active goal at all levels of the organization.



Randy Harrison, Delta AirLines



Jodie Jackowiec of

Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corporation

Certificate of Achievement – Yamaha Motor Manufacturing Corp., Newnan, GA

Yamaha has made significant progress in pollution source reduction and process efficiency improvements which have yielded impressive environmental gains.

Hazardous Waste Management Program – Lithonia Lighting, Cochran, GA

Lithonia Lighting has developed a procedure for safely disposing of a significant volume defective mercury bearing fluorescent lamps, allowing them to be characterized as non-hazardous waste, suitable for recycling. This diversion of a hazardous waste stream allowed the plant to be reclassified from a Large Quantity Generator to a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator.



Chapter Awards Chair Sean Nicholl (L) of Rindt-McDuff, and Bill Gay (R) of Lithonia Lighting

Major Source: Compliance Management Program, Robins Air Force Base



Kim Kelley (L) and Mark Summers (R) of Robins Air Force Base

Also a previous winner, Robins AFB Air Logistics Center has made significant changes in procedures and materials in their repainting and coating operations which lead to significant measurable decreases in VOC emissions. They have also instituted an Alternative Fuel Vehicle program, reducing tailpipe emissions on the base.

Waste Minimization/Pollution Prevention – Tenneco Automotive, Hartwell, GA

Tenneco Automotive took the award in the most hotly contested category this year. Their installation of two state-of-the-art electroplaters have significantly reduced consumption of water and electricity, decreased air emissions, and yielded a 99% reduction in chromium bearing hazardous waste. Tenneco also has rerouted treated water generated from a pump and treat remediation system, redirecting about 80,000 gpd from the local POTW to the plant as an alternative source of cooling and process water.



Chapter Awards Chair Sean Nicholl (L), Rindt-McDuff, and Dan Moorhead (R), Tenneco Automotive

