



ASTM International Committee E50 on Environmental Assessment, Risk Management and Corrective Action



**May 2009
Newsletter**

E50 Subcommittees

- E50.01** Storage Tanks
- E50.02** Real Estate Assessment and Management
- E50.03** Pollution Prevention and Beneficial Use
- E50.04** Corrective Action
- E50.05** Environmental Risk Management

Highlights from April 2009 Vancouver Committee Week

Spring Committee week was held in Vancouver, B.C. Given the international location, the meeting was relatively well attended. About 50 people attended Committee E50 meetings, including the E50 Main Committee meeting and following social.



Subcommittee E50.05 on Environmental Risk Management received an Award of Appreciation from Committee E50 for “generating the most new activities in a given year.” Gwen Eklund, Committee E50 First Vice Chair and Chair of the E50 Awards Committee, presented the award to E50.05 Subcommittee Chair Paul Sonnenfeld.

A special thanks to EDR for hosting the social that followed the E50 Main Committee meeting. These socials have been very popular and well attended. Another social will be scheduled for the October 2009 Committee Week and all E50 committee members and guests are welcome to attend.

Two awards were presented during the E50 Main Committee meeting. Paul Whitcraft, Chairman of the ASTM International Board of Directors presented Julie Kilgore, E50 Committee Chair, with the ASTM International Award of Merit and accompanying title of fellow. The Award of Merit was established in 1949 by the ASTM International Board of Directors and is the highest society award granted to an individual member for distinguished service and outstanding participation in ASTM International committee activities.



Several very productive Task Group meetings were held in Vancouver. Most E50 Subcommittees also held meetings. The Subcommittee meetings are a good time to learn more about the structure and function of the Subcommittee leadership, and bring ideas for new work items. Minutes from all the Task Group, Subcommittee, and Main Committee meetings are or will be posted on the ASTM web page. Alternatively, those who were unable to attend Vancouver are welcome to follow up with Task Group and/or Subcommittee leaders with questions regarding on-going future task group meetings and activities.

E50 has initiated a working group to reach out to students and young professionals. There are several universities and active professional societies in the Atlanta area, and we will be contacting all of them with an invitation to attend our meetings there. If you have contacts in the Atlanta area for universities or with local professional organizations, please contact Dave Parsonage at dparsonage@amergeo.com or Phil Smith at jphillipsmith@chevron.com.

October 2009 Committee week will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta from October 20 through 22, 2009. Given the number of E50 task group activities, an additional meeting day may be scheduled.

SUBCOMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following provides a summary of on-going activities in each of the E50 Subcommittees. Additional information and the lead Technical Contact can be found on the ASTM website.

E50.01 Storage Tanks **Current Membership: 154**



- **WK11080** - New Standard Guide for Environmentally Sound Management of UST Systems Storing Hazardous Substances or Petroleum - This work item was balloted to the E50 Main Committee Ballot and received three negatives, which were discussed by the Task Group in Vancouver. This standard will be re-worked and then re-balloted prior to the October 2009 meeting in Atlanta.



E50.02 Real Estate Assessment and Management **Current Membership: 516**



- **E2247-08** Phase I ESA for Forestland or Rural Property - EPA issued a direct final rule, effective in March 09, recognizing the ASTM E2247-08 as compliant with the EPA All Appropriate Inquiries regulation.
- **D5746-98(2002)** Standard Classification of Environmental Condition of Property Area Types for Defense Base Closure and Realignment Facilities. A preliminary draft of revisions to this standard has been prepared and will be discussed in Atlanta.
- **D6008-96(2005)** Standard Practice for Conducting Environmental Baseline Surveys. A preliminary draft of revisions to this standard has been prepared and will be discussed in Atlanta.
- **E1527-05** Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process. EPA representatives will be on hand in Atlanta to discuss the process for coordinating revisions, if any, that may be considered for this standard.
- **E2091-05** Standard Guide for Use of Activity and Use Limitations, Including Institutional and Engineering Controls. This standard is approaching five years. During the Atlanta E50.02 subcommittee meeting, the subcommittee will discuss the process of review.
- **E2308-05** Standard Guide for Limited Asbestos Screens of Buildings. This standard is approaching five years. During the Atlanta E50.02 subcommittee meeting, the subcommittee will discuss the process of review.
- **WK12967** Revision to E2600 Standard Practice for Assessment of Vapor Intrusion into Structures on Property Involved in Real Estate Transactions - This revision was balloted to the E50.02 Subcommittee which closed May 9. The next step is for the Task Group to consider the negatives and the comments.



- **WK23121** Identifying and Complying with Continuing Obligations on Real Property Impacted by Chemicals of Concern- This new draft was balloted to the E50.02 Subcommittee and received negatives and comments. These negatives and comments were considered by the Task Group in Vancouver and the goal is to have another ballot prior to the October meeting in Atlanta.
- **WK21095**- Revision to E1903, Phase II - This revision was balloted to the E50.02 Subcommittee and received negatives and comments. These negatives and comments were considered by the Task Group in Vancouver and the goal is to have a subsequent ballot prior to the October meeting in Atlanta.

A strategic plan for E50.02 is being developed to cover the long and short term goals, leadership, and strategies for streamlining standards development processes.

E50.03 Pollution Prevention and Beneficial Use Current Membership: 171

After several years of serving as E50.03 Chair, Jim Roewer has stepped down due to overwhelming professional demands. Gwen Eklund (founding Chair of E50.03) has offered to serve as Acting Chair and Dave Goss (actively involved with Committee D18) has offered to serve in a leadership role of E50.03 and/or E50.03 Task Groups. E50 members can anticipate future information regarding subcommittee strategic planning.

E50.04 Corrective Action Current Membership: 266

E50.04 did not have a substantial meeting in Vancouver but will be represented quite well in Atlanta as the projects below will be discussed in detail. Anyone interested in helping with this Standard should contact Tripp Fischer, E50.04 Chair (William.fischer@state.de.us).

- The Standard Guide for the Investigation of Petroleum Underground Storage Tank System Equipment Problems and Releases was recently edited and is in ballot form. This Standard should go to ballot by the end of 2009.
- **WK16004** Risk-Based Remedy Selection - This work item was balloted to the E50 Main Committee Ballot. The Task Group is currently incorporating comments and addressing negatives from the latest ballot. Once complete, the Standard should be ready to become an official ASTM Standard Guide.
- **WK15256** Guide for Standard Guide for Investigation of Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Equipment Problems and Releases- This work item was balloted to the E50.04 Subcommittee. The negatives and comments were addressed and a new draft will be issued for a Main Committee ballot prior to the October Meeting in Atlanta.
- **WK23495** Green Cleanup at Contaminated Sites- ASTM recently partnered with the USEPA to create a work product for a project on Green and Sustainable

Remediation. The scope of the project is currently being developed and information regarding Task Group formation will be forthcoming.

- **E50.04** will also begin working again on the Standard Guide for Remedial Performance Monitoring and System Optimization.

E50.05 Environmental Risk Management Current Membership: 471

As part of this Subcommittee's continuing outreach to international members and the aboriginal communities, E50.05 leadership has met with Marshall Lowen, Deputy Chief of the First Nation Band of the Lower Mainland. Mr. Lowen has agreed to represent several First Nations during the continuing development of standards relating to climate change.

Members of Subcommittee E50.05 have been active participants in the IEEE standard development practice focusing on greenhouse gases; IEEE, like ASTM International, is a recognized Standards Development Organization.

Subcommittee E50.05 has also been working extensively with the Rochester Institute of Technology, the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice (IPEP), and the Council of Engineering & Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB) on resurrection and re-approval of E1929. This effort should contribute to increased student and young professional participation.

- **E1990-98** Standard Guide for Performing Evaluations of Underground Storage Tank Systems for Operational Conformance with 40 CFR, Part 280 Regulations
- **E2318-03** Standard Guide for Environmental Health Site Assessment Process for Military Deployments
- **E2365-05** Standard Guide for Environmental Compliance Performance Assessment
- **WK21096** Disclosures Related to Climate Change Exposure/ Risks - This work item was balloted to the E50.05 Subcommittee and received negatives and comments. The task group addressed the negatives and comments at their meeting in Vancouver and a subsequent ballot is planned prior to the October meeting in Atlanta.
- **WK21808** Climate Change Assessment and Risk Management - This work item was balloted to the E50.05 Subcommittee and received negatives and comments. The Task Group addressed the negatives and comments at their meeting in Vancouver and a subsequent ballot is planned prior to the October meeting in Atlanta.

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