



THE STANDARD



Bathymetric Surveying Key To Contaminated Sediment Work

Bathymetry is the measurement of the depths of water bodies from the water surface. Bathymetry, which can be thought of as the marine equivalent of topography, in concert with marine geophysics, allows for seafloor (or river or lake bottom) mapping, sediment characterization and classification, pre-dredging and post-dredging surveys, identification of obstructions, and utility mark-outs. Bathymetric surveys are integral components of contaminated sediment investigation/remediation, marine construction, and navigation projects.

Basic bathymetric surveys are typically conducted using an echosounder (to determine vertical coordinates) in concert with a global positioning system (GPS) unit (to determine horizontal co-

ordinates). An echosounder measures water depth by transmitting acoustic pulses via a transducer. The acoustic pulses are reflected off the seafloor and return to the transducer. Depth is determined by measuring the elapsed time between the outgoing pulse and the returned echo. The GPS unit records the location of the echosounder at the time of each reading. In order to ensure adequate coverage of the survey area, the survey vessel typically navigates along previously established lines. Line spacing depends on the accuracy needs of the project, but typical spacing is on the order of 50 feet. Echosounder surveys are known as single-beam bathymetric surveys because only a single acoustic beam is projected during surveying. Multi-beam (swath) echosounders, which transmit multiple acoustic signals in a swath during

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Federal Advisory Committee To Address Method Detection Limits

In the previous edition of *The Standard*, it was reported that the US EPA had withdrawn its March 2003 proposed rule that revised the detection and quantitation procedures for analytical methods under the Clean Water Act (CWA). This action was prompted by divergent comments about the proposed revisions and potential impact on the regulated community. In January, the Agency conducted a public meeting and announced the establishment of the Federal Advisory Committee on Detection and Quantitation Approaches and Uses in CWA Programs (FACDQ).

The US EPA intends to assemble a team of 20 experts from various areas (e.g., state government, environmental laboratories, the regulated community, public owned treatment works, and the environmental community) to serve on the FACDQ. The major responsibility of the Committee will be to provide advice and recommendations relative to issues such as a common set of terms and

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New Perchlorate Methods To Be Published In 2005

As previously reported in the article entitled "Perchlorate – 'New' Routine Target Analyte" in the Spring 2004 edition of *The Standard*, perchlorate was placed under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) in 1999. Shortly thereafter in 2002, the US EPA issued a draft perchlorate risk assessment that has been highly criticized; criticism included allegations that the studies performed to complete the assessment were erroneous because all data had not been incorporated into the studies. In response to this criticism, the US EPA requested the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to review the 2002 draft risk assessment and to perform an independent risk assessment. The NAS report concluded that perchlorate is not as hazardous as the US EPA had

estimated. In fact, the daily dose of perchlorate considered safe as reported in the NAS report is 23-times greater than the dose reported by the US EPA in its draft risk assessment. On February 18, 2005, the US EPA established the official reference dose (i.e., "scientific estimate of a daily exposure level that is not expected to cause adverse health effects") for perchlorate as "0.0007 mg/kg/day," which is consistent with the NAS assessment.

Recently, emphasis has been placed on developing improved analytical methods for perchlorate analysis; three new analytical methods have been developed and will be published in the near future. US EPA Method 332.0 (formerly referred to as "Method 330.0") is an ion chromatography/mass spectrometry (IC/MS) or IC/ tandem (MS/MS) method, and US EPA Method 331.0 is an LC/MS/MS method. Both

methods feature the use of a labeled internal standard and matrix diversion (the isolation of perchlorate from many of the interfering anions) that translates into low detection limits and improved qualitative identification of perchlorate.

The third method is US EPA Method 314.1 (a revision of EPA Method 314.0 published in 1999), which is an IC method. This method features the use of a concentrator column and a confirmation column that allows for lower detection limits and less chance for false positives than Method 314.0. Studies indicate that all three new perchlorate methods are capable of minimum reporting limits for perchlorate of less than 1 µg/L. Environmental Standards chemists will continue to closely monitor any developments related to perchlorate analysis, regulation, or adverse health effects.

Federal Committee To Address Method Detection Limits

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concepts, specific approaches and procedures for detection and quantitation for analysis under the CWA, and interpretation and the uses of the numbers that result from the recommended detection and quantitation procedures. The deadline for nominations to the FACDQ was February 9, 2005, and appointments are expected to be announced this month.

A recent e-mail inquiry to the US EPA Office of Solid Waste (OSW) Methods Information Communication Exchange (MICE) Service concerning method detection limit (MDL) requirements received the following response:

"Actually, the EPA OSW is now in the process of removing requirements for MDL studies in both the individual methods and chapters. Hopefully, the Fourth Edition of the manual, which should be published sometime early next year, will include these revisions. In addition, the SW-846 Methods Team is discouraging the use and application (of) the MDL determination, regardless of the sample matrix type, as defined in 40 CFR Pt 136 Appendix B, for the simple reason that it is not a true indication of the method sensitivity. The MDL calculation has been used repeatedly for a

number of EPA programs and it demonstrates the potential data variability for a given sample matrix at one point in time, however, it does not represent what can be detected or most importantly the lowest concentration that can be calibrated. For this reason the OSW now recommends establishing the method detection limit or sensitivity as the lowest point of quantitation or in most cases the lowest point in the calibration curve. This enables the lab to prepare a standard at this level for confirmation of the established sensitivity. The laboratory would still be permitted to use a reporting limit below the lowest calibration standard, but all values reported below this standard should be qualified as estimated and only used for screening purposes. Alternatively, the laboratory could re-calibrate using lower concentration standards in order to quantitate results that were considered as estimated from the original calibration."

Environmental Standards chemists believe that the US EPA is finally openly addressing the fact that the procedure to determine MDLs as identified in 40 CFR Part 136 is flawed. Environmental Standards will continue to monitor developments pertaining to MDLs and quantitation limits.

No More Diazinon Sales For Residential Use

As of January 1, 2005, retail sales of diazinon for non-agricultural use are prohibited in the United States. Diazinon is an organophosphate pesticide that has been widely used as an insecticide in household lawn and garden products and indoor residential treatments. US EPA concerns about children's health and the environment prompted the gradual phase-out of diazinon for non-agricultural use. Retailers can participate in a buy-back program from suppliers for remaining inventory and have been urged to do so by March 31, 2005.

Consumers can legally use diazinon products purchased prior to January but are cautioned to follow label directions for product use and disposal. Containers of diazinon products should not be emptied into sinks, toilets, storm drains, or bodies of water. The US EPA suggests that consumers refer to state or local hazardous waste programs or solid waste collection service for appropriate disposal instructions.

Consumers are cautioned to follow label directions for product use and disposal

Dioxin – Assassination Tool And Environmental Contaminant



Dioxins have recently been linked to a 2004 attempted assassination of Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko; however, these highly toxic manmade chemicals have long been recognized as very dangerous environmental contaminants. Classified by the US EPA as “likely to be human carcinogens,” the dioxin “family” (about 70 isomers) of various organic chemicals with similar properties (some more dangerous than others) persists in the environment. One of the more dangerous family members is 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD).

While a presidential candidate in September 2004, Yushchenko became seriously ill. His symptoms included stomach and intestinal ulcers and liver and spleen problems; his most revealing symptom (relative to diagnosis) was the sudden appearance of severe facial acne/skin lesions (chloracne) that produced such a dramatic physical transformation that one clinical toxicologist diagnosed dioxin poisoning based solely on a photograph.

Although most everyone has trace levels (parts per trillion) of dioxins in their tissues because dioxins are present in the food chain (specifically, in animal fats), it has been estimated that 1000-times the normal levels would have been required to effect President Yushchenko’s transformation. The Ukrainian President’s prognosis remains uncertain.

Documented cases of dioxin poisoning are rare. An industrial accident in Seveco, Italy in 1976 affected tens of thousands when several pounds of dioxins were released into the air. The victims had symptoms that were very similar to those of Yushchenko and acne was especially prevalent.

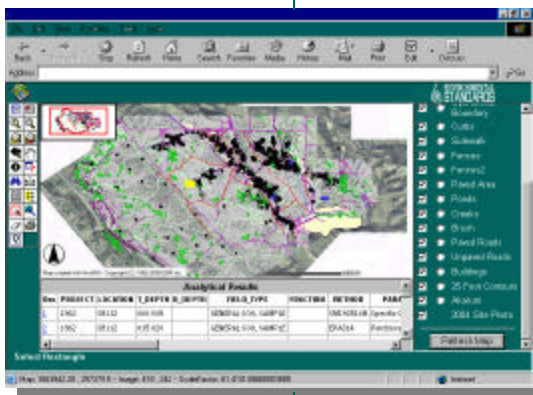
Unlike the novelty of using dioxin as a deliberate poison, the release of

Web-Based GIS Capability Brings Visibility To Conveying Analytical Data

Visual presentations are very powerful in conveying information rapidly to an audience. Environmental Standards has recently incorporated a visual component to our information management services by implementing a Web-based Geographical Information System (GIS) in several large-scale remediation projects. Any number of project members can simultaneously access GIS to produce high-quality dynamic maps and retrieve project analytical data via the Internet.

Recently, a Fortune 100 company requested Environmental Standards to provide data management services for a project with a quick turn, time sensitive delivery schedule.

Due to the fact that the project report requirements were often *ad-hoc* and exploratory in nature, the best solution was to utilize a web-based, centralized GIS to quickly produce reports and maps that could be accessed by project members from different locations across the country. The GIS project data were “real-time” and offered the data analyst an easy query tool to get needed answers in an instant. This process reduced demand for hardcopy maps, reports, and data sets and minimized costs for supplies and shipping deliverables. Environmental Standards successfully met the client’s delivery schedule by providing a GIS tool that assisted the project team in making fast-paced critical decisions



that were based on real-time data.

Using GIS has also proven to be beneficial for other projects. Generally, a site is understood from a visual perspective. The data analyst is familiar with the areas of concern (e.g., buildings, creeks, or ponds) and needs to view the associated analytical data. There is no need to get intimately familiar with data naming conventions that convey location information; instead, the analyst can quickly view the

site map, select the location(s) of concern, and retrieve and download the associated data. Another significant advantage of GIS is the ability to produce custom maps that can be integrated into reports or presentations without reliance on a

CAD specialist. The environmental professional can select from any number or combination of map layers, actively pan across the map, zoom to the location needed, create a snapshot of the current view, and export the snapshot into a variety of file formats.

Web-based GIS is not only versatile and powerful, but it allows for consolidation of all project data (e.g., analytical, topography, bathymetry, features, sampling locations) and is easily accessible to all team members. For additional information and a demonstration of Environmental Standards’ GIS capabilities, contact Dennis Callaghan, Director of Information Technologies, at 610-935-5577.

dioxins into the environment has been a concern for many years. Dioxin is an unintentional by-product of industrial processes such as incineration of municipal and medical wastes and the manufacture, use, and disposal of PVC. Residential burning of wood and household waste also produces dioxins. Dioxins are released during forest fires and volcanic eruptions (see picture at right). According to the US EPA, dioxin

levels in the environment have been declining since the 1970s but current exposure levels are cause for concern.



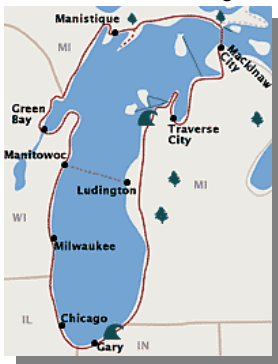
Lake Michigan Study Raises Concerns About PBDEs

The results of a three-year study sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and conducted by University of Wisconsin researchers were released in November 2004 and indicate the presence of polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDEs) in sediments several hundred feet down in Lake Michigan. These results, coupled with results from a 2001 study that found significant PBDE concentrations (100 ppb) in predator fish (coho and Chinook salmon) in Lake Michigan, support the contention that PBDE contamination is becoming an increasing threat to the environment and human health.

PBDEs are manmade chemicals that are added to high-impact plastics because they decrease the likelihood and intensity of fire. The flame retardant capability of PBDEs made their use very popular in products such as computers, televisions, furniture, and appliances since the 1970s.

Limited information is available on the health effects of PBDEs, but they have been referred to as "chemical cousins" of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) because of their similar structure and persistence in the environment. Exactly how these manufactured chemicals enter the environment is not known; it is known that they do not bind chemically with plastics and continually leach out of the final product. In some cases, PBDEs can comprise up to 30% of the final product.

In response to growing concern about the dangers of PBDEs (as documented in numerous studies), the US EPA recently issued a Significant New Use Rule (SNUR) in the Federal Register that requires US manufacturers to notify the Agency 90 days before the manufacture or import of *penta*BDE and *octa*BDE after January 1, 2005. Other regulatory and voluntary actions are under consideration and the US EPA is encouraging the development of alternative flame retardants.



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surveying, allow for greater detail and can reduce survey time and costs, but equipment costs are generally higher. Corrections to the data (post-processing) are often required due to factors such as fluctuations in the water surface elevation during the survey, tides, and time lag. Following post-processing, the individual points are mapped either in GIS or other software formats (e.g., Hypack or Mosaic).

Marine geophysical applications that have recently become affordable for more users include side scan sonar and high-resolution seismic profiling. Side scan sonar provides digital images of the sea floor surface that are rough and lack detail; however, under ideal conditions, photo-quality images are possible. Side scan sonar surveys are conducted by towing the side scan device ("towfish") behind and below the survey vessel. The towfish sends out acoustic pulses in a wide, angular pattern and measures the return time of the pulses. Side scan sonar equipment typically surveys in a 100-500 meter swath and produces a sonogram (similar to an ultrasound image). As the towfish advances, the images are displayed on a monitor and stored to a PC or can be plotted on paper during the survey. Strong reflections (backscatter) indicate coarse sediments, boulders, debris, or other obstructions and appear white on the image; weak reflections indicate finer, softer sediments and appear dark on the image.

Seismic profiling is useful in the environmental industry and allows for the generation of two-dimensional geologic cross-sections with vertical scale units of time (instead of distance). Seismic profiling consists of towing a sound source that emits acoustic energy in timed intervals behind the vessel. The transmitted energy is reflected by boundaries of various media (i.e., water-sediment interface, stratigraphic units) and the reflected signal is received by a hydrophone (or series of hydrophones) towed behind the vessel. The hydrophone converts the reflected signal to an analog signal that can be filtered and plotted on a graphic recorder. Post-processing allows for computer mapping and interpretation of data.

Traditionally, navigation has been the primary reason for bathymetric surveys (e.g., identification of navigation channels or determining if siltation and

sedimentation has occurred). Although the technology proved to be useful in other fields, it was typically too expensive for use by entities other than government agencies and large oil companies. Recent technological advances in both bathymetric equipment and computers have made bathymetric surveying a cost-effective tool for many more users. Oil exploration, marine construction, and the environmental industry can benefit from this technology.

Sediment characterization and geologic profiling are the primary bathymetric geophysical applications in the environmental industry. Underwater sediments are not readily visible, and classification/characterization is often difficult. Bathymetry and seismic profiling allow for relatively easy pre-characterization over large areas and can be used to determine the feasibility of dredging sediments based on the type of sediments present, the likelihood of re-suspension, and underwater obstructions. Pre-dredging and post-dredging bathymetric surveys are used to confirm that the appropriate dredging limits were achieved and to calculate volumes of removed sediment.

Identification of underwater and subsurface obstructions and utilities is another important environmental industry application. Locating objects that can adversely affect project objectives and adjusting sampling, drilling, and/or dredging activities accordingly can prevent costly sampling delays. During a recent Environmental Standards Hudson River project, side scan sonar images were used to help determine appropriate sediment sampling locations based on the presence of coarse versus fine sediments. Previously collected side scan data were overlaid on the sampling vessel's navigational software and displayed on a laptop computer, thereby allowing the crew to view real-time sediment characterization images. This procedure enabled the field team to increase the likelihood of recovery during sampling by adjusting sampling locations if it appeared that obstructions or coarse sediments were present in the design location. The use of side scan sonar on this project increased sampling efficiency and decreased the amount of time spent on the river.

January Railroad Accidents Release Hazardous Chemicals



Two accidents that involved the transportation of dangerous chemicals by rail and that resulted in chemical spills to the environment occurred in January 2005. On January 6, 2005, a 42-car train heading through Aiken, South Carolina, a suburb of Graniteville, derailed (see picture above) and struck a stationary train on an adjacent track; the cause was allegedly a switch that had been left in the wrong position. At least one of the railcars containing chlorine gas (estimated to hold 90 tons) ruptured in the crash, causing a massive release of the chemical into the surrounding towns. As a result of the incident, thousands of people were evacuated, hundreds were injured, and nine people lost their lives.

During the same month (January 31), another train, this one containing anhydrous hydrogen fluoride, derailed near the small town of Creighton in the Pittsburgh area of western Pennsylvania, sending railcars into the adjacent Allegheny River. Fortunately, the chemical was released directly into the river; had the leak become airborne, the potential for loss of life and environmental damage would have been much greater.

These two cases are reported to illustrate the hazards involved in transporting dangerous chemicals and to emphasize the importance of ensuring their safe transport. There is a potential for not only significant loss of human life but also severe adverse impact to the environment when dangerous chemicals are transported.

Environmental Standards has been working with various clients in the chemical and petrochemical industries for several years to ensure the safe handling, transport, and storage of their products. Our Logistics Auditing Group is well qualified to evaluate our clients' subcontracted logistics service provid-

Laboratory Audits In Spanish And "Down Under"

Environmental Standards personnel have performed hundreds of audits of laboratories nationwide on behalf of potentially responsible party (PRP) committees, engineering firms, and laboratories (for in-house QA/QC purposes). In fact, Environmental Standards passed the 700-audit milestone in 2004.

Our laboratory audits are extremely rigorous and may significantly exceed regulatory-based and International Standards Organization (ISO) Guide 25 audit strategies. Since the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) reduced the frequency of regulatory audits to once every 2 years, members of the regulated community have found it prudent to initiate detailed on-site audits of contract laboratories in order to assess liabilities associated with CAA, NPDES, RCRA, and CERCLA project (especially in light of the fraudulent laboratory analytical and reporting practices that have been documented in the last several years).

Recently, Environmental Standards had been requested to conduct this same level of laboratory assessment on laboratories outside the United States



During the last quarter of 2004, Environmental Standards conducted a week-long audit circuit in the greater Buenos Aires, Argentina, area. The audits in Buenos Aires were conducted in Spanish.

During the first quarter of 2005, Environmental Standards conducted a week of training and auditing in Sydney, Australia. Environmental Standards personnel provided training to local industry and consultant personnel on how to conduct audits of commercial environmental laboratories. Classroom knowledge was put to the test by auditing the local laboratories.

NPDES Permit Pitfall

The inclusion of specific analytical methods as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit can pose problems for the permitted facility when those specified methods are not actually being used for analysis. For most parameters, several US EPA-approved methods exist; however, when a particular method is referenced in a permit, that method must be consistently used for sample analysis to maintain compliance with the permit. Problems arise for the permitted facility when the analytical laboratory performs compliance-monitoring analyses using methods other than those that are specified in the permit.

In some cases, the selected analytical laboratory may not be capable of performing the permit-specified method or may prefer to use alternative methods that may be equivalent or even superior to the permit-specified method. The alternative methods may require less sample handling and may provide reduced potential for measurement and calculation errors than manual methods. Despite the potential enhancements in data quality, the use of methods other than those specified in a permit for NPDES-required testing may result in the issuance of a Notice of Violation (NOV).

When a permit specifically identifies the analytical methods to be used for permit-compliance monitoring, a variance to the permit must be requested (in advance) to minimize the potential for receiving an NOV for the use of other methods. To ensure permit compliance and allow maximum flexibility regarding analytical methods used for compliance-monitoring activities, specific method references should be avoided when applying for a NPDES permit.

Is This Your Newsletter?

Are you currently reading your copy of *The Standard* or did a co-worker pass this along to you? If you would you like to receive your own copy of our quarterly newsletter, visit our website – www.envstd.com – and register for delivery. You can even select your method of delivery – either US mail or electronic. Why wait for the latest news from Environmental Standards to work its way to your office when it can be delivered directly to you?

President Bush Begins Work On Environmental Agenda For Second Term

The inaugural parade is long over and work has begun in Washington D.C. toward meeting the environmental goals set by George W. Bush during his campaign for the 2004 presidential election. In addition, the President's recently released fiscal year 2006 budget request includes \$7.6 billion earmarked for the US EPA. Included in that figure is \$210 million for the national Brownfields Program.

The first of President Bush's second term initiatives to see action is the Clear Skies Act, known as Senate Bill 131 (SB 131). Introduced in February, SB 131 would require utilities to develop and implement plans for installing pollution-control equipment to reduce three major pollutants – nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and mercury – by 70% in 15 years. The bill also outlines a strategy to cut greenhouse gas intensity by 18% during the next 10 years.

Action on SB 131 was stalled in March when a Senate committee vote on the measure deadlocked. None of the eight Democrats on the 18-member Senate Environment and Public Works Committee supported SB 131, and some Republicans reportedly expressed concerns about the bill. Senator Tom Carper (D-DE), a ranking member of the Senate's Clean Air subcommittee of the Senate environmental committee, has sponsored an alternative initiative, the Clean Air Planning Act, that would cap and reduce carbon dioxide emissions as well as require swifter reductions for the other three pollutants than are called for in President Bush's plan. The American

Chemistry Council has announced its support for the president's Clear Skies Act.

Other initiatives proposed by President Bush for his second term in office, although yet to be introduced, include the Hydrogen Fuel Initiative, which provides \$1.7 billion over five years to develop hydrogen-powered fuel cells, a hydrogen infrastructure, and advanced automobile technologies that emit no air pollutants or greenhouse gases. This program complements the President's existing FreedomCAR partnership, which is developing technologies needed for mass production of safe and affordable hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles, as well as other advanced vehicle technologies.

Also during his campaign, President Bush showed support for FutureGen, a \$1 billion, 10-year international demonstration project to create the world's first coal-based, zero-emissions electricity and hydrogen power plant.

Finally, President Bush has nominated expert Stephen L. Johnson to head the US EPA. Mr. Johnson, former deputy administrator of the agency, has served as acting administrator since Michael Leavitt left to lead the Department of Health and Human Services following the president's reelection. Mr. Johnson, who holds degrees in biology and pathology, has been with the US EPA for 24 years. During his tenure with the agency he has specialized in pesticides, representing the US EPA nationally and internationally on pesticide issues.

Staff Expansion Continues At Environmental Standards

Environmental Standards is pleased to announce the addition of two new chemists to our staff of environmental professionals.

Joining the Chemistry Quality Assurance Department is Erin Bailey, a quality assurance (QA) chemist with three years of environmental laboratory experience. Ms. Bailey earned a B.S. degree at West Chester University in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She was employed as an environmental chemist during college and after graduation at a privately owned laboratory, where she performed drinking water and wastewater testing. Ms. Bailey's responsibilities at Environmental Standards include the validation of organic and inorganic data to determine both analytical data quality and usability and the evaluation of laboratory data deliverables to determine compliance with regulatory and client-specific requirements.

Another new face in the Chemistry Quality Assurance Department is Jason Pisarcik, a quality assurance chemist with a B.S. degree in Environmental Science from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Pisarcik has extensive experience analyzing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) using GC/MS instrumentation, validating GC/MS methods for project-specific target compounds, and verifying laboratory data relative to chromatography, solution preparation, and instrument calibrations. His education and background make him well prepared for his quality assurance responsibilities at Environmental Standards.

Would you like to be a part of the growing team of Environmental Standards professionals? Check out our Website – www.envstd.com – and go to the Job Opportunities section. We're looking for a number of highly qualified environmental professionals.

Environmental Standards Completes 2004 Accident-Free — 11th Year In Company History

Chief Operating Officer Gerald Kirkpatrick announced in January that Environmental Standards completed another accident-free year in 2004. This marks the 11th year in which Environmental Standards has experienced no lost time due to injury for either its employees or on-site subcontractors. "We are now approaching 1.2 million hours worked, with no incidents," Mr. Kirkpatrick noted. "It is a record of which we are extremely proud, but as

we continue our rapid growth in providing field services, we recognize that maintaining this record will become much more difficult."

"In addition to accident avoidance, the continued safe operations culture of the firm and careful work by our employees reduce operating business expenses and allow us to keep our project costs down. Ultimately, that results in a savings to our clients and helps us stay competitive," he added.

Environmental Standards has established a rigorous selection process for subcontractor procurement that is very safety-oriented. Working with our liability insurance providers, we have implemented a series of subcontractor selection screening procedures that evaluate our subcontractors more on their safety record than on their costs. "In the end, hiring safe field subcontractors only makes good business sense," stated Mr. Kirkpatrick.

Environmental Standards Announces Opening Of Virginia Office

On January 3, 2005, Environmental Standards CEO Rock Vitale formally announced the opening of an office in Charlottesville, Virginia. The office will initially be used to offer one of the firm's key accounts with improved service at reduced costs. Mr. Phil McKalips, P.G., who has almost 20 years of experience in the geotechnical and environmental consulting fields, is the Office Manager and has primary management responsibilities for the new location.



"The office represents a great opportunity for us," said Mr. Vitale. "We have a terrific client in the area, and providing services to this client from a local office will reduce client costs and will dramatically improve our service." Mr. Vitale noted that the office represents just one aspect of the growth of the company's Geosciences Department. "In 2004, we experienced a reve-

nue growth in excess of 30 percent just in the geosciences," he stated.

Mr. McKalips, joined by Geoscientists Brad White and Maverick Raber, will comprise the Environmental Standards team working from the Charlottesville, Virginia, location. Initially, the new office will be serving one major account; however, over time, the office services are expected to expand well beyond the single project. Mr. McKalips, who referred to the Charlottesville office as "an exciting new opportunity" for himself personally and for the firm, indicated that Environmental Standards expects to participate in local civic groups and community programs at levels similar to those of our Valley Forge location. "It will be nice to become a member of the local community and continue the firm's commitment to good corporate citizenship at a new location." For further information, please contact Mr. McKalips at pmckalips@envstd.com.

Karen Ramstine Runs Marathon To End Stroke

A member of Environmental Standards' Information Technologies group recently met a personal physical goal while at the same time raising money to help the American Stroke Association (ASA) reduce disability and death from stroke through research, education, and advocacy.

Information Specialist Karen Ramstine, who described her efforts as a "Mickey Mouse affair," completed the 12th Annual Walt Disney World Marathon in January. She joined 16,000 runners on the 26-mile, 385-yard course, which took runners throughout the park, ending in Epcot®. Ms. Ramstine, who maintained a 15-minute mile pace, finished the race in 6:22:55, placing among the top 7,000 participants.

Ms. Ramstine participated in the Disney World Marathon through the ASA's "Train To End Stroke" endurance training and fund-raising program. Five months of training, as well as several pairs of running shoes, lead Ms. Ramstine to her goal of getting in better physical shape. Another goal of her efforts was to raise \$3,400 for the ASA, a division of the American Heart Association. She was able to exceed the monetary goal by collecting sponsors



and holding bake sales that resulted in a total contribution of \$3,500 to the ASA. Environmental Standards and many individual employees were proud to sponsor Ms. Ramstine, a 16-year employee of Environmental Standards.

Analytical Laboratory News

Back To Prison For Louisiana Laboratory Owner

The former owner of a Baton Rouge, Louisiana, laboratory was sentenced on February 24, 2005, to 46 months in federal prison and is required to pay public defender fees (\$13,359) after being convicted of mail fraud and obstruction of justice. The case involved blood samples that were collected but never analyzed and the subsequent submission of false testing reports. Ironically, these crimes were committed while the defendant was on bail awaiting sentencing for a previous fraud conviction for witness tampering and making false statements to investigators in conjunction with the laboratory's accreditation by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (1999). The first conviction resulted in a 12-month prison term, a fine of \$3,000, and probation of three years.

E&E, Inc. Closes New York Laboratory

On January 20, 2005, the Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E&E) Board of Directors voted to discontinue domestic laboratory operations. The Analytical Service Center in Lancaster, New York (near Buffalo) has closed. Declining profit margins and reduced federal expenditures for environmental programs (specifically, by the Defense Department) were cited as contributing to this decision. Severn Trent Laboratories Inc. (STL) announced in a press release in January that an agreement had been reached for STL laboratory facilities to provide laboratory support services to E&E.



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*Setting the Standards for
Innovative
Environmental Solutions*



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Did you know?

- ? US EPA enforcement charged 293 defendants with environmental crimes in fiscal year 2004 (46 more than in FY 2003).
- ? Public awareness of Energy Star energy efficient products has increased to 64% of US households nationwide.
- ? According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, 7 of the top 10 marine fish species are fully exploited or overexploited.
- ? Nearly 40% of the water used for public supplies and about 42% of the water used for irrigation to support our agricultural economy come from groundwater.