MCHT's newest company tests air for remediation systems

When environmental cleanup companies begin cleaning up contaminated land using remediation systems, they find contaminants in soil and water.

Derek S. Gideons, president of The Envirolytic Group, Inc., MCHT's newest company, is working with local engineering firms, however, to test the air in the soil.

Wait a minute. Is there really air in soil?

"Yes," says Gideons, an analytical chemist. "When the soil is broken up, air can get trapped in cracks and crevices. The remediation system sucks out the air in a vacuum and packages the samples in plastic bags," he explains.

Gideons then takes the air sample and attaches it to a gas chromatograph to test for the quantity and level of target compounds as well as identify others. Some,



Derek S. Gideons tests air in ground cracks and crevices.

such as toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene are not dangerous at low levels but can make you sick at higher levels. Benzene is a definite carcinogen.

Because the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires clean soil when a piece of property is purchased, there must be evidence that the soil has been tested at many intervals.

As the environmental company cleans up the soil, the contaminated air is sometimes sucked up and filtered through a carbon bed where contaminants are trapped. The clean air is then returned to the earth. The air might go through eight to ten carbon beds before it measures zero.

Gideons also tests the carbon beds and determines when the carbon beds are too full to take any more contaminants.

An advantage of this particular type of testing is finding out where the heaviest concentration of contaminants are, so that you can direct the clean up operations. Gideons has had several years experience with air testing. During his last semester of college at the University of Dayton, he worked as an analytical chemist for Midwest Water Resources in Lansing.

Last August, he decided to become an entrepreneur. The engineering firms that need his service have agreed to purchase the equipment for him. He has moved into 600 square feet of space at MCHT.

Retired Ford engineer joins staff

MCHT Director David F. Hagen, a retired engineer with Ford Motor Company, has joined MCHT as senior technology advisor to lend his expertise on a fulltime, pro-bono basis.

Hagen retired from Ford after 35 years of service. His

most recent position was general manager, Alpha Simultaneous Engineer, Ford Technical Affairs. Under his leadership, Alpha evolved into Ford's global resource for leading-edge automotive product, process and analytical technologies.

Prior to this, he was general manager of Ford's Engine Division and led the creation of the current new series of V-6 and V-8 engines.

Hagen is active in the community, currently serving on the board



David F. Hagen

of the Engineering Society of Detroit; the Dean's Advisory, School of Management, University of Michigan—Dearborn; Engineering Advisory—Western Michigan University; vice chairman of the Dearborn Federal Credit Union and is active in several na-

tional Lutheran church organizations.

Hagen will use his contacts in industry to help market and counsel incubator companies and assist in MCHT's technology park development and organizational funding projects.

"I hope to meet with key contacts involved in the Empowerment Zone," said Hagen, "to show where MCHT companies can be of assistance. MCHT can be an important link."

Ann Arbor satellite is already full

"The growth of our Ann Arbor satellite facility, which just opened last summer, has been phenomenal," said Charles Henderson, MCHT president. "We have completely filled the 6,000 square feet allotted to us in the Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), and we have another five or six companies on the waiting list."

Henderson said MCHT is now exploring additional space in another building in Ann Arbor to accommodate additional companies. The ITI building is not able to accommodate a wet lab or companies in the field of life science. Volume 8, No. 1

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MCHT set to move to new headquarters

MCHT will leave its birthplace at 2727 Second Avenue and move to its new home barely two miles away in the former Unisys building, now One Ford Place in the New Center Area.

The building, which was purchased by Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) in 1994, has 500,000 square feet of which MCHT will occupy 11,000 square feet on the second floor to start. MCHT will have access to all the facilities of the building, including several conference rooms, cafeteria stations and possibly science labs.

The bigger vision for MCHT and Henry Ford Health System is to begin the pre-development process for a science and technology park on the surrounding 30 acres, which HFHS also owns.

"The location is ideal," said MCHT President Charles Henderson. "One Ford Place is on the north edge of the Wayne Sate University campus, close to Henry Ford Hospital, the Detroit Medical Center and General Motors." GM owns some periph-

ery land which could be added to the technology park.

MCHT would work with Henry Ford Health System to develop the site as a science and technol-



ter and General Motors." One Ford Place is new home for MCHT.

ogy park and, over a period of time, graduate its companies into the park along with other mature companies that could be attracted to the site.

Gloria Robinson, Donald Vuchetich join MCHT board

MCHT has added two prominent community and business individuals to its board, Gloria W, Robinson and Donald M. Vuchetich.

Gloria W. Robinson, director of the Planning and Development Department for the City of Detroit, oversees both planning activities and community and economic development.

Prior to joining the Archer administration in January 1994, Robinson was director of planning for Wayne County where she was responsible for planning development projects, directing community revitalization initiatives and implementing affordable housing programs.

Robinson holds a B.A. from The University of Michigan and a Masters of Urban Planning degree from Michigan State University. She is active in many community and civic organiza-

Donald M.
Vuchetich is
president and
CEO of the Detroit & Canada
Tunnel Corporation, the publicly owned
company that
operates the
Detroit &

Windsor Tunnel, the third busiest crossing between the United States and Canada.

Prior to taking this position, Vuchetich was one of three principal owners of CIMdata, Inc., in Ann Arbor that provided strategic and tactical marketing services to computer hardware and software companies.

He has also served as director of marketing for Machine Vision



Gloria W. Robinson



Donald M. Vuchetich

International and marketing manager for Manufacturing Data Systems Inc./ Schlumberger and has held positions with Comshare, Inc. and University Computing Company.

Inside: annual meeting, new grants, new directors new MCHT companies