

A&WMA Georgia Chapter Environmental Awards – 2006

Summary by Thomas P. Sweat, P.E., Chair, Georgia Chapter A&WMA

Each year, the Georgia Chapter has the opportunity to recognize industrial, governmental and commercial entities which have instituted practices or procedures demonstrating a dedication to go beyond regulatory compliance to yield real environmental benefits. As always, the competition was tough among a wide variety of worthy nominees. This year, the categories were: Air and Waste Management.

The annual awards are intended to provide recognition for our corporate, industrial, or governmental members who share our commitment to environmental principles, and put these principles into action. Typical winners of the award have instituted practices or procedures which demonstrate a dedication to go beyond regulatory compliance to yield real environmental improvements.

The process of determining winners includes nomination, a site visit and interviews conducted by selected members of the Awards Committee, followed by careful review and discussion by the entire Awards Committee.

Awards were presented October 3, 2006 at the Chapter's 2006 Annual Environmental Conference by Thomas P. Sweat, P.E., Chair, Georgia Chapter A&WMA. This year's winners are:

- **Air (Minor Source) Category:**
First American Resources Company
Mableton, Georgia
- **Air (Major Source) Category:**
Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company
Marietta, Georgia
- **Waste Management Category:**
InterfaceFLOR Commercial
LaGrange, Georgia

Category: Air (Minor Source)

FIRST AMERICAN RESOURCES COMPANY is a coil coating facility located in Mableton, Georgia. The subject of this award is the facility's efforts to reduce emissions and energy consumption through the replacement of the regenerative thermal oxidizer used to control emissions from its coil coating lines. The achievements of this project include:

- Over 50% reduction in the natural gas required to operate the coating lines, saving over \$10,000 per week in energy costs.
- Increase in VOC and HAP destruction efficiency from 97.8% to 99.4%, reducing VOC emissions from 17-18 tons per year to approximately 3 tons per year.
- Coating room ventilation and dryer efficiency have been improved by installing exhaust fans and hoods to pull solvent vapors away from operators. The solvent-laden air is then preheated in a heat recovery system before being sent back to the process dryers.



Photo Left to Right: Rick Blackmer, First American Resources Company
Thomas P. Sweat, P.E., Chair, Georgia Chapter A&WMA, EPS, Inc.

Category: Air (Major Source)

LOCKHEED MARTIN AERONAUTICS COMPANY operates Air Force Plant 6 in Marietta, Georgia. The subject of this award is the facility's efforts to reduce emissions through the installation of an ultra-low NOx boiler, utilizing alternative coating application equipment, and other activities. The achievements of this facility include:

- Installation of an ultra-low NOx boiler, reducing NOx from 100 ppm to less than 13 ppm.
- Obtaining approval from Georgia EPD to use air-assisted airless painting equipment for Aerospace NESHAP compliance, thereby achieving a reduction of 156 pounds of VOC per aircraft painted.
- Participating in the Clean Air Campaign, including 15% of employees now being in carpools, reducing 255,814 vehicle miles traveled, and purchasing several hundred bicycles, 8 electric cars, 66 propane powered vehicles, and 400 propane powered scooters.



Photo Left to Right: Carl Jacobsen, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company
Thomas P. Sweat, P.E., Chair, Georgia Chapter A&WMA, EPS, Inc.

Category: Waste Management

INTERFACEFLOR COMMERCIAL operates a modular carpet manufacturing facility in LaGrange, Georgia. The subject of this award is the facility's efforts to reduce waste through reclaiming carpet material, using oil-free backing technology, utilizing landfill gas for energy, and other activities. The achievements of this facility include:

- Through its ReEntry® Program, since 1994, over 85 million pounds of carpet material has been diverted from landfills (17.2 million pounds in 2005 alone).
- Developed the Cool Blue™ backing technology to move to an oil-free environment. This product has the potential to divert over 20 million pounds of plastics from landfills annually.
- By supporting a local landfill gas-to-energy project, the facility has renewable energy to replace its use of natural gas. This project also provides renewable energy to local businesses and extends the lifetime of the landfill.



Photo Left to Right: Stuart Jones, InterfaceFLOR Commercial
Thomas P. Sweat, P.E., Chair, Georgia Chapter A&WMA, EPS, Inc.