
FEDERAL REMEDIATION TECHNOLOGIES ROUNDTABLE: Five Years of Cooperation



The Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable is at the forefront of the Federal Government's efforts to promote interagency cooperation to advance the use of innovative remediation technologies. Since its inception five years ago, the Roundtable has served as an excellent platform for numerous collaborative efforts. These collaborative efforts have led to technology development and demonstration partnerships with industry and a unified federal approach to assessing the effectiveness of technologies. The members of the Roundtable are proud of these accomplishments and look forward to greater collaboration among the agencies and with the private sector in the future.



Through semi-annual meetings, the Roundtable offers an unparalleled networking opportunity for programs within Federal agencies involved in the development and use of hazardous waste site remediation technologies. The meetings bring together Federal clean-up managers, allowing them to:

- ❖ learn about technology-related efforts of mutual interest
- ❖ benefit from the collective technical experience with specific technologies
- ❖ form partnerships to pursue specific projects



The result of this effort has been less duplication by Federal agencies and a clearer, more comprehensive picture of the cost and performance of innovative treatment technologies.



The Roundtable also benefits the private cleanup community through its efforts to consolidate and disseminate information on Federal applications of innovative technologies. Through a series of publications, the Roundtable highlights:

- ❖ demonstrations of innovative technologies being conducted by the Federal Government
- ❖ Federal publications and data bases on innovative technologies
- ❖ technology cost and performance information.



In addition, Roundtable member agencies have engaged in cooperative technology and evaluation activities with private sector companies.



INITIATIVES

- ◆ Developed a framework to standardize the documentation and collection of cost and performance data for remediation technologies used at Federal cleanup sites. The *Guide to Documenting Cost and Performance for Remediation Projects* (EPA-542-B-95-002):
 - ❖ encourages the use of standardized terminology to describe site background, site characteristics, treatment systems, and cost



- ❖ identifies a baseline set of the most important data elements to be collected for individual technologies
- ❖ encourages the documentation of procedures used to measure matrix characteristics and design system operating parameters.
- ◆ Obtained commitments from member agencies to collect future cost and performance data using the framework described in the *Guide*.
- ◆ Produced 37 case studies that document cost and performance data from completed Air Force, DOE, and EPA sites (*Abstracts of Remediation Case Studies*, EPA-542-R-95-001). The case studies demonstrate use of standardized data elements in different report formats.
- ◆ Assisted the development of the Consortium for Site Characterization Technologies (CSCT). The Consortium will facilitate the evaluation, verification, and use of innovative site characterization and monitoring technologies.
- ◆ Convened Federal and private sector executives to form a board of directors for the CSCT. The board will guide the Consortium in its efforts to verify technology performance and disseminate test results.
- ◆ Fostered relationships that have led to numerous joint technology demonstrations. Ongoing demonstrations include: Pineallas DOE facility, McClellan AFB, Paducah DOE Gaseous Diffusion Plant, and Dover AFB. Future joint efforts are likely at: Otis Air National Guard Base, North Island Naval Air Station, Joliet Army Ammunition Plant, and the DOE Mound Plant.

INFORMATION SHARING

A hallmark of the Roundtable has been its focus on highlighting technology issues of mutual interest to the member agencies. Through meetings and publications, the Roundtable provided a forum where information on current activities and ideas for collaboration could be shared among federal partners and with the private sector. Early in its existence, the Roundtable sought to document the technology demonstration activities underway within the Federal Government.

Three publications, now in their third editions, are intended to provide wide public access to information on basic research, development, and demonstration of innovative remediation technologies. These include:

- ❖ *Accessing Federal Data Bases for Contaminated Site Clean-Up Technologies: Third Edition* (EPA-542-B-93-008, NTIS: PB94-144540)
- ❖ *Federal Publications on Alternative and Innovative Treatment Technologies for Corrective Action and Site Remediation: Third Edition* (EPA-542-B-93-008, NTIS: PB94-151065)
- ❖ *Synopses of Federal Demonstrations of Innovative Site Remediation Technologies: Third Edition* (EPA-542-B-93-009, NTIS: PB94-144565)

The fourth editions of the *Federal Publications* and *Accessing Federal Data Bases* documents will be published in FY95. Also in FY95, the Roundtable will publish a new guide for technology developers entitled *Accessing the Federal Government: Site Remediation Technology Programs and Initiatives*.

The Roundtable recently worked with the DOD Environmental Technology Transfer Committee to complete its most expansive effort to assist site managers with technology selection decisions. The *Remediation Technologies Screening Matrix and Reference Guide: Second Edition* (EPA-542-B-94-013, NTIS: PB95-104782) provides site managers with critical information on commercially available alternative treatment technologies and combines the best features of several EPA, DOD, and DOE publications. The *Matrix* includes technology profiles that consolidate past performance information from several agencies, allowing site managers to pursue questions based on contamination problems.

ONGOING COOPERATION

The agencies of the Roundtable have undertaken recent cooperative efforts to improve the availability of innovative technologies. These multi-agency efforts are aimed at improving technology evaluations, developing

(with industry) technical solutions to common contamination problems, and working with States to overcome permitting barriers to the use of new technologies. Examples of such cooperation include:

- ❖ the Public-Private Partnership Project (facilitated by Clean Sites, Inc.), involving full-scale demonstration and evaluation of technologies at Federal facilities.
- ❖ a joint project to develop technical solutions to environmental restoration and waste management problems sponsored by the Western Governors' Association (WGA)/DoD/DOE/DOI/EPA
- ❖ a WGA project aimed at multi-state technology permit agreements to reduce the permitting barriers confronting technology developers
- ❖ the development of a matrix, under the Expedited Base Closure Initiative and sponsored by the California EPA, DoD, DOE, EPA, and WGA, which provided information on potential technology applications to sites at closing DoD facilities in California.

FUTURE GOALS

Since the inception of the Roundtable five years ago, the number of organizations, work groups, and committees addressing innovative environmental technologies has increased markedly. Many of these groups have an interagency focus and have undertaken a wide variety of worthwhile initiatives.

The Roundtable continues to function as the primary interagency work group focused exclusively on the development and use of innovative technologies for hazardous waste site cleanup. It will continue to meet semi-annually, to serve as a clearinghouse for interagency information exchange by developing and revising Roundtable information resources, and to play a central role in coordinating interagency applied remediation technology projects. The Roundtable also will strive to support broader Federal technology initiatives and serve as an implementation mechanism for these programs.

ROUNDTABLE PUBLICATIONS

Guide to Documenting Cost and Performance for Remediation Projects (EPA-542-B-95-002);
Accessing Federal Data Bases for Contaminated Site Clean-Up Technologies: Third Edition (EPA-542-B-93-008, NTIS:PB94-144540)
Federal Publications on Alternative and Innovative Treatment Technologies for Corrective Action and Site Remediation: Third Edition (EPA-542-B-93-008, NTIS:PB94-144557)
Synopses of Federal Demonstrations of Innovative Site Remediation Technologies: Third Edition (EPA-542-B-93-009, NTIS:PB94-144565)
Remediation Technologies Screening Matrix and Reference Guide: Second Edition (EPA-542-B-94-013, NTIS:PB95-104782)
Federal Remediation Technology Roundtable Mission Statement (EPA-542-F-93-006)
Abstracts of Remediation Case Studies (EPA-542-R-95-001)
Remediation Case Studies: Bioremediation (EPA-542-R-95-002, NTIS:PB95-182911)
Remediation Case Studies: Groundwater Treatment (EPA-542-R-95-003, NTIS:PB95-182929)
Remediation Case Studies: Soil Vapor Extraction (EPA-542-R-95-004, NTIS:PB95-182937)
Remediation Case Studies: Thermal Desorption, Soil Washing, and In Situ Vitrification (EPA-542-R-95-005, NTIS:PB95-182945)
Remediation Case Studies: Four Document Set (NTIS:PB95-182903)
Remediation Case Studies: Fact Sheet and Order Form (EPA-542-F-95-003)

Single copies of publications in this report with EPA-542 numbers are available free of charge while supplies last from:

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