SURF REPORT – SPRING 2011

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, PAUL FAVARA

These are exciting and dynamic times for sustainable remediation. The year 2011 will be particularly interesting for sustainable remediation in the area of additional guidance being released and the documentation of benefits.

SURF is releasing three technical initiatives (TIs) in the Remediation journal this June. One TI provides guidance on an overall Framework for implementing sustainable remediation. The second TI is a universe of metrics that could be considered in sustainable remediation projects. And the third TI is guidance for conducting footprint analyses and life cycle assessments for remediation projects. All three of these topics are on the agenda for training at the Battelle Bioremediation and Sustainable Environmental Technologies conference in Reno this June.

In addition to SURF’s work, the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is due to release its technical overview document and technical and regulatory guidance documents on green and sustainable remediation this year. Likewise, ASTM International is continuing to advance the draft guidance document for greener and more sustainable remediation; we hope to see a draft of that this year as well. Also, there will continue to be new case studies presented at all the conferences that are highlighting sustainable remediation.

What is particularly exciting about all this new information is we, as an industry, appear to have turned the corner and are moving on from “theory and vision” and moving toward “practices and benefit.” The more we talk about practices and benefit, the greater the opportunity there will be to improve the solutions we deliver.

There will certainly be some bumps and challenges along the way. But the trajectory from where we started—that good idea started by Dr. Dave Ellis in Wilmington, Delaware in 2006—to where we are today has

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been impressive. I expect the slope of that trajectory to increase in 2011 as the good benefits and case studies start to get traction and bring in more support for improving the sustainability of our projects.

Paul Favara, 2011-2012 SURF President

ABOUT SURF

The Sustainable Remediation Forum (SURF) was initiated in late 2006 to promote the use of sustainable practices during remedial action activities with the objective of balancing economic viability, conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, and the enhancement of the quality of life in surrounding communities. Just over 20 people attended the first SURF meeting in 2006. We now have nearly 400 participants and have inspired the creation of several sustainable remediation groups outside the US. In 2010, SURF was incorporated as a non-profit corporation.

The mission of SURF is to maximize the overall environmental, societal, and economic benefits from the site cleanup process by:

- Advancing the science and application of sustainable remediation
- Developing best practices
- Exchanging professional knowledge
- Providing education and outreach

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- Sustainable Remediation Events and Conferences

LinkedIn members: Search on “sustainable remediation forum” in Groups to join SURF’s discussion group on the LinkedIn professional networking site (www.linkedin.com). Look for the SURF logo!
Greetings from SURF! This newsletter is published quarterly by the SURF Communications and Outreach Committee to provide you with highlights of SURF’s activities and opportunities and developments in the field of sustainable remediation.

The SURF website, www.sustainableremediation.org, continues to be our primary resource for sharing the latest and greatest news about SURF. Our Links pages act as portals to resources, tools, information, and documents from other organizations and individuals. The Calendar shows remediation, sustainability, and related conferences, as well as deadlines for submitting abstracts. There is also a public Discussion Forum and a Bulletin Board in our Member Resources section for topics and questions addressed specifically to the SURF membership. Suggestions for additions and improvements are welcome by using the Contact SURF form on the website or by emailing administrator@sustainableremediation.org.

SURF WELCOMES OUR 2011 BOARD OF TRUSTEES!

At SURF 16, SURF membership congratulated the new Board of Trustees:

- Paul Favara, President
- Dave Woodward, Vice President
- Maile Smith, Secretary
- Brandt Butler, Treasurer
- Stephanie Fiorenza
- Karin Holland
- Steven Murawski
- Curt Stanley
- Dan Watts

SURF ZONE – SURF 16 in Tampa, Florida

The SURF 16 meeting was held at University of South Florida (USF) at the beginning of February and focused on the theme “Sustainable Remediation: Improving Water Quality in Florida and Beyond.” SURF would like the thank USF for hosting the meeting, in particular the Dr. Kiran C. Patel Center for Global Solutions, the School of Global Sustainability, and the College of Engineering. Presentations and panel discussions focused on the meeting theme, and the remainder of the meeting focused on SURF’s technical initiatives for 2011. Highlights of some presentations are below.

- Thom Snelling, Chief Green Officer of the City of Tampa, welcomed participants to Tampa, which recently received a gold-level Certified Green Local Government designation by the Florida Green Building Coalition.
- Keynote Speaker Kalanithy Vairavamoorthy, the Director of the School of Global Sustainability at USF, discussed how cities of the future will manage their water in light of the pressures and uncertainties caused by climate change, urban population growth, and decaying underground structures.
- Dr. Sarina Ergas and Dr. Maya Trotz presented remediation research at USF.
- Michelle Sims of the Bureau of Mining and Mineral Regulation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Brian Birky of the Florida Industrial and Phosphate Research Institute discussed sustainability perspectives in the phosphate mining industry.
- A Panel of experts discussed the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill, including Jack Kindinger of the US Geological Survey, Gil McRae of Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Capt. Gary Petrae of the National Oceanic Atmospheric
Administration, William Hogarth of USF, and R. Timothy Short of Chemical SensorsGroup.

- Mark Fleri, Senior Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer at WRScompass, presented a case study of a sustainability evaluation at a Superfund gasification plant in Central Florida. The case study highlighted the benefits of green cement and the avoidance of global warming potential, as compared to using traditional Portland cement.

During the meeting, SURF members brainstormed about future technical initiatives, and a total of 24 ideas were offered. The ideas were compiled and six designated volunteers are evaluating the ideas and developing short proposals for presentation to the Board and membership. Technical Initiatives will be further discussed and refined at SURF 17 in Chicago.

**NEXT SURF MEETING**

SURF invites you to attend the 17th meeting of the SURF community! SURF 17 will be held at the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 Headquarters in Chicago, Illinois on May 19 and 20, 2011. The theme for the meeting will be “The Incorporation of Green and Sustainable Remediation into Projects at the State and Federal Level within Region 5.”

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!** Go to www.sustainableremediation.org/agenda to learn more and www.sustainableremediation.org/registration to sign up. See the SURF website for additional details.

**FACILITATOR’S CORNER**

My role as Facilitator for SURF is to ensure that our engagements are effective. That encompasses a lot of meaning, but you understand the point. On-Mission, informative, supportive, interactive, etc.

Kathy Adams and I work closely together with a Planning Team for each SURF meeting to meet those objectives. Planning Teams are responsible for the particulars of the SURF meeting: presentations, agenda, dinner, refreshments, keynote speaker, etc. We encourage members to participate (especially locals), as well as representatives of our standing committees.

The role of the Meetings and Programs Committee is to ensure that SURF has appropriate venues for our meetings. We welcome our members’ ideas and contributions in these areas, hence, some opportunities for you:

- Are you interested in serving on the SURF Planning Team for SURF 18 (Seattle in September)?
- Can you suggest and/or offer venues for SURF meetings in 2012 and beyond? We plan in advance!
- Can you suggest informative topics, presentations, or speakers for SURF meetings? Is there someone out there you would love to hear from?
- Are you interested in becoming more adept at leading committees and groups, generating and processing ideas, serving as a backup facilitator?

Please contact Mike Rominger at mike.rominger@sustainableremediation.org with your responses.

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**THANK YOU TO SURF’S SPONSORS!**

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Langan Engineering
TECHNICAL INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHT: Sustainable Remediation Framework

SURF has created a Framework to enable sustainability parameters to be integrated and balanced throughout the remediation project life cycle while ensuring long-term protection of human health and the environment and achieving public and regulatory acceptance. The Framework enables the consideration, application, and documentation of sustainability parameters during the remediation process in a way that complements and builds upon existing sustainable remediation guidance documents. Because remediation project phases are not stand-alone entities but interconnected components of the wider remediation system, the Framework provides a systematic approach in which sustainability is integrated holistically and iteratively within the wider remediation system.

By focusing stakeholders on the preferred end-use or future use of a site at the beginning of a remediation project, the Framework helps stakeholders form a disciplined planning strategy. Specifically, the Framework is designed to help remediation practitioners: (1) perform a tiered sustainability evaluation, (2) update the conceptual site model based on the results of the sustainability evaluation, (3) identify and implement sustainability impact measures, and (4) balance sustainability and other considerations during the remediation decision-making process. The result is a process that encourages communication among stakeholders and allows integration of sustainability parameters during the process of achieving regulatory goals.

The Framework will be published in the Summer 2011 edition of Remediation and will be available for download from the SURF website. For more information, please contact Karin Holland (karin.holland@sustainableremediation.org).

SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water and Energy – Call for Abstracts!

SURF member Mike Miller is organizing a session on sustainable remediation at the Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments, Water and Energy, taking place October 17-20, 2011, on the UMass Amherst campus in Massachusetts. Mike needs at least two more platform papers to round out his session! If you are interested in taking part, please send Mike your abstract directly at millerme@cdm.com, and also send it to the conference organizers through the conference website (www.umasssoils.com/papers.htm). The deadline for abstracts is May 15, 2011. Contact Mike if you are interested, but may need a brief variance on the deadline.

The UMass conference is always well-attended by academics, regulators, local northeast industry, and consultants. Mike’s sustainable remediation sessions are always popular, with attendance of 50 to 100 interested folks. His request offers a great opportunity to find a sizable audience for your innovative work. Please feel welcome to contact Mike with any questions or if you need further information.

Free Webinar on the SuRF-UK/CL:AIRE Framework for Sustainable Remediation Assessments – May, 12, 2011, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm BST

The webinar will be presented by Professor Jonathan Smith, Shell Global Solutions UK, and Professor Paul Bardos, r3 Environmental Technology Limited, two of the authors of the framework document. The Framework was published by CL:AIRE and SuRF-UK in March 2010. The Framework highlights the importance of incorporating sustainability issues right at the
forefront of the remediation and redevelopment process.

Visit the CL:AIRE website(www.claire.co.uk/) for more information.

**Society of American Military Enigneers Webinar, “Putting Green and Sustainable Remediation into Action: Lessons Learned from DOD and Industry” – June 15, 2011, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm EDT**

Presented by the SAME Environmental Committee, this two hour webinar will highlight current initiatives in Green and Sustainable Remediation (GSR). Presentations will be made by representatives of the Air Force Center of Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE), Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and the United States Army. Presenters will discuss recent GSR initiatives within their organizations and present a case study with lessons learned co-presented with a performing contractor.

Visit www.same.org/webinars for more information or to register for this event.

**Air and Waste Management Association’s Annual Conference and Exhibition – June 21-24, 2011**

The Air and Waste Management Association’s 104th Annual Conference and Exhibition will take place at the Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, June 21-24, 2011. The theme, “Beyond All Borders”, will explore how environmental challenges often stretch beyond the political, regional and cultural lines people have developed, involving diverse communities in their eventual solutions.

Visit the conference website for more information (www.awma.org/ace2011).

**Battelle Bioremediation and Sustainable Environmental Technologies Symposium – June 27-30, 2011**

This conference will incorporate topics beyond those addressed in previous years. The Symposium’s new name and expanded scope reflect new directions in environmental research and application. Although bioremediation will continue to be a core area, the Symposium program also will cover sustainable practices in remediation, production, and other human activities.

Russ Sirabian, David Ellis, and Carlos Pachon will moderate the Green and Sustainable Remediation track of the program. Preliminary session titles and chairpersons include:

1. Innovative technologies and approaches to achieve more sustainable remedies (Ralph Nichols, SRNL, and Angela Fischer, GE)
2. GSR metrics and tools (Cécile Bulle, CIRAIG, and Paul Favara, CH2M Hill)
3. Incorporating GSR into remedy selection and design (Karla Harre, Navy, and Doug Sutton, GeoTrans)
4. Incentives for implementing GSR (Deb Goldblum, EPA, and Nick Garson, Boeing)
5. System optimization for footprint reduction (Carlos Pachon, EPA, and Rick Wice, Shaw)
6. Integrating renewable energy into remedial programs to achieve cost effective solutions (Erica Becvar, AFCEE, and Mohit Bhargava, Battelle)
7. Selection of site end use to maximize net environmental, social, and economic benefits (Rebecca Bourden, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Stewart Abrams, Langan Engineering)

Feel welcome to email the chairs with questions. Visit the conference website for more information
(www.battelle.org/conferences/bioremediation). And watch for the results of the SURF-sponsored Student Paper competition!

**The Eighth International Phytotechnologies Conference - September 12, 2011**

The International Phytotechnology Society will hold its 8th annual conference in September 2011 at the Doubletree in Portland, Oregon. The conference is titled "Putting Plants to Work for Practical Ecology," hosted by SPROut, the Sustainable Plant Research and Outreach Center. Visit the society’s website for more information (www.phytosociety.org).

**COMPETITIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS**

**How to Establish a SURF Student Chapter**

SURF encourages the use of principles and concepts of sustainable remediation through education, research, and dissemination of information. SURF believes that the goals of the profession can be achieved in part by encouraging the consideration, study, and application of sustainable remediation fundamentals, principles, and concepts at colleges and universities. To aid this effort, SURF welcomes the establishment of Student Chapters at institutions of higher education and will endeavor to assist their creation and activities.

The basic requirements to establish a Student Chapter are not complex; essentially there must be a faculty advisor and at least five student members, all of whom are members of SURF. The proposed chapter must qualify as a recognized student organization at the parent academic institution, or meet a few requirements if the academic institution does not recognize student groups. Guidance on starting a student chapter, details of the requirements, and a sample constitution is available on the SURF website (www.sustainableremediation.org/membership).

**OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SURF Policy Documents**

The SURF Board of Trustees was busy in 2010 building upon the organization’s Bylaws with the following policy documents, available on the SURF website:

- Bylaws Amendment No. 1
- Communication Guidelines
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Logo Use Policy
- Technical Initiative Work Product Review Policy
- Student Chapter Guidance

Members may download copies of these materials in the Member Resources section of the SURF website.

**Regulators:** Are you interested in making a presentation or preparing a poster for an upcoming SURF meeting? Contact Dave Woodward (dave.woodward@aecom.com) or Todd Martin (tmartin@integral-corp.com) to learn more about this opportunity. Note that SURF waives meeting registration fees for all invited presenters.
**NEWSLETTER SUBMITTALS:**

Deadline is the 15th of March, June, September, and December for the following quarterly issue. Contact the Newsletter Editor by email for submittal:

Amanda McNally, newsletter@sustainableremediation.org

Submittals are subject to editing for space considerations.

**Address Changes**

Please submit to the SURF Secretary at secretary@sustainableremediation.org.

**Circulation**

The newsletter is circulated to about 400 individuals directly and is posted online at www.sustainableremediation.org.

**Sponsorship**

Sponsorship is a great way to demonstrate to your communities, clients, employees, or shareholders that you are committed to advancing the science and application of sustainable remediation.

As an appreciation for sponsorship:

- Your company or organization will receive complimentary SURF memberships and meeting registrations
- Your company’s or organization’s name will be displayed on the SURF website and hyperlinked to your webpage
- Your company’s or organization’s name will be displayed in the SURF newsletter and announced during SURF events
- Your company or organization may use the SURF Sponsor logo

To inquire about sponsorship options, contact membership@sustainable remediation.org.

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**SURF MEMBERSHIP**

**Join SURF or Renew your Membership TODAY!**

The practice of sustainable remediation is gathering world-wide momentum, and SURF is a rapidly growing and influential organization. By joining SURF, you establish partnerships and build relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders: industry and agency peers, customers, clients, members of academia, technology vendors, and the public. You’ll have access to members who are helping to shape green and sustainable remediation guidance and assessment tools, academics and their research on innovative remediation technologies, and discussions about the state of the practice and lessons learned. The SURF website, meetings, and communications provide a clearinghouse and source for the latest information about policy, case studies, best practices, and educational opportunities.

SURF is engaged in several exciting technical initiatives, including developing a consensus-based framework for sustainable remediation; fostering standardized sustainable remediation criteria and metrics; and promoting consistency, transparency, and best practices for Life Cycle Assessment.

The benefits of SURF membership are many, but simply put, you will improve your understanding of sustainable remediation, network with hundreds of other professionals, enhance your career opportunities, and have fun doing so.

SURF has several membership levels based on an individual’s qualifications: Regular Member (dues are $150 annually), Government Member (dues are $100 annually), Academic Member (dues are $100 annually), and Student Member (dues are $25 annually).

The term for all classes of Members is February 1 through January 31 of the following year.

Learn more and apply for membership at www.sustainableremediation.org/membership.