

**Member Agencies of the Federal Remediation Technologies Roundtable (US EPA, US DoD, US DoE, US DoI, US NASA), Abstracts of Remediation Case Studies, vol. 8, June 2004 (102 pp., US\$ gratis).**

I have, in the past, reviewed US Government publications including earlier versions of this series on remediation. This book is one of a number of excellent US EPA-published books (I might note that somewhere in the past, a librarian at my university noted that the most prolific publisher in the world was the US Government; included in the above comment was the US EPA which has published a large number of reports). In recent years, however, the use of electronic media for information transfer has decreased the flow of paper volumes in favor of electronic access (see below).

The book is "...a collection of abstracts summarizing 19 new case studies of site remediation applications" that cover "...a wide variety of technologies including full-scale remediations and large-scale field demonstrations of soil, groundwater, and sediment treatment technologies".

"The case study abstracts in this volume describe a wide variety of ex situ and in situ soil treatment technologies for both soil and groundwater. Contaminants treated included chlorinated solvents; petroleum hydrocarbons and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes; polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons; pesticides and herbicides; metals; and radioactive materials".

In addition to providing information about the treatment technology used, contaminants and media treated and project duration, cost data for the 19 technology applications are given.

"Appendix A to this report provides a summary of key information about all 361 remediation case studies published to date by the Roundtable". All case studies are available on a CD-ROM.

Included in the package that contained the above-mentioned review book were two information sheets that describe other US EPA projects. The first of these projects was the "Field Analytic Technologies Encyclopedia (FATE)" which is an on-line encyclopedia developed jointly by the US EPA and the US Corps of Engineers. It provides information on many tools that are now available to streamline site investigation and cleanup. It can be accessed through the worldwide web at FATE.CLU-IN.ORG. Categories of data include analytics (such as gas chromatography, immunoassay, X-ray fluorescence), direct-push technologies, explosives, geophysics (such as ground penetrating radar and magnetics for environmental applications), sampling (such as passive diffusion bag samplers) and sampling design. This site is regularly updated with new information related to the field of analytic techniques.

The second sheet in this mailing describes the US EPA's technical seminars which were originally presented as 2 h live events. They are now archived and are available at <http://clu-in.ora/studio/>. Topics include:

- Advanced Techniques for Iron Based Permeable Reactive Barriers and Non-Iron Treatment Material;
- Field-Based Analytical Methods for Explosive Compounds;
- Field Analytical Technologies for VOCs in Groundwater;
- Dynamic Data Collection Strategy Using Systematic Planning;
- Enhanced In Situ Bioremediation of Solvents in Ground Water;
- Geophysical Characterization Techniques and Data Uses;
- Historical Case Analysis of Chlorinated Volatile Organic Compound Plumes;
- In Situ Chemical Oxidation;
- Natural Attenuation of Chlorinated Solvents in Groundwater: Principles and Practices;
- Passive Diffusion Bag Samplers for Volatile Organic Compounds in Ground Water;
- Permeable Reactive Barriers for Chlorinated Solvent, Inorganic, and Radionuclide Contamination;
- Phytotechnologies.

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**Daniel A. Vallero, Environmental Contaminants: Assessment and Control, Elsevier Academic Press, Burlington, MA, 2004, ISBN 0-12-710057-1 (820 pp., US\$ 79.95).**

The first section of the preface of this book has a question as its title: "Why a book on environmental contaminants?" Vallero answers his own question thusly:

"My principle objective in writing this book is to help the environmental professional, professor, student, and citizen to apply the science, engineering, and technology for assessing environmental risks and cleaning up environmental problems in air, water, soil, sediment, and living systems. I do so by introducing a key topic related to environmental risk assessment or methods to control or reduce risks and, when appropriate, follow it with examples of problems and solutions. Each solution includes a discussion of the basic and applied sciences as well as other considerations, such as when the equations and applied principles may not work, where uncertainties may exist, and how these applications may or may not work in the 'real world'."

The book, the author notes, has four parts which he describes thusly: