



News from the Savannah River National Laboratory

Media Contact (Solutions-IES):
Stephen Richardson
(919) 873-1060
srichardson@solutions-ies.com

Media Contact (SRNL):
Angeline French
(803) 725-2854
angeline.french@srnl.doe.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP TECHNOLOGY HONORED

'Green' Chemistry Treats Contamination Before It Reaches The Groundwater

AIKEN, S.C. (November 21, 2011) – A technology that uses “green” chemistry to help microbes break down contaminants in soil before they reach the groundwater has earned kudos from the editors of *Environmental Protection* website as 2011 Soil & Groundwater New Product of the Year.

The technology, which was invented by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Savannah River National Laboratory, and licensed and manufactured by EOS Remediation, LLC, a subsidiary of Solutions-IES, Inc., treats chlorinated solvent contamination in the vadose zone, the area of unsaturated soils between the ground surface and the water table below. Contamination in this zone can be a continuing source of groundwater contamination.

The technology, which EOS Remediation markets under the name Vadose Organic Substrate (VOST™), is based on sustainable “green” chemistry. The thixotropic gel – a liquid consistency when stirred, but gels when left in place – uses biodegradable oil to sequester the contaminants while providing food for the microorganisms in the soil, stimulating the microbes’ innate ability to degrade solvents. Initial results indicated that the VOST™ Technology can cost-effectively turn land once deemed unusable into productive and safe real estate.

The technology was originally developed by Brian Riha of SRNL to address solvent contamination at DOE’s Savannah River Site. EOS Remediation obtained the exclusive license to manufacture and sell the technology, as part of SRNL’s mandate to support the U.S. economy by moving technologies developed at the government laboratory into the marketplace.

(more)

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The *Environmental Protection* New Product of the Year Award honors the outstanding achievements of industry manufacturers whose products are considered particularly noteworthy for making environmental professionals' jobs a little easier. See the winners at <http://eponline.com/pages/2011-npoy-winners.aspx>

Solutions-IES is an award-winning, woman-owned environmental consulting, engineering and remediation firm and is a leading developer of innovative technologies for natural and sustainable bioremediation of soil and groundwater. Its subsidiary, EOS Remediation, commercializes products developed by Solutions-IES to naturally clean-up environmental contamination. EOS[®] technologies are used at over 1,000 sites annually and substantially reduce the cost to restore contaminated properties throughout the world.

SRNL is DOE's applied research and development national laboratory at SRS. SRNL puts science to work to support DOE and the nation in the areas of environmental stewardship, national security, and clean energy. The management and operating contractor for SRS and SRNL is Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC.

Visit SRNL on the web at <http://srnl.doe.gov>

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