

## **Advancing an Innovative Remediation Technology to Broad Commercial Use**

Tom Sale and Gary Amato<sup>1</sup>

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Colorado State University

**Abstract.** In 2003, DuPont donated two patents for an innovative technology for treating subsurface releases of chlorinated solvents to Colorado State University (CSU). Research conducted over the last two years, including four field trials, has demonstrated that the technology is promising in terms of both efficacy and cost. Building on this, CSU is confronted with the challenge of how best to bring this promising technology to market.

In response to the challenge, an interdisciplinary partnership involving diverse parties has emerged. Key participants within the CSU community include the College of Engineering, the College of Business, and the Colorado State University Research Foundation. Key participants in the business community include DuPont, CH2M HILL, Inc., Suncor Energy, Inc., and Envirometals Inc.

Primary activities to date include finding technical solutions to perceived obstacles, developing basic engineering tools for technology implementation, conducting market surveys, developing a marketing plan, and initial implementation of the market plan. All of this is stretching the initiative partners to learn new skills and build on the experience and skills of others.

If our initiative is successful, the rewards will be large. For CSU, royalties will provide an opportunity to upgrade faculties and self-endow education and research. Additionally, students will have an opportunity to work as part of an interdisciplinary team tasked with evaluating the technology from both a technical and a business point of view and with developing a plan to maximize the value of the technology; an experience very much like what they will see in industry. Furthermore, skills gained through this initiative will help CSU advance other new ideas. Beyond CSU, our initiative holds promise for economic development within the State of Colorado and lower cost solutions industries managing past releases of chlorinated solvent and fuels.

---

<sup>1</sup> Amato Consulting, Fort Collins, Colorado, 970-219-4999