

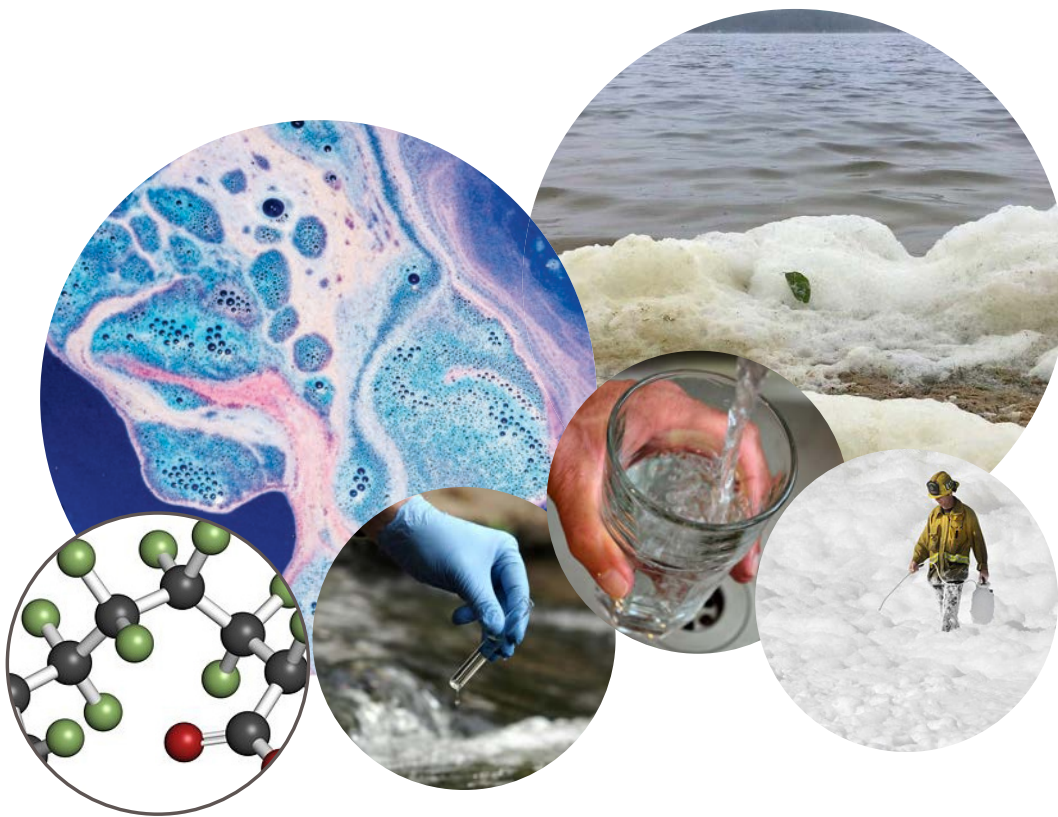


# PFAS FORUM

## PFAS Forum VI

### Moderator & Speaker Compendium

May 13-15, 2026  
Rosen Centre Hotel  
Orlando, Florida



Organized by:



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ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT, LLC



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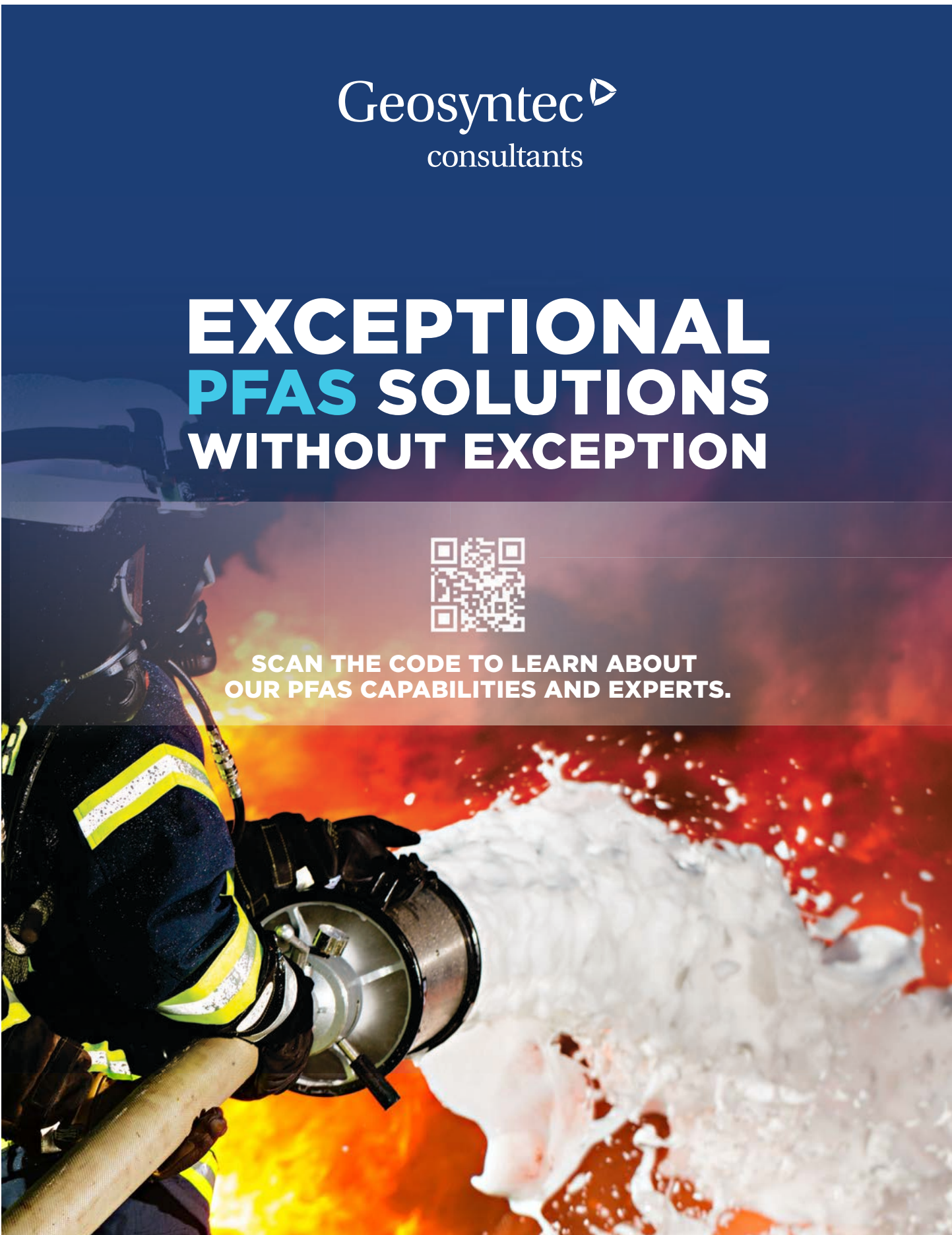
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## Table of Contents

	Page
Forum Sponsors .....	4-5
List of Exhibitors .....	6
Forum Agenda	
Pre-Conference Workshop: AFFF-Impacted Sites: Investigation, Modeling, and Treatment Decisions .....	7
PFAS Forum VI Opening Session: PFAS at the Crossroads: Policy, Precedent, and the Path Forward.....	8
Session I: PFAS Regulation, Policy & Compliance in a Rapidly Changing Landscape .....	8
Session II: PFAS Monitoring, Analytical Methods & Data Confidence .....	9
Session III: PFAS Fate, Transport & Cross-Media Exposure Pathways .....	10
Session IV: PFAS Treatment Solutions for Small, Rural & Real-World Systems .....	10
Session V: PFAS Risk, Treatment, and Disposal: Protecting Public Health Through Practical Solutions .....	11
PFAS Forum VI: Moderator and Speaker Profiles.....	12
PFAS Forum VI: Poster Presentations .....	47

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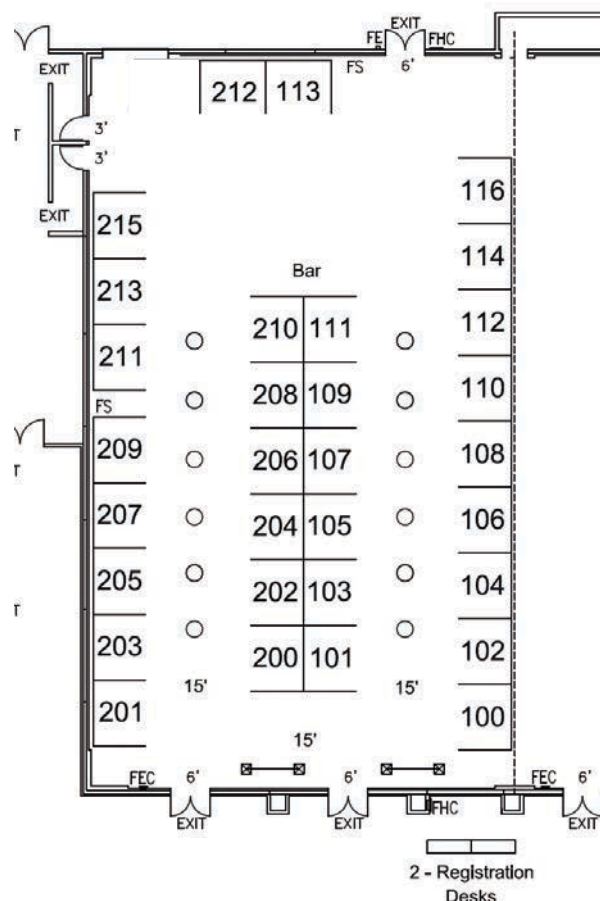
SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS:



# List of Exhibitors

**Organization.....Booth #**

Action Environmental, LLC.....	104
Agilent Technologies.....	105
ASTM.....	202
BioLargo Inc. ....	201
CIP Solutions.....	100
Clear Creek Systems.....	114
Connelly and Associates, Inc.....	203
DOD Labs.....	204
Enthalpy Analytical .....	111
ES - Integrated .....	113
Eurofins Southeast .....	103
Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP) .....	208
Florida Brownfields Association (FBA) .....	206
Florida Specifier.....	213
GWTT LLC .....	106
HRP Associates, Inc.....	101
Hull's Environmental Services, Inc. ....	211
Newterra .....	210
Pace® Analytical Services.....	102
Perma-Fix Environmental Services .....	205
PRM Filtration.....	112
REGENESIS.....	116
Republic Services.....	107
SGS North America, Inc. ....	200
Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).....	207
Southern Waste Information eXchange, Inc. (SWIX).....	110
Summit Drilling, LLC.....	108
Tetrasolv Filtration .....	215



## Key Exhibition Times

### Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Exhibitor Setup: 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
 Reception: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

### Thursday, May 14, 2026

Continental Breakfast: 7:45 am - 8:30 am  
 Refreshment Break: 10:00 am - 10:30 am  
 Lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
 Refreshment Break: 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm  
 Reception: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

### Friday, May 15, 2026

Continental Breakfast: 7:15 am - 8:00 am  
 Refreshment Break: 10:00 am - 10:30 am  
 Exhibitor Breakdown: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

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## AGENDA



Wednesday, May 13, 2026

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2:30 pm - 6:30 pm                      Registration Open    (Junior Ballroom Foyer)

2:30 pm - 5:00 pm                      Exhibit and Poster Board Set up    (Junior Ballroom F)

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm                      **Pre-Conference Workshop:**    (Junior Ballroom G)  
**AFFF-Impacted Sites: Investigation, Modeling, and  
Treatment Decisions**

Moderator: **Barry Brown**, Director of Operations & Maintenance,  
Naples Airport Authority

***Claims vs. Chemistry: A Forensic Case Study in AFFF Source Attribution***

Andrew Horwath, Associate, Langan Engineering and  
Environmental Services

***Case Studies in Surface Runoff and Fate-and-Transport Modeling at AFFF-Impacted Sites***

Candace Ann Beauvais, P.G., Senior Hydrogeologist and  
Project Manager, Tetra Tech

***Supercritical Water Oxidation for Permanent Destruction of PFAS in Stockpiled AFFF***

Sudhakar Viswanathan, Vice President, 374Water

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm                      Reception - Exhibit Hall    (Junior Ballroom F)



**Thursday, May 14, 2026**

=====

7:45 am - 7:00 pm                      Registration Open    (Junior Ballroom Foyer)

7:45 am - 8:30 am                      Continental Breakfast - Exhibit Hall    (Junior Ballroom F)

8:30 am - 10:00 am                      **PFAS Forum VI Opening Session**    (Junior Ballroom G)  
**PFAS at the Crossroads: Policy, Precedent,  
and the Path Forward**

Welcome: **Gene Jones**, Executive Director, Southern  
Waste Information eXchange, Inc. (SWIX)

Moderator: **Michael R. Goldstein, Esq.**, Managing Shareholder,  
The Goldstein Environmental Law Firm, P.A.

**Panelists:**

Jorge Caspary, P.G., Senior Principal, Montrose Environmental Group  
Ralph A. DeMeo, Esq., Adams & Reese

10:00 am - 10:30 am                      Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall    (Junior Ballroom F)

10:30 am - 12:00 pm                      **Session I:**    (Junior Ballroom G)  
**PFAS Regulation, Policy & Compliance in  
a Rapidly Changing Landscape**

Moderator: **Chad Northington, P.E.**, Senior Engineer,  
Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

***Navigating Regulatory Ambiguity and Political Dynamics in PFAS  
and PFOA Remediation—A Comparative and Regional Analysis  
with Focus on Florida***

Neil Campbell, Vice President/Environmental Operations,  
SCS Engineers

***Navigating PFAS in NPDES Discharges, Property Due Diligence  
and Your PFAS Analytical Toolbox***

Lucas Barroso-Giachetti, P.E., CHMM, Regional PFAS Technical  
Lead, Terracon and Paul Jackson, Program Manager, Environmental  
Compliance & Emerging Contaminants, Pace Analytical

***Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Investigation and Remediation***

Nicholas Albergo, P.E., Senior Advisor, GHD Services

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm                      Lunch - Provided    (TBD)

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Thursday, May 14, 2026 (Continued)

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1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**Session II:  
PFAS Monitoring, Analytical Methods &  
Data Confidence**

(Junior Ballroom G)

Moderator: **Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D.**, Industries & Environment Technical Director, SGS North America, Inc.

***Biosolids Analysis for PFAS: Challenges, Considerations, and Options***

Paul Jackson, Program Manager, Environmental Compliance & Emerging Contaminants, Pace Analytical

***Building a Dynamic Conceptual Site Model Using 3D Visualization at a Complex PFAS Site***

James Mills, P.E., Project Engineer, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

***Electrostatic Concentration of PFAS in Complex Waters: Evaluation of the BioLargo Aqueous Electrostatic Concentrator (AEC) Technology***

Tonya Chandler, President, BioLargo, Inc.

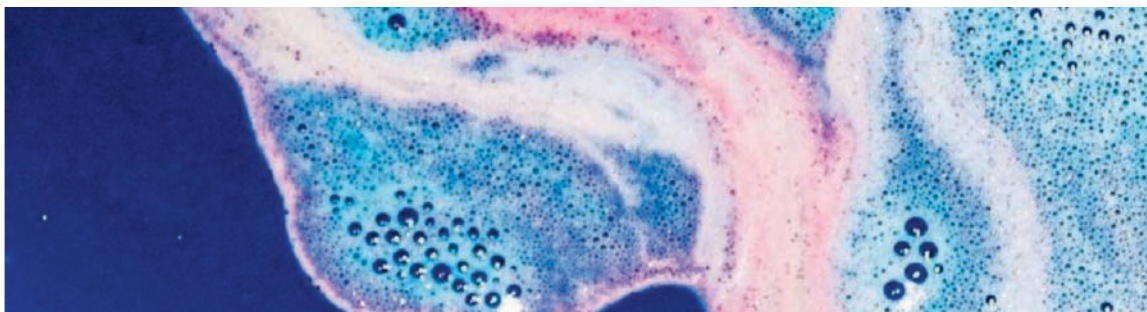
***PFAS in Water Reuse: Navigating Analytical Complexities and Treatment Validation for Regulatory Compliance***

Taryn McKnight, Vice President and PFAS Practice Leader, Eurofins Environment Testing (USA)

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall

(Junior Ballroom F)





**Friday, May 15, 2026 (Continued)**

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8:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>Session IV:</b> <b>PFAS Treatment Solutions for Small, Rural &amp; Real-World Systems (Continued)</b>	(Junior Ballroom G)
	<i><b>PFAS Bioremediation: Inherent Limitations and Future Prospects</b></i> Dr. Paul B. Hatzinger, Ph.D., Director of the Biotechnology Development and Applications Group, APTIM	
	<i><b>Soil Remediation of PFAS Using Rapid Leaching Technology</b></i> Bryan Massa, LSP, Principal and Regional Manager and Shaun C. Malin, P.G., Principal & Director of Strategic Development, HRP Associates, Inc.	
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall	(Junior Ballroom F)
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Session V:</b> <b>PFAS Risk, Treatment, and Disposal: Protecting Public Health Through Practical Solutions</b>	(Junior Ballroom G)
	Moderator: <b>Bryan Massa, LSP</b> , Principal and Regional Manager, HRP Associates, Inc.	
	<i><b>Mitigation Strategies for PFAS in Stormwater: A Collection of Case Studies</b></i> Jenny Olmsted, P.E., Environmental Engineer, CDM Smith	
	<i><b>Closed-loop PFAS Destruction with Hydrothermal Alkaline Treatment (HALT) at an Air Force Remediation Site</b></i> Daniel Nelson, Director of Sales, and Emily Harper, Field Technician, Aquagga, Inc.	
	<i><b>Encapsulation of PFAS in Landfill Leachate Forming an Alternate Daily Cover</b></i> Paul Ruehl, Environmental Remediation Specialist, Geocycle North America	
12:00 pm	Adjourn	



**PFAS FORUM**

## **PFAS Forum VI**

# **Moderator & Speaker Profiles**

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## Barry Brown

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### Barry Brown

Director, Operations and Maintenance, Naples Airport Authority

#### Bio:

Originally from Alabama, I graduated from Auburn University and moved to Florida to begin my career in aviation. Since that time, I have lived in five cities and three states and worked for an FBO, two medium-hub airports, a small-hub airport, and a busy GA airport in the pursuit of professional knowledge. I have experienced many of the unique challenges our industry has faced, from macro situations involving industry-wide issues such as Covid-19 to the many micro dynamics of airports in three separate regions of the country. I have a passion for aviation, and my place in the industry is both intentional and purposeful. I believe that anything is possible with the right mindset and work ethic, and that people are the backbone of our great industry. My amazing wife, Monica, and three children, Mila, Sonny, and Maeva, are central to my life and motivate me to always push forward.

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## Andrew Horwath

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Claims vs. Chemistry: A Forensic Case Study in AFFF Source Attribution***

Andrew Horwath, Associate, Langan Engineering and Environmental Services

### Abstract:

As regulatory frameworks for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) tighten, distinguishing between acute releases and ambient background is critical for liability management. This presentation details a forensic investigation at a manufacturing facility following a fire suppression event involving Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF). The case presents a dichotomy of claims versus evidence: the facility claims a "PFAS-free" process and responders indicated that the AFFF was certified as free of legacy PFOA/PFOS. However, characterization of soils, sediments, and water identified a spectrum of PFAS, including legacy compounds and fluorotelomers, extending on- and off-site. We will explore the strategies used to unravel these conflicting datasets. The discussion focuses on chemical analysis techniques used to identify the AFFF signatures and differentiate them from anthropogenic background noise. We will present data comparing source zones against derived background concentrations, evaluating potential off-site contributors that complicate the conceptual site model. By examining the relationships of specific analytes, we intend to differentiate the acute release from environmental baselines. This session is vital for technical professionals and legal counsel, demonstrating that effective defense requires a mastery of chemical forensics to accurately assign liability. We will illustrate how data interpretation provides the defensible evidentiary foundation needed to navigate AFFF litigation, distinguishing actual contributions from background noise in an increasingly litigious environment.

### Bio:

Andrew Horwath is an Associate at Langan with over 20 years of experience in environmental engineering, specializing in forensic investigation and remediation design. As a technical expert in legacy and emerging contaminants, Andrew leads complex site characterizations involving PFAS. His recent work involves source attribution and chemical speciation to differentiate acute releases from historical or regional contributors. Andrew leverages his experience in environmental engineering and education in chemical engineering to provide defensible evidence for liability valuations, insurance claims, and cost-to-closure evaluations in state and federal litigation. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in 14 states and holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

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## Candace Ann Beauvais, P.G.

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### Presentation Title:

#### *Case Studies in Surface Runoff and Fate-and-Transport Modeling at AFFF-Impacted Sites*

Candace Ann Beauvais, P.G., Senior Hydrogeologist and Project Manager, Tetra Tech

### Abstract:

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a key component of aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF) used to suppress fuel-related fires. PFAS partition at air-water interfaces, a property that contributes to firefighting performance while also influencing their environmental fate and transport. Extensive historical use of AFFF at fire-training facilities, civilian and military airports, and chemical manufacturing sites has resulted in PFAS impacts to multiple environmental media. Because PFAS behavior and movement are highly complex, thorough site investigations are required to develop a conceptual site model that effectively characterizes contaminant migration pathways and transport mechanisms. This presentation will describe how surface runoff modeling can be used to evaluate PFAS fate and transport and to guide targeted soil and groundwater sampling during field investigations. Case examples will also be presented from sites where integrated modeling approaches combining surface runoff with fate-and-transport analyses were used to refine conceptual site models and improve understanding of PFAS migration pathways.

### Bio:

Ms. Candace Beauvais is a hydrogeologist and geologist with 27 years of experience specializing in groundwater flow modeling and contaminant fate and transport, including emerging contaminants such as PFAS. She has led and managed dozens of complex soil and groundwater investigations under state and federal regulatory programs, developing conceptual site models to characterize contaminant sources, migration pathways, and transport mechanisms. Her work includes designing and directing targeted sampling programs and monitoring networks, interpreting geologic and hydrogeologic data, and applying integrated modeling approaches to support investigation and remedial decision-making. Ms. Beauvais also brings strong expertise in GIS and environmental data management, integrating chemical, hydrologic, and geotechnical datasets to support spatial analysis and numerical simulation. Her project experience spans a broad range of contaminants, with recent work focused on applying surface runoff, fate-and-transport, and field investigation strategies to improve understanding of PFAS migration at AFFF-impacted sites.

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## Sudhakar Viswanathan

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### Presentaiton Title:

#### ***Supercritical Water Oxidation for Permanent Destruction of PFAS in Stockpiled AFFF***

Sudhakar Viswanathan, Vice President, 374Water

### Abstract:

The use of firefighting foams for training, calibration activities, and emergency response is essential, but increased attention on the unintentional release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are changing which types of foams are used. With numerous bans on the discharge of foam into the ground, storm drain, or sewer systems and the transition away from aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF) there will be increasing volumes of stockpiled AFFF. Safely storing the stockpiles on site is only a short-term solution as, amongst other factors, upcoming RCRA definitions of hazardous waste that may include PFAS jeopardize this practice. These warrant planning for the disposal of AFFF stockpiles. Current techniques included in EPA's 2024 Version 2 Interim Guidance document are thermal treatment, landfills, and underground injection. The guidance also presents EPA's PFAS Innovative Treatment Team (PITT) evaluations of emerging technologies including electrochemical oxidation, mechanochemical degradation, pyrolysis, gasification, and supercritical water oxidation (SCWO). This talk will equip the audience with the data and considerations needed to start planning for safe cost-effective disposal, even in the face of new regulations. Firstly, the concept of "concentrate and destroy" will be used to categorize interim and emerging technologies. A brief overview of how each technology works to concentrate or destroy hazardous compounds in AFFF will be given to facilitate selection of methods capable of achieving the desired treatment efficiency. The focus will then shift to a comparison of the technology readiness level, cost/funding mechanisms, and potential benefits of the emerging technologies including electrochemical oxidation, mechanochemical degradation, pyrolysis, gasification, and supercritical water oxidation (SCWO). The main takeaway of the talk is to emphasize the importance of keeping costs down, ensuring compliance, and advancing the industry toward sustainable waste management practices.

### Bio:

Sudhakar (Sunny) Viswanathan is Vice President at 374Water, a global cleantech, social impact company based in Durham, NC. He has a bachelor's and a master's degree in environmental engineering, and is a Syracuse University alumnus with nearly 25 years of industry experience including leadership positions at Suez and Veolia. Sunny has authored over 35 technical papers and currently spearheads the commercialization and business development of the Supercritical Water Oxidation technology.

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## Eugene (Gene) Jones

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### Eugene (Gene) Jones

Executive Director, Southern Waste Information eXchange, Inc. (SWIX)

#### Bio:

Gene Jones serves as Executive Director of the Southern Waste Information Exchange (SWIX), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which has been operating since 1981 assisting businesses and municipalities with their waste management and remediation issues.

With over 40 years of experience, Gene specializes in building strategic relationships with waste and remediation firms. He brings a vast knowledge of various environmental sectors from organizing and managing conferences such as;

- the PFAS Forum,
- the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Conference & Trade Show,
- the Waste Conversion Technology Conference & Trade Show,
- the Southeast Recycling Conference & Trade Show,
- the New Life for Closed Gas Stations Conference and Exhibition,
- the International Symposium on the Redevelopment of Manufactured Gas Plant Sites,
- the National Conference on Waste Exchange and Resource Reuse, and
- Florida Remediation Conference.

as well as in managing associations such as:

- Florida Agricultural Plastics Recycling Cooperative
- Florida BioFuels & BioEnergy Association, Inc.,
- Recycle Florida Today, Inc.,
- International Society of Technical & Environmental Professionals, Inc.,
- Florida Brownfields Association, Inc., and
- Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.



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## Michael R. Goldstein, Esq.

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Michael R. Goldstein, Esq.

Managing Shareholder, The Goldstein Environmental Law Firm, P.A.

**Bio:**

Michael R. Goldstein, Managing Shareholder of The Goldstein Environmental Law Firm, P.A., and a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent and Chambers and Partners rated attorney, practices exclusively in the areas of environmental law and environmental redevelopment for a broad range of clients, including retail, residential, and industrial developers, public and private companies, real estate funds, lenders, and local governments. A major aspect of Mr. Goldstein's environmental legal practice involves support of real estate and business transactions, including managing pre-acquisition and pre-leasing due diligence investigations; structuring, negotiating, and drafting environmental provisions in purchase, lease, and development agreements; and assisting lenders evaluate and limit the risk of exposure to environmental liability in connection with new loans and potential foreclosures. In addition, he works closely and extensively with real estate development principals and engineering, planning, and design professionals to help coordinate federal, state and local regulatory approvals for complex retail, industrial, residential, mixed use, and marina related projects throughout the State of Florida.

Mr. Goldstein's practice has a heavy emphasis on the remediation, financing, and beneficial reuse of contaminated sites and involves a broad array of Brownfields related transactional, administrative, regulatory, legal, legislative, and policy work for clients in both the private and public sectors. He has developed a national reputation as one of the leading and most innovative Brownfields practitioners in Florida, working on important and precedent establishing projects as well as heading up or participating in numerous local, regional, state, and federal environmental restoration initiatives. On a statewide level, Mr. Goldstein was the founding Chairman of the Florida Brownfields Association and served as its Chairman and/or President for the first five years of the organization's existence. Mr. Goldstein's tenure as Chairman and President was distinguished by his commitment to elevating environmental justice and public health as critical areas of emphasis for business, community, regulatory agency, and local government stakeholders. In 1996, the Miami-Dade County Commission appointed him Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Brownfields Task Force, a post that he held until the committee's business was completed in 2004. In January 2006, Mr. Goldstein was appointed to serve on the Advisory Board of the Bureau of National Affairs' highly respected Environmental Due Diligence Guide, which serves as a national reporting, editorial, and opinion forum for environmental transactions and related Brownfields and policy matters. In 2008, he founded and funded the Goldstein Brownfields Foundation, which is dedicated to empowering economically and health disadvantaged individuals and communities with scholarships, programming, and resources to restore polluted land, revitalize neighborhoods, and protect public health. The Goldstein Brownfields Foundation also focuses on increasing the ethnic and gender diversity of lawyers working in the environmental arena through academic scholarships, educational and career programming, and professional mentoring. In 2009, Mr. Goldstein was appointed to the Executive Committee of the National Brownfields Coalition, an affiliation of private and public sector stakeholders working in the U.S. Congress to advocate for improvements in environmental redevelopment policy and legislation.

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## Jorge R. Caspary, P.G.

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Jorge R. Caspary, P.G.

Senior Principal, Montrose Environmental Group

**Bio:**

With a rich background as a former Director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Hazardous Waste Cleanup Division and leadership roles in environmental consulting firms, Jorge offers a unique perspective on nationwide environmental challenges. Jorge is widely recognized as an industry leader and expert in emerging contaminants, specifically per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). He is frequently sought after for his expertise in PFAS at both state and federal policy levels, serving as a technical expert in PFAS product-defect federal litigation.

His contributions also extend to being a primary organizer of Florida's PFAS Coalition, collaborating with cities, counties, airports, and seaports to address PFAS issues statewide alongside the Florida Legislature and FDEP. Jorge's impact on contaminated site cleanup and environmentally sustainable land reuse in Florida is revolutionary. He is a trusted resource for complex environmental challenges, including site contamination, brownfields, Superfund, RCRA sites, and risk-based site closures.

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## Ralph A. DeMeo, Esq.

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Ralph DeMeo, Esq.

Counsel, Adams & Reese

**Bio:**

Ralph DeMeo practices primarily environmental, land use, and administrative law within the Intersection of Business and Government Group. His clients include businesses, landowners, individuals, and government entities throughout Florida and nationally whom he represents in state and federal courts, before state and federal agencies, and through legislative initiatives.

Ralph's practice includes environmental and land use issues, administrative matters, representation before government regulatory agencies, domestic and industrial wastewater and solid waste releases, toxic torts, and brownfields, as well as real estate due diligence, condemnation, construction defects, energy and utility law, transportation law, and animal law, with emphasis in civil and administrative litigation.

His experience includes Superfund/CERCLA, RCRA, FIFRA, CWA/NPDES, petroleum, dry cleaners, landfills, power plants, solar energy, agricultural lands, mines, and other contaminated properties. He has also represented plaintiffs and defendants in class action litigation and represented animal welfare groups in civil litigation. Ralph's commitment to environmental and animal law has led to his participation in developing many Florida and local government environmental, land use, and animal laws, regulations, and ordinances.

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## Chad Northington, P.E.

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Chad Northington, P.E.

Senior Engineer, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

**Bio:**

Mr. Northington has over twenty-six years of experience as an environmental engineer in the areas of site investigation, remediation system engineering, construction, and maintenance, project management, in situ remediation design and application, implementation of innovative technologies, and technical sales and support.

Mr. Northington's site remediation activities include the design and/or implementation of various remedial technologies including soil vapor extraction (SVE) utilizing both vertical and horizontal wells, source removal, conventional air-sparging/soil vapor extraction, multi-phase extraction (MPE), product recovery, pump and treat (P&T), thermal evaporative concentration and residue solidification, in situ thermal treatment, enhanced bioremediation, sedimentation via coagulation/flocculation, filtration, in situ delivery of reagents, and large diameter auger (LDA).

Mr. Northington has also had extensive experience with the design and delivery of colloidal activated carbon and other reagents to address petroleum and chlorinated solvent impacts.

Mr. Northington also founded and directs a Florida non-profit specializing in community development and outreach focused primarily on water supply, treatment, and distribution in Africa. In this capacity, Mr. Northington serves as a water resource engineer in Cameroon, Africa. He also supports various community development projects, including the introduction of various appropriate technologies and strategies, such as hand dug and drilled wells, gravity flow water systems, sand filters, agroforestry, animal husbandry, and microfinancing.

In his previous role, Mr. Northington served as a Senior Project Manager with Terracon managing all aspects of environmental assessment and remediation projects. Additionally, Mr. Northington provided assessment, engineering, and design support for in situ and ex situ remediation projects across the company, particularly under the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Petroleum Restoration and Waste Cleanup Programs.

Mr. Northington served as the Southeast District Manager with Regenesis. In this capacity, he provided technical, application, and sales support for soil and groundwater remediation technology solutions. Mr. Northington worked directly with environmental consulting, construction, and engineering firms to develop successful remedial approaches for clients by offering design, application, and performance review services for in situ-applied remedial strategies across a broad spectrum of technology classes.

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## Neil Campbell

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### Presentation Title:

*Navigating Regulatory Ambiguity and Political Dynamics in PFAS and PFOA Remediation—A Comparative and Regional Analysis with Focus on Florida*

Neil Campbell, Vice President/Environmental Operations, SCS Engineers

### Abstract:

This presentation analyzes challenges posed by unclear regulations and shifting political priorities in remediating PFOA and PFAS-contaminated sites, emphasizing corporate growth and environmental outcomes. It compares regulatory frameworks and remediation efforts across the U.S., Europe, and Asia, noting more consistent standards abroad versus fragmented approaches within U.S. states. The discussion highlights Florida's distinct position, detailing its identification of PFAS sites, state assessments, transparency initiatives, and legislative actions. Drawing from major agencies such as the EPA and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the presentation concludes with recommendations for clearer policies and committed leadership to drive responsible industry practices and effective remediation, using Florida as a potential model for other states.

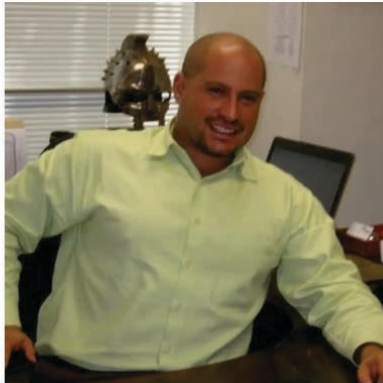
### Bio:

Neil is an experienced environmental professional, beginning his career in 1991 with a BS in Geology from the University of Edinburgh. With experience early in the petroleum programs, DNAPL assessment and program development, and PFAS assessment and remediation, managing site assessments and contamination investigations across various locations such as fuel storage sites, vehicle maintenance facilities, fueling stations, and landfills. His expertise covers soil and groundwater contamination involving petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, dioxins, pesticides, PCBs, solvents, and emerging contaminants like PFAS. Neil has significant experience in remedial planning, construction, emergency response, compliance audits, and risk-based consulting for public and private clients. He is recognized for developing comprehensive environmental programs and ensuring regulatory compliance while minimizing environmental liability.

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## Lucas Barroso-Giachetti, P.E., CHMM and Paul Jackson

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Navigating PFAS in NPDES Discharges, Property Due Diligence and Your PFAS Analytical Toolbox***

Lucas Barroso-Giachetti, PE, CHMM, Regional PFAS Technical Lead, Terracon and Paul Jackson, Program Manager, Environmental Compliance & Emerging Contaminants, Pace Analytical

### Abstract:

As regulatory frameworks surrounding per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) continue to evolve, industrial/logistics operators and other entities are under increasing pressure to manage PFAS-related risks within the context of environmental permitting and operational compliance. With decades of combined experience, Terracon and Pace Analytical have supported clients nationwide through expert consulting and laboratory testing services tailored to the unique challenges of PFAS risk management. This presentation will leverage Terracon's and Pace's regulatory insight and technical expertise to develop cost-effective, permit-compliant PFAS strategies. Topics will include navigating complex permitting processes—such as National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, stormwater and wastewater discharge requirements—and planning for site-specific investigation and remediation. Terracon will also provide regulatory and risk management perspectives drawn from their extensive experience in many industrial sectors, including airport projects nationwide. Notably, Terracon served as one of the primary authors of the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) PFAS Source Differentiation Guide for Airports. Pace Analytical will cover the primary soil and water compliance method EPA 1633 along with QA/QC options associated with the method. Pace will also do a deeper dive into the full analytical toolbox and discuss approaches that also utilize ASTM D8421 and EPA 1621 for PFAS analysis.

### Barroso-Giachetti Bio:

With over 20 years of environmental engineering and consulting experience, Lucas Barroso-Giachetti, P.E., CHMM is a trusted leader in PFAS investigations, data analysis and remediation strategies. Based in Terracon's Charlotte office, Lucas serves as the firm's Regional PFAS Lead, guiding clients through the complexities of environmental compliance, property development, site closure strategies and risk management. Lucas brings deep technical expertise to a wide range of environmental practice areas, from Brownfields redevelopment and stormwater management to vapor intrusion mitigation, pre-acquisition due diligence, and landfill redevelopment. His work spans the public and private sectors, including high-impact industrial, agricultural, and aviation projects. Lucas holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from the University of Florida and is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) in multiple states. Outside of work, he enjoys hiking with his wife and sons—and cheering on his favorite soccer team, Juventus.



### Jackson Bio:

Mr. Jackson is Pace's national Program Manager for Compliance Monitoring and Emerging Contaminants, which includes PFAS, US EPA's UCMR, drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste programs. Mr. Jackson has been with Pace® since 2009. Paul is a U.S Army veteran where he got his start in laboratory testing and has over forty years of experience in the environmental testing industry. Mr. Jackson attended Towson University for Business and Chemistry. Mr. Jackson frequently presents at various environmental conferences about PFAS and Emerging Contaminants, and the US EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule.

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## Nicholas Albergo, P.E.

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Investigation and Remediation***

Nicholas Albergo, P.E., Senior Advisor, GHD Services

### Abstract:

This presentation provides an update on the development of ASTM E50.04 WK94490, a proposed standard guide for the investigation and remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at contaminated sites. The presentation will summarize the scope, intent, and current status of the standard, highlighting how it is designed to support consistent, defensible approaches to PFAS site characterization, risk evaluation, and remedial decision-making. Key elements of the draft guidance—including sampling strategies, data interpretation, conceptual site model development, and alignment with evolving regulatory frameworks—will be discussed. The presentation will also address practical considerations for consultants, site owners, and regulators, and how the standard may be applied across a range of site types as PFAS policies and cleanup expectations continue to evolve.

### Bio:

Nick Albergo is a Senior Advisor to GHD and was the founder and CEO of HSA Engineers & Scientists, a Florida-based engineering consulting firm that he successfully grew to more than 400 professionals. The firm was sold to GHD in 2013. He has had a distinguished career as an inventor and author of over 185 professional publications. He has been working within the fields of environmental and water resources engineering for over 35 years. More specifically, he has developed a multidisciplinary forensics and emerging contaminants (PFAS, endocrine-disrupting compounds, analgesics, antibiotics, hormones, and a range of other pharmaceutical compounds) practice with a worldwide reputation for providing insight, advocacy, and remedies to government, public and private clients.

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## Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D.

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Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D.

Industries & Environment Technical Director, SGS North America, Inc.

**Bio:**

Dr. Doss has more than 40 years' experience in the analytical chemistry field. Dr. Doss's expertise spans chemistry, environmental analysis, hydrocarbon chemistry (gas and liquids), forensics, industrial hygiene (managed an AIHA accredited lab for 10 years), Air analyses (TO compendium methods), Dioxins/Dibenzofurans, PCB Congeners, emerging contaminants – PFAS, 6-PPD, 6-PPDQ, microplastics, biota analyses, hazardous waste management, client services, management of laboratories, laboratory builds, data validation, data management, laboratory audits, litigation support and QA services. Dr. Doss received his Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center with honors, where he was a Law Review Editor and is licensed to practice law in Louisiana, currently. He earned his Ph.D., Engineering (Environmental Science) from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. M.S. in Chemistry from Wichita State University, Wichita, KS. B.S. in Chemistry from Loyola College, University of Madras, India

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## Paul Jackson

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Biosolids Analysis for PFAS: Challenges, Considerations, and Options***

Paul Jackson, Program Manager, Environmental Compliance & Emerging Contaminants, Pace Analytical

### Abstract:

Biosolids management, strategies, and regulations continue to be at the forefront of PFAS regulation across the country. A growing topic of interest is that biosolids, especially "liquid biosolids," are challenging to analyze using the biosolids protocol in EPA 1633. This webinar will provide an overview of the regulatory and legislative climate as it relates to biosolids, discuss challenges in testing this specific matrix, and provide considerations and alternatives to ensure you are getting the best analytical data possible relative to your specific data quality objectives.

### Bio:

Mr. Jackson is Pace's national Program Manager for Compliance Monitoring and Emerging Contaminants, which includes PFAS, US EPA's UCMR, drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste programs. Mr. Jackson has been with Pace® since 2009. Paul is a U.S Army veteran where he got his start in laboratory testing and has over forty years of experience in the environmental testing industry. Mr. Jackson attended Towson University for Business and Chemistry. Mr. Jackson frequently presents at various environmental conferences about PFAS and Emerging Contaminants, and the US EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule.

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## James Mills, P.E.

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### Presentation Title:

***Building a Dynamic Conceptual Site Model Using 3D Visualization at a Complex PFAS Site***  
James Mills, P.E., Project Engineer, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

### Abstract:

Making informed decisions during PFAS site assessment activities is essential for achieving delineation, reducing uncertainty, and optimizing resource allocation. By integrating advanced tools in site assessment, such as three-dimensional (3D) visualization, practitioners can target priority monitoring zones and refine well placement. 3D visualization is an informative tool for PFAS site assessment, enabling practitioners to move beyond traditional two-dimensional site plan and cross section figures and gain a dynamic, data-driven understanding of contaminant distribution. This approach supports the development of a robust conceptual site model (CSM), allowing for improved visualization of plume geometry and identification of data gaps. By visualizing complex subsurface conditions, 3D visualization enables more efficient well placement and resource allocation. Ultimately, this leads to reduced assessment timelines, reduced overall costs, and provides defensible decision making. This presentation highlights a Leapfrog Works™ 3D visualization at a complex PFAS site that was developed using over 220 groundwater samples from 110 locations to characterize the spatial extent of PFOA and PFOS in groundwater. The visualization provides insight into horizontal and vertical contaminant migration, highlights the influence of groundwater withdrawals from nearby supply wells, and demonstrates areas where additional monitoring is warranted. The 3D CSM was used to enhance the client's understanding of subsurface plume geometry, identify potential data gaps in groundwater assessment, and inform the strategic placement of monitoring wells, while delivering an overall cost savings.

### Bio:

James Mills is a licensed Professional Engineer in Geosyntec's Tampa office with over 8 years of consulting experience. His experience includes PFAS and non-PFAS contamination site assessment, remedial design and implementation, and multi-media field sampling of soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater for public and private sector clients. His project portfolio includes multiple state-owned PFAS sites in Florida associated with the use of AFFF, and he has managed preliminary investigations through remedial implementation at these sites.

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## Tonya Chandler

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Electrostatic Concentration of PFAS in Complex Waters: Evaluation of the BioLargo Aqueous Electrostatic Concentrator (AEC) Technology***

Tonya Chandler, President, BioLargo, Inc.

### Abstract:

#### Introduction:

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are highly persistent contaminants found in drinking water, industrial wastewater, and landfill leachate. Their chemical stability and mobility make them resistant to conventional treatment methods such as adsorption (granular activated carbon, ion exchange resins) and membrane separation. These technologies face limitations in removing short-chain PFAS, treating high-strength matrices, and managing secondary waste streams. With the U.S. EPA establishing maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) of  $\leq 4$  ppt for PFOA and PFOS, there is an urgent need for scalable, cost-effective technologies that can achieve compliance under diverse water quality conditions. The Aqueous Electrostatic Concentrator (AEC), developed by BioLargo Equipment, Solutions & Technologies (BEST), represents a novel electro-membrane approach. By applying an electric field, the AEC selectively attracts and immobilizes charged PFAS molecules onto engineered membranes, followed by a thermal electro-oxidative destruction step. This study evaluates AEC performance across bench- and pilot-scale trials, with emphasis on treatment kinetics, operational parameters, and regulatory implications.

#### Methods:

- Matrices Tested: Surface water, groundwater, and landfill leachate with varying ionic strength and organic load.
- Pretreatment: Electrocoagulation and advanced oxidation were applied to landfill leachate to reduce COD and hardness (>95%), mitigating fouling and scaling.
- AEC Operation: • Low hydraulic pressure system • Closed-loop electrolyte circulation • No sacrificial anode
- Analytical Approach: Independent laboratory analyses quantified PFAS removal efficiencies across multiple compound classes (PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, 5:3-FTCA).
- Pilot Testing: Operational parameters including power demand, concentrate volume, and membrane life were monitored to inform full-scale design.

#### Results:

- Removal Efficiency: PFAS removal ranged from 94–99.9% across compound classes.
- Leachate Case Study: Initial PFAS concentrations exceeding 7,500,000 ppt were reduced to below EPA limits following AEC treatment.
- Pretreatment Impact: COD and hardness reductions (>95%) improved AEC performance in high-strength leachate.
- Operational Advantages: • Low energy consumption • Minimal secondary waste generation • Reduced replacement part demand
- Lifecycle Cost Modeling: Demonstrated cost advantages over GAC and IX resins, particularly in secondary waste management.

#### Discussion:

The AEC's electro-membrane mechanism addresses critical gaps in PFAS treatment by effectively targeting short-chain compounds and operating under challenging water chemistries. Pretreatment integration enhances performance in leachate applications, while the closed-loop electrolyte design minimizes secondary waste. Pilot data suggest favorable energy efficiency and membrane longevity, supporting economic viability. Compared to adsorption-based technologies, AEC reduces operational burdens associated with media replacement and waste disposal. Its adaptability across matrices positions it as a strong candidate for integration into existing treatment trains. Importantly, the technology demonstrates compliance with evolving EPA thresholds, offering utilities and industries a pathway to regulatory readiness.

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**Conclusion:**

Bench- and pilot-scale evaluations confirm that the AEC achieves high PFAS removal efficiencies (94–99.99%) across diverse matrices, including extreme landfill leachate conditions. Operational advantages—low energy demand, minimal secondary waste, and reduced maintenance—enhance its scalability. The upcoming full-scale drinking water installation in New Jersey (January 2026) will provide critical validation under regulatory oversight. The findings support AEC as a sustainable, scalable solution for PFAS removal and destruction, enabling compliance with stringent EPA standards while reducing lifecycle costs and environmental impacts. **Keywords** PFAS, Aqueous Electrostatic Concentrator, electro-membrane process, landfill leachate, advanced oxidation, regulatory compliance, water treatment

**Bio:**

Ms. Tonya Chandler is President of BioLargo's Equipment Division and a leading PFAS Regulatory Compliance expert. With a global career spanning municipal and industrial water and wastewater sectors, she brings deep expertise in environmental stewardship, emerging contaminants, and water reuse. Tonya serves as an educator and consultant worldwide, translating complex environmental challenges into actionable solutions. Her dual degrees in Biology and Communication fuel her ability to blend technical insight with clear, impactful outreach. Passionate about innovation and sustainability, she champions responsible environmental economics and drives progress through education, collaboration, and

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## Taryn McKnight

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***PFAS in Water Reuse: Navigating Analytical Complexities and Treatment***

Taryn McKnight, Vice President and PFAS Practice Leader, Eurofins Environment Testing (USA)

### Abstract:

As water reuse projects increasingly encounter PFAS contamination challenges, the intersection of regulatory requirements and analytical limitations creates critical operational and compliance obstacles. With EPA's January 2025 guidance including quarterly PFAS monitoring in NPDES permits and states applying drinking water MCLs to reuse applications, water recycling facilities face unprecedented analytical and treatment validation demands. Current PFAS analytical methodologies present significant compromises in capturing the complete PFAS picture for water reuse applications. While conventional methods like EPA Method 1633A can measure approximately 40 discrete PFAS with part-per-trillion sensitivity, many additional PFAS remain undetected due to lacking analytical reference standards. This analytical gap becomes particularly problematic when validating treatment technologies for potable reuse applications, where demonstrating complete removal efficiency or destruction is essential for public health protection and regulatory compliance. This presentation examines how comprehensive multi-method analytical approaches can address these challenges in water reuse contexts. We will present case study data from municipal and industrial water reuse facilities where influent, effluent, and recycle streams were analyzed using targeted PFAS analysis (LC-MS/MS and GC-MS/MS), Total Oxidizable Precursor (TOP) Assay, Adsorbable Organofluorine (AOF) by combustion ion chromatography, and non-target analysis. This multi-method strategy reveals how different analytical techniques complement each other to provide a more complete understanding of PFAS fate through facilities and treatment processes. Key findings demonstrate critical insights for water reuse facility operations. The data illustrate where conventional single-method approaches may provide false confidence in treatment performance and where supplementary analytical tools become essential for comprehensive risk assessment. With growing investment in PFAS-specific treatment technologies for water reuse applications, this analytical framework provides essential guidance for facilities navigating the evolving regulatory landscape while ensuring protection of public health and environmental resources. The presentation will offer practical recommendations for analytical program design that balances regulatory compliance requirements with operational decision-making needs.

### Bio:

Taryn McKnight, Vice President and PFAS Practice Leader for Eurofins Environment Testing in the U.S., has nearly 25 years of experience in the environmental testing industry. As one of the company's subject matter experts on PFAS, Ms. McKnight contributes to multiple organization and agency workgroups to address PFAS challenges, including her role as co-chair of the NGWA subcommittee to develop PFAS Sampling Guidance and a PFAS Forensics White Paper. With her expertise, she provides technical guidance to clients in setting up programs to achieve their site-specific objectives, and to agencies with understanding their analytical options and data usability considerations for water reuse applications.

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## Joseph L. Applegate, P.G.

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Joseph L. Applegate, P.G.

Sr. Principal Hydrogeologist, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

**Bio:**

Joe Applegate is a Sr. Principal Hydrogeologist in the Tallahassee, FL office and has 35 years of experience and has managed multiple USEPA CERCLA, RCRA, and FDEP environmental contracts and programs and has managed federal, state, and industrial sites including petroleum, dry-cleaning facilities, chemical manufacturers, fire training facilities, landfills, former MGPs, and pesticide manufacturers and applicators.

Joe is a recognized regulatory expert with extensive knowledge of federal and state environmental rules, regulations, and permitting processes allow him to meet the clients and regulatory community needs quickly and efficiently. Joe has managed numerous State of Florida Superfund, State Hazardous, Drycleaning Solvent, State Owned Lands and Site Investigation, Brownfields, Petroleum, and Former Manufactured Gas Plants. He has managed multiple conditional closure projects and developed RC packages for private client projects as well as for the FDEP. He has also managed projects with emerging contaminants, including 1,4 Dioxane and PFAS. He has presented at multiple conferences in Florida on industrial uses of these compounds, physicochemical properties, fate and transport of PFAS in soil and groundwater, as well as general assessment and remedial approaches.

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## Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D.

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### Presentation Title:

#### *PFAS in Air*

Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D., Industries & Environment Technical Director, SGS North America, Inc.

### Abstract:

PFAS in air is a burning topic in the "Forever Chemicals World". Although OTM-45 method has been in use for a while that method is an impinger sample collection method in a liquid and analyzed by EPA method 1633 or 537 (mod.). OTM -50 is an Air method, wherein, samples are collected in SUMMA canisters akin to TO-15A. OTM-50 names a target compound list of 30 PFAS compounds. The differences between regular PFAS LC/MS/MS OTM-45 and OTM-50 methods will be discussed. US EPA requires that 30 PFAS compounds be analyzed as provided in the OTM-50 method. The analytical standards, surrogates and internal standards will be outlined for the OTM -50 method. Unlike regular PFAS standards the sources from which standards are acquired are quite different. Method OTM-50 and its process on sample collection and analysis will be outlined. Data from OTM-50 method will be discussed.

### Bio:

Dr. Doss has more than 40 years' experience in the analytical chemistry field. Dr. Doss's expertise spans chemistry, environmental analysis, hydrocarbon chemistry (gas and liquids), forensics, industrial hygiene (managed an AIHA accredited lab for 10 years), Air analyses (TO compendium methods), Dioxins/Dibenzofurans, PCB Congeners, emerging contaminants – PFAS, 6-PPD, 6-PPDQ, microplastics, biota analyses, hazardous waste management, client services, management of laboratories, laboratory builds, data validation, data management, laboratory audits, litigation support and QA services. Dr. Doss received his Juris Doctorate from Southern University Law Center with honors, where he was a Law Review Editor and is licensed to practice law in Louisiana, currently. He earned his Ph.D., Engineering (Environmental Science) from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. M.S. in Chemistry from Wichita State University, Wichita, KS. B.S. in Chemistry from Loyola College, University of Madras, India

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## Dr. Alauddin Khan, Ph.D.

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### Presentation Title:

#### *Quantifying the Migration of PFAS From Soil to Groundwater*

Dr. Alauddin Khan, Ph.D., Senior Environmental Engineer, Leidos

### Abstract:

#### Background/Objectives:

This presentation provides a comparative analysis of methods to evaluate the soil to groundwater exposure pathway for PFAS. While EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs) and/or state specific screening values are available for several PFAS compounds, these values may be overly conservative for some scenarios. A common concern is that these generic screening values do not account for site-specific conditions or PFAS accumulation at the air-water interface. Management of sites with PFAS-impacted soil requires a thorough understanding of the concentrations that represent unacceptable risks for the site groundwater. To address this challenge, this study uses groundwater, soil, and porewater data collected at four areas impacted by aqueous film-forming foam at a Department of Defense site. Three methods were utilized to develop protection of groundwater site soil screening levels (SSSLs) and these SSSLs were compared against the generic RSLs for the soil to groundwater pathway. The methods included EPA's Development of Pathway Specific Soil Screening Levels (EPA 1996); PFAS-LEACH developed by University of Arizona's Dr. Bo Guo; and ESCI LLC's SESOIL and AT123D modeling software. The objectives of this study include: determining SSSLs which are protective of the groundwater; comparing SSSLs to generic RSLs to assess how the differences may impact site decision making; exploring the total costs required to generate SSSLs; and evaluating situations where developing SSSLs may be beneficial.

#### Approach/Activities:

Our approach to evaluate PFAS leaching used soil, lysimeter (porewater), and groundwater data collected during a CERCLA PFAS Remedial Investigation at a facility in the Midwestern US. The facility includes multiple areas of concern (AOC) where high PFAS concentrations are present in soils, porewater, and groundwater. Our analysis included soil data screening followed by fate and transport analysis via EPA Soil Screening Guidance and a combination of mathematical models (SESOIL/AT123D and PFAS-LEACH). Fate and transport modeling was used to simulate vertical transport of PFAS from vadose zone soils to groundwater, as well as horizontal transport within the groundwater system from the source area to receptor locations. PFAS-LEACH, accounts for air-water interfacial adsorption and rate-limited solid-phase sorption and solves the partial differential equations for PFAS leaching through the vadose zone. Estimated leachate concentrations are then coupled with a simple groundwater dilution factor model which computes PFAS concentrations at downgradient groundwater receptors to derive SSSLs. The SESOIL model estimates contaminant concentrations leached from soil and predicts the contaminant mass flux over time that is discharging to groundwater. AT123D imports the flux values and computes the transient spread of PFAS through the aquifer and at downgradient receptors. SSSLs were developed for each PFAS of concern at each AOC using the three methods discussed above. The results were utilized to explore whether detected soil concentrations represent continuing sources to the groundwater system. Resulting SSSLs were reviewed to explore the applicability of SSSLs for various sites and project scenarios.

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Results/Lessons Learned:

SSSLs calculated based on EPA's Soil Screening Guidance were lower than SSSLs calculated via the modeling methods. In comparison to generic RSLs, the magnitude of difference in the calculated SSSLs varied by PFAS compound. Compounds with shorter chain lengths generally had less difference between generic RSLs and calculated SSSLs. Perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs) tended to have less difference between generic RSLs and calculated SSSLs, whereas perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids (PFASs) tended to have greater differences between generic RSLs and calculated SSSLs. Comparison of the modeling approaches indicated that PFAS-Leach tends to overpredict the impact of adsorption at the air-water interface and produce significantly higher SSSLs, particularly for longer chain PFASs. SESOIL/AT123D generally produced SSSLs that were less conservative than generic values, but more conservative than PFAS-Leach values.

Development of SSSLs provides a method to provide a rigorous understanding of site risks. This deeper understanding may prove beneficial for certain projects and/or project phases, however in some cases, it may be more expedient to rely on default values. For example, at a site impacted by short-chain PFCAs, development of SSSLs may require significant costs but only lead to minimal difference in screening levels. Whereas for sites impacted by long chain PFASs, development of SSSLs may provide a one to two order of magnitude difference in screening levels.

**Bio:**

Dr. Khan has more than 30 years of environmental engineering experience in characterization, design, remedial action, remedial construction, and optimization for DoD, DOE, USACE, USAF, ANG, NASA, and more. He has extensive experience and expertise in groundwater and surface water flow and contaminant fate and transport modeling. Dr. Khan leads contaminant fate and transport modeling in simple to highly complex hydrogeologic settings using diverse software packages for numerous CERCLA and RCRA-based projects. He develops CSMs, selects computer codes, analyzes sampling data, builds models, prepares reports, and addresses stakeholder comments. His extensive expertise in groundwater flow and contaminant transport modeling has allowed Leidos to make efficient and cost-effective decisions regarding contaminant plume extents, site characterizations, and future remedial actions. Dr. Khan is a member of Leidos' PFAS Technical Team, and he leads efforts to evaluate and simulate PFAS leaching from soil to groundwater and subsequent fate and transport in groundwater.

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## Dr. Roni Erlitzki, Ph.D.

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Beyond the Quick Fix: Navigating Complex Chemistries in PFAS Remediation***

Dr. Ronit Erlitzki, Ph.D., Director of Strategic Business Development and Innovation - PFAS, Aquatech

### Abstract:

Several factors, including successful litigation against manufacturers, the industrial phase-out of intentional PFAS use, and proactive utility remediation ahead of finalized regulations provide compelling evidence that PFAS can no longer be perceived as "just another emerging contaminant." Initially, the remediation landscape appeared straightforward, with stakeholders defaulting to Granular Activated Carbon (GAC), Ion Exchange (IX), and Reverse Osmosis (RO). While these are well-established Best Available Technologies (BAT) designated by the EPA for PFAS separation, our growing understanding of the PFAS ecosystem reveals significant complexities. "One size does not fit all" is particularly true for PFAS; these compounds are ubiquitous across groundwater, surface water, and waste streams, and are frequently mixed with other regulated contaminants. A primary concern for stakeholders is the escalating cost of PFAS remediation, particularly when weighed against future liabilities tied to the disposal of PFAS-laden waste and shifting regulatory landscapes. Accordingly, the industry is moving toward site-specific, integrated treatment trains to effectively break the PFAS cycle. This holistic approach evaluates an expanded toolkit, including removal media (GAC, IX, modified clays), membrane separation (RO and nanofiltration), and concentration methods like foam fractionation, integrating advanced destruction technologies when necessary to achieve final elimination. This presentation introduces the complete Prediction, Confirmation, Treatment (PCT) framework as a structured, cost optimized approach for designing PFAS remediation systems. The PCT methodology leverages multi technology platforms, validated under one roof through rigorous bench scale and pilot testing to ensure performance across variable chemistries and project scales prior to designing a full-scale system. We present results from a series of studies evaluating treatment strategies for distinct PFAS laden waste streams, including Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF), AFFF wash and rinse waters, reverse osmosis concentrate, and PFAS impacted groundwater. Each matrix exhibited unique PFAS profiles and co contaminant challenges, requiring tailored process configurations. Across these studies, the objective was to identify the most efficient pathways capable of achieving high levels of PFAS removal and mineralization, as confirmed through non-targeted Adsorbable Organic Fluorine (AOF) analysis and targeted 1633 and ASTM D8421 methods.

### Bio:

Roni Erlitzki serves as the Director of Strategic Business Development and Innovation - PFAS at Aquatech. With over 20 years of experience spanning biochemistry research and environmentally focused business development, Ronit has built a career defined by scientific rigor and strategic foresight. As a seasoned water professional, she has been instrumental in the assessment and implementation of cutting-edge technologies, including biological water treatment, high-recovery reverse osmosis (RO), and concentrate management. Ronit is a recognized expert in Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC), with a specialized focus on PFAS. Driven by the "One-Water" concept, she focuses on optimizing sustainable, low-emission solutions that prioritize high recovery and minimal waste for both drinking water and wastewater systems. Ronit holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Tel Aviv University, and both Master of Science and Doctor of Science degrees in Medical Sciences from Technion-Machon Technology Le'Israel.

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## Tonya Chandler

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### Tonya Chandler

President, BioLargo Equipment Solutions and Technologies

#### Bio:

Ms. Tonya Chandler, President of BioLargo's Equipment Division, and PFAS Regulatory Compliance expert for BioLargo Inc. has spent her career in water and wastewater working both on municipally and industrially, worldwide. She has a degree from Carroll College (now Carroll University) in Waukesha WI in both Biology and Communication. She has worked for such companies as Shaw Environmental and Veolia Water where she gained hands on experience in all aspects of the industry. Her current focus is on PFAS and water reuse.

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## Prasad Galhena

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***PFAS Removal and Destruction with the Activated Carbon Re-Activation Process***

Prasad Galhena, Applications Engineer, DESOTEC US LLC

### Abstract:

High-temperature thermal reactivation is a critical step in the sustainable management of spent activated carbon used for air and water treatment, particularly when addressing emerging contaminants such as PFAS. This presentation explains the fundamentals of thermal reactivation and the operating conditions required to effectively destroy PFAS compounds through high-temperature treatment. It will discuss the fate of PFAS during reactivation, destruction mechanisms, and how regulatory compliance is ensured through controlled process conditions and air pollution control systems. Potential byproducts formed during reactivation and their proper management will also be reviewed. Finally, the presentation will provide practical guidance on selecting a compliant reactivation facility and conclude with a mobile carbon system case study demonstrating successful reactivation and reuse of activated carbon in a real-world application.

### Bio:

Prasad Galhena brings nearly fifteen years of experience in the activated carbon industry, with a strong background as an Applications Engineer. He holds dual Master's degrees in Environmental Engineering and Environmental Studies from California State University, Fullerton. Currently, an Applications Engineer at Desotec US LLC, Prasad leverages his diverse expertise to deliver activated carbon purification solutions. His broad technical knowledge supports the development and optimization of activated carbon technologies across a range of environmental and industrial applications.

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## Phil Farina

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***PFAS Treatment for Rural Water Treatment Systems***

Phil Farina, Midwest Business Development Manager, Clear Creek Systems, Inc.

### Abstract:

This presentation provides practical, step-by-step guidance to help rural drinking water systems understand, plan, and implement PFAS treatment that meets new federal standards while remaining affordable and operable for small communities. The work first frames the scope of PFAS contamination nationally and explains why rural groundwater-reliant systems face disproportionate risk due to limited staff, aging infrastructure, and basic treatment trains not designed for trace organics. It then summarizes the evolving regulatory landscape, including EPA's 4 ppt MCLs for PFOA and PFOS, UCMR5 monitoring, and state-level actions, and translates these requirements into clear design and compliance targets for small systems. A structured "what to do before you do it" approach is presented, covering source characterization, sampling and monitoring, technology selection, and system design, with emphasis on comparing GAC, ion exchange, Fluoro-Sorb, RO, and emerging options based on EBCT, media life, co-contaminants, waste residuals, and lifecycle cost. Case studies from small and rural systems (25–500 gpm) illustrate successful implementation of skid-mounted and pre-fabricated PFAS systems that achieve non-detect performance at realistic capital and operating costs. The presentation concludes with discussion of residuals management, funding pathways (including federal programs targeting disadvantaged communities), and risk communication strategies to build public trust, showing that PFAS compliance is achievable for rural systems through careful planning, appropriate technology, and leveraged funding.

### Bio:

Phil Farina is the Midwest Business Development Manager at Clear Creek Systems, Inc., a leading provider of water treatment solutions. He holds a BS in Biology, a BA in Psychology, and an MS in Virology from Rutgers University, as well as an MBA in Chemical Marketing from Fairleigh Dickinson University. With over 35 years of experience, Phil has specialized in developing innovative water treatment technologies for the CCR, remediation, and PFAS markets, playing a key role in introducing new technical solutions to the industry. At Clear Creek Systems, Phil helps deliver custom, cost-effective water treatment systems for a wide range of clients, leveraging the company's technology-agnostic approach to ensure effective and safe results. The team at Clear Creek Systems has extensive expertise in designing, building, and operating systems ranging from 5 to 20,000 gallons per minute, addressing complex contaminants such as PFAS, stormwater, and industrial wastewater.

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## Dr. Paul Hatzinger, Ph.D.

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***PFAS Bioremediation: Inherent Limitations and Future Prospects***

Dr. Paul Hatzinger, Ph.D., Director of the Biotechnology Development and Applications Group, APTIM

### Abstract:

There are currently few approaches for in situ remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in soils or groundwater. The recalcitrant nature, diverse structures, and low concentrations of concern limit many traditional technologies developed for the remediation of chlorinated solvents, including chemical oxidation, chemical reduction, and bioremediation. However, recent studies indicate that a variety of different bacteria are capable of appreciably transforming polyfluorinated compounds (precursors), and at least one organism (*Acidimicrobium* sp. A6) is known that can defluorinate perfluorinated compounds, including PFOS and PFOA. The objective of this presentation is to examine current information on PFAS biotransformation, to compare and contrast microbial biodegradation of chlorinated and fluorinated organics, and to discuss whether or not bioremediation will become an important strategy for PFAS remediation in the future.

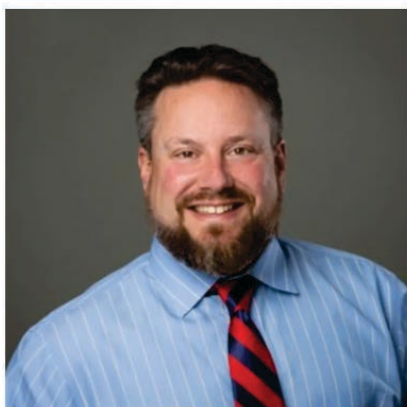
### Bio:

Dr. Paul Hatzinger is the Director of the Biotechnology Development and Applications Group at APTIM. He holds a PhD from Cornell University and has 27 years of experience studying the fate and remediation of environmental pollutants including PFAS. Dr. Hatzinger has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed journal publications and book chapters and has served as the Principal Investigator (PI) on 37 federal research grants. His most current research includes an examination of biological transformation routes of PFAA precursors, application of situ adsorbents for PFAS sequestration, and the development and field-testing of a high resolution passive profiler for characterizing PFAS distribution in sediments and groundwater.

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## Bryan Massa, LSP and Shaun C. Malin, P.G.

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Soil Remediation of PFAS using Rapid Leaching Technology***

Bryan Massa, LSP, Principal and Regional Manager and Shaun C. Malin, P.G.,  
Principal & Director of Strategic Development, HRP Associates, Inc.

### Abstract:

Mr. Massa will present the results of a field pilot study completed at a military installation of proprietary technology used to remediate PFAS in soil. The technology uses a unique and patented filtration system that allows soil to be fully saturated with water and then rapidly dewatered in a watertight containment cell constructed from geomembrane and geosynthetic clay liners. The generated leachate is collected in a secondary watertight cell that is similarly constructed and then pumped through a wastewater treatment system to remove PFAS for future destruction or disposal. The treated water is then reused and the process repeated. This PFAS remediation process is referred to as Rapid Leaching Technology (RLT). RLT is easily scalable and can be designed to manage any weekly throughout (i.e., <100 cubic yards or >1,000 cubic yards). RLT works by fully saturating soil, removing the micro-NAPL layer, and then rapidly de-watering the soil. Once the soil is saturated, the highly soluble PFAS contamination within the soil matrix is partitioned into a liquid phase. Once in a liquid phase, the PFAS analytes can be easily removed and consolidated through a wastewater treatment process. The soil is then re-saturated with the treated water within the containment cell as necessary until the desired PFAS removal limits have been obtained (i.e., EPA Regional Screening Levels). Three separate benchtop studies of the RLT remediation technology have documented average total PFAS removal ranging from 89 to 93 percent per rinse cycle. The technology removed 94 to 100 percent of the five PFAS analytes regulated by the EPA. Total PFAS is defined as the sum of all reported PFAS analytes included in EPA Method 1633. Additional rinse cycles can be incorporated into the technology to achieve additional PFAS removal. The benchtop studies used three and four rinse cycles to determine the effectiveness.

### Massa Bio:

Bryan Massa is a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) with over 25 years of experience in the environmental field. Bryan has worked on a variety of environmental projects throughout the United States and Mexico. His experience has included the development of environmental site assessments, complex analytical data review, remediation design and oversight, risk assessments, emergency response to releases of oil and/or hazardous materials, soil gas and indoor air assessment, due diligence investigations, forensic evaluation and cost allocation. His portfolio includes a number of interdisciplinary projects that combine remediation efforts with civil site design, stream restoration, and adaptive reuse.



## Malin Bio:

Shaun Malin brings 22 years of experience in the environmental consulting industry and currently serves as HRP's Director of Strategic Development. In this role, he leads strategic planning initiatives, identifies emerging market opportunities, cultivates key partnerships, and drives business development efforts aligned with HRP's mission to Move Your Environment Forward. Shaun plays a central role in shaping the firm's long-term growth and strategic direction.

Over his 15-year tenure at HRP, Shaun has held several leadership positions, including Project Manager, Senior Project Manager, South Regional Manager, and Principal. He has overseen teams, business units, and daily operations across HRP's southern offices, including Charleston, Charlotte, Greenville (SC), Houston, Wilmington, and Winston-Salem. Shaun continues to provide mentorship and strategic guidance to internal teams and taskforces, while serving as the primary liaison for many of HRP's longstanding clients and Fortune 500 companies.

Shaun's expertise spans key environmental regulations such as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), and the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). His notable projects include a time-critical PCB removal action mandated by USEPA Region 4, remediation of chlorinated solvents beneath active manufacturing facilities, vapor intrusion assessments, industrial lagoon and surface impoundment cleanups, and landfill leachate investigations. He also specializes in risk-based remedial strategies for brownfield redevelopment and the management of plant decommissioning and decontamination projects.

His project portfolio includes sites impacted by chlorinated solvents, petroleum hydrocarbons, PCBs, PFAS, and heavy metals, serving a diverse range of industrial, commercial, academic, and municipal clients nationwide. Shaun's deep understanding of contaminant transport and remediation, combined with innovative problem-solving, has led to successful outcomes for HRP's clientele. He maintains strong working relationships with regulatory agency staff throughout the South and across the country, ensuring effective communication, practical guidance, and project success.

Shaun holds a Master's Degree in Hydrogeology from Clemson University and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Geoscience from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He is a licensed Professional Geologist in ten states (AL, FL, GA, LA, NC, PA, SC, TN, TX and VA) and a principal stockholder at HRP.

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## Bryan Massa, LSP

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### Bryan Massa, LSP

Bryan Massa, LSP, Principal and Regional Manager, HRP Associates, Inc.

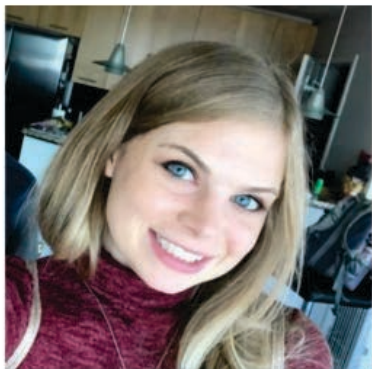
#### Bio:

Bryan Massa is a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) with over 25 years of experience in the environmental field. Bryan has worked on a variety of environmental projects throughout the United States and Mexico. His experience has included the development of environmental site assessments, complex analytical data review, remediation design and oversight, risk assessments, emergency response to releases of oil and/or hazardous materials, soil gas and indoor air assessment, due diligence investigations, forensic evaluation and cost allocation. His portfolio includes a number of interdisciplinary projects that combine remediation efforts with civil site design, stream restoration, and adaptive reuse.

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## Jenny Olmsted, P.E.

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Mitigation Strategies for PFAS in Stormwater: A Collection of Case Studies***

Jenny Olmsted, P.E., Environmental Engineer, CDM Smith

### Abstract:

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) present a persistent and complex challenge in urban stormwater systems, necessitating innovative management strategies to mitigate environmental and public health risks. PFAS can enter stormwater systems through multiple pathways including industrial discharges, airport operations, urban surface runoff, and atmospheric deposition, making it challenging to pinpoint and manage sources effectively. PFAS comprise thousands of compounds with varying fate and transport properties. Monitoring and treating such a diverse group requires specialized analytical methods and tailored treatment technologies. Conventional stormwater structures, such as detention basins and vegetated retention areas, are not equipped to remove PFAS and may inadvertently facilitate their migration into soil and groundwater. Due to their environmental persistence and unique fate and transport characteristics, PFAS that accumulate on both paved and unpaved surfaces can continue leaching into stormwater systems for decades, serving as a long-term source of contamination. Treatment technologies developed for PFAS removal in drinking water and groundwater often face challenges when applied to stormwater due to elevated levels of suspended solids, organic carbon, and other co-contaminants. Many states have yet to establish definitive standards for PFAS concentrations in stormwater, and those that have typically address only a limited subset of compounds. This regulatory void creates uncertainty in setting design goals and determining appropriate treatment targets. Mitigating PFAS in stormwater requires a tiered approach that balances effectiveness, feasibility, and cost. The first and most proactive strategy is source control, which involves preventing stormwater from contacting PFAS-contaminated media—such as soils, pavement, or industrial materials—through isolation, containment, or diversion techniques. This method minimizes downstream contamination and is often the most cost-effective long-term solution, however successful implementation requires a robust PFAS conceptual site model. The second strategy focuses on optimizing existing stormwater infrastructure, such as retrofitting detention basins or bioretention systems with PFAS-targeted amendments like activated carbon or specialized media. This approach leverages existing assets while enhancing their ability to capture and retain PFAS. The third option is to install dedicated PFAS treatment systems such as advanced filtration units designed specifically for PFAS removal. While these systems can offer targeted performance, they are typically expensive to implement and may be less efficient when dealing with the variable water quality and flow conditions characteristic of stormwater. An integrated strategy that prioritizes source control and infrastructure optimization, with selective use of treatment systems, offers the most practical path forward. This presentation highlights findings from four case studies on practical strategies for managing PFAS in stormwater systems. Approaches include in situ soil mixing with commercial amendments to reduce PFAS leaching from soil to stormwater and enhancements to existing stormwater control measures using passive sorptive media. It also showcases CDM Smith's recent work on aerosol and foam enhanced PFAS capture, along with a review of PFAS dynamics in plant-based stormwater systems, all aimed at advancing treatment train implementation. These strategies contribute to a broader multi-stage treatment approach, offering scalable, site-specific solutions for PFAS mitigation.

### Bio:

**Jenny L. Olmsted, P.E.**, is an environmental engineer specializing in the fate, transport, and management of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in soil, groundwater, concrete, and stormwater systems. Her work focuses on understanding PFAS behavior in urban environments where stormwater infrastructure acts as a primary transport and long-term source pathway.

Ms. Olmsted has supported PFAS investigations at fire training facilities, industrial sites, and municipal systems impacted by fluorinated foams, urban runoff, and other primary PFAS sources. Her experience includes developing PFAS conceptual site models; evaluating source control strategies; and assessing PFAS migration from soils, concrete, and paved surfaces into stormwater and groundwater. She has contributed to feasibility studies evaluating stormwater-applicable PFAS mitigation approaches, including in situ soil amendments, sorptive media, and retrofits to existing stormwater controls.

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Her background also includes PFAS forensics and background analysis, including evaluation of precursor transformation, source differentiation, and interpretation of PFAS fingerprints to support site investigations. Ms. Olmsted is a licensed Professional Engineer in Florida and Georgia and holds bachelor's and master's degrees in environmental engineering from the University of Florida.

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## Daniel Nelson and Emily Harper

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Closed-loop PFAS Destruction with Hydrothermal Alkaline Treatment (HALT) at an Air Force Remediation Site***

Daniel Nelson, Director of Sales, and Emily Harper, Field Technician, Aquagga, Inc.

### Abstract:

On-site destruction of PFAS wastes is a promising alternative to legacy disposal methods that require off-site transportation of these hazardous liquids. As novel PFAS destruction technologies mature and commercialize, understanding how to effectively and economically deploy these assets is of paramount importance. One particularly promising approach involves a closed-loop treatment system that combines separation/concentration of PFAS, subsequent destruction, and re-introduction of process effluent to the combined treatment train's feedstock. This presentation discusses a pilot demonstration of this closed-loop approach implemented at Ellsworth Air Force Base. 10,000 gallons of highly PFAS-impacted leachate from a firefighting training facility were treated using surface activated foam fractionation (SAFF) and hydrothermal alkaline treatment (HALT) in a closed-loop process configuration. The goal of this demonstration was to treat the highly PFAS impacted liquid stored in a retention pond to EPA MCLs for drinking water prior to discharge to the POTW. Significant destruction of PFAS was achieved, and the project was considered a success despite some effluent samples exceeding EPA MCLs for drinking water. Details of the project, technologies involved, challenges encountered, and learnings from the demonstration will be discussed.

### Nelson Bio:

Daniel Nelson is the Director of Sales at Aquagga, where he focuses on the commercialization of HALT PFAS destruction systems and the global expansion of Aquagga's customer base. He has nearly 15 years of experience in selling environmental sensors and systems to a variety of academic, governmental, and industrial clients. Daniel has a BA from Oregon State University and an MSc in River Environmental Management from the University of Birmingham (UK).



### Harper Bio:

Emily brings a strong background in environmental sampling and field-based troubleshooting to her role as a Field Technician. She earned a B.S. in Biology from Oregon State University, where she began her hands-on experience conducting field sampling aboard research vessels focused on ocean environmental dynamics. Emily has since expanded her expertise to include air quality assessments, nuclear gauge testing, erosion control, and lead and asbestos remediation. She also has experience with analytical data analysis, using oceanographic and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) datasets to build predictive models for turbidity, demonstrating her commitment to both data accuracy and its practical environmental applications.

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## Paul Ruehl

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### Presentation Title:

#### ***Encapsulation of PFAS in Landfill Leachate Forming an Alternate Daily Cover***

Paul Ruehl, Environmental Remediation Specialist, Geocycle North America

### Abstract:

Encapsulation of PFAS in Landfill Leachate- Forming an Alternate Daily Cover Abstract-Paul Ruehl Geocycle North America Encapsulation of PFAS from Landfill Leachate-This presentation describes the state-of-practice, and demonstrates typical results of the successful use of cement products for solidification/stabilization (S/S) of landfill leachate concentrate (concentrate). A typical landfill might have 10,000-100,000 gallons or more of leachate to manage. As much as one third of the operating costs at a landfill is the management of leachate. The concentrated leachate will nearly always have PFAS in significant amounts. The author developed a patented method for encapsulating PFAS from the concentrate, dramatically reducing the availability of PFAS to the environment. Typical analytical results indicate two to five orders of magnitude reduction between the concentration of PFAS in the concentrate and the extraction fluid. The method describes how PFAS is encapsulated in an inorganic matrix formed by mixing the contaminated concentrate with a mineral binder. The slurried concentrate can be sprayed onto the landfill working face shortly after it has been treated. In this fashion, the landfill can increase its capacity and extend its useful life by using the treated leachate as an Alternate Daily Cover instead of the usual six inches of "free" dirt from onsite. This increased capacity can significantly offset the price of the binder and provide a permanent solution to recapturing PFAS contaminated leachate each day. This method eliminates off-site disposal costs for leachate and the need to recirculate leachate into the landfill. This process eliminates the endless cycle of PFAS from landfill to POTW and back again. This constitutes 100% resource recovery.

### Bio:

Paul Ruehl Environmental Remediation Specialist Geocycle North America BS/MS Chemistry Paul Ruehl has 48 years of experience as an environmental chemist, 44 years in the cement industry. Since 1982, Paul has been involved in more than 500 site remediations using cement solidification/stabilization. He actively conducts research, using cementitious mix designs to encapsulate PFAS in landfill leachate for use as an alternate daily cover. A Patent was allowed for the leachate process in August 2021. His most recent R&D has focused on the encapsulation of PFAS in soil. The DoD is considering using this technology at multiple military sites. Results of that work are now available and will be discussed in this presentation.

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## PFAS Forum VI Poster Presentations

Note: Abstracts are sorted by presenters last name.

### ***PFAS - Are We Closer to Closing the Data Gap?***

Dr. Kesavalu Bagawandoss, Ph.D., J.D., Industries & Environment Technical Director, SGS North America, Inc.

#### **Abstract:**

The complexity and diversity of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) continue to challenge environmental scientists, regulators, and public health professionals. With thousands of known and unknown PFAS compounds in circulation, the question remains: are we closer to closing the data gap? This presentation explores the evolving analytical landscape of PFAS detection and quantification, highlighting how integrated approaches are expanding our understanding of PFAS occurrence and behavior. Targeted LC/MS/MS analysis, the cornerstone of PFAS monitoring, offers high sensitivity for a defined list of legacy and emerging compounds. The Total Oxidizable Precursor (TOP) Assay reveals hidden precursor burdens by transforming them into measurable terminal PFAS. To address the limitations of targeted or compound-specific methods, techniques have been developed and promulgated that provide a bulk measure of organic fluorine as a proxy for PFAS impact and help quantify the “dark matter” of PFAS. Special attention will be given to the analysis of ultra-short chain PFAS, such as trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), which evade conventional methods, yet pose unique mobility and toxicity concerns. Finally, non-targeted high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS), a powerful tool for discovering novel PFAS structures and transformation products in complex environmental matrices will be explored. By comparing these complementary techniques and showcasing recent applications, this session will present how far we’ve come and perhaps, how far we still need to go to fully characterize PFAS in the environment. The presentation will afford a clearer picture of the analytical toolbox available today and the strategic pathways to bridge remaining data gaps.

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### ***Leveraging Electron Upconversion to Improve Energy Efficiency of PFAS Degradation in a Nonthermal Plasma Reactor***

Kimberley Christopher, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Florida State University

#### **Abstract:**

Electrons are often treated as stoichiometric reagents in PFAS remediation, yet can act catalytically when coupled to electron upconversion, i.e., in situ the generation of stronger reductants from mild electron donors. Here, we develop a comprehensive computational framework showing how electron

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upconversion enables energy-efficient degradation of perfluorosulfonic acids (PFSA), among the most recalcitrant PFAS. We identify radical anions of sulfonic acids as previously unrecognized intermediates where C–F bonds are weakened by up to 80 kcal/mol, opening pathways inaccessible to neutral or deprotonated PFSA. Electrons and hydrogen atoms emerge as the dominant agents of defluorination, while hydroxyl radicals play a secondary role. Crucially, radical/anion cross-reactions can recycle electrons, establishing catalytic defluorination cycles. Experiments support this framework, showing up to four-fold enhancement of fluoride release. These findings unify plasma, photoredox and electrochemical approaches through a shared electron-catalytic principle and point toward broadly applicable, greener strategies for destroying persistent pollutants.

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***Aqueous PFOA and PFOS Degradation: The Role of Hydrated Electrons in Advanced Photochemical Reduction***

Pranisha Dangol, Undergraduate Student Researcher, Texas State University

**Abstract:**

Advanced photochemical reduction processes, such as the UV/sulfite process, have shown good remediation potential for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that are highly resistant to typical biological, thermal, and oxidative degradation processes. Hydrated electrons are known to be responsible for the advanced reduction of PFAS. However, due mainly to the lack of standard methods for measuring hydrated electrons, its role as a reductant has been indirectly proved by adding substrates with a fast bimolecular rate constant for hydrated electrons (e.g., oxygen and nitrate). However, the operating and experimental conditions, such as the concentrations of PFAS and hydrated electron scavengers and the reaction pH and temperature, affect the role and performance of hydrated electrons in advanced reduction processes. In this study, the UV/sulfite advanced photochemical reduction process was first optimized for the concentration of UV sensitizer (sulfite), pH, and temperature, and then was tested for the effect of the initial concentrations of PFOA and PFOS as the model PFAS and nitrate as the hydrated electro scavenger to understand the role of hydrated electrons in the UV/sulfite advanced reduction process under varying operating and experimental conditions. Reductive chain cleavage of C-C and C-F bonds was also evaluated by tracking the occurrence of shorter-chain PFAS and fluoride ions. We envision that the findings from this study provide technical insight into the UV/sulfite advanced photochemical reduction process to remediate water contaminated with PFAS.

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## ***Adopting Emerging PFAS Destruction Technologies: The Orlando Case Study for Supercritical Water Oxidation***

Dr. Raj Melkote, Ph.D., Chief Technology Officer, 374Water, Inc.

### **Abstract:**

**Introduction** The rate at which organic contaminants of emerging concern (CECs), such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are being introduced into the environment is rapidly outpacing our ability to treat them with conventional water/wastewater treatment technologies. Since PFAS have are highly diverse in their physico-chemical properties, emerging technologies, such as supercritical water oxidation (SCWO), that broadly treat PFAS are warranted as a catch-all solution to PFAS destruction. SCWO is a physical thermal process that eliminates organic compounds indiscriminately. During SCWO, a waste with an appropriate water:waste:oxygen ratio is fed into a reactor, where temperature and pressure conditions are elevated above the critical point of water (374°C and 221 bar) so that the water in the feed becomes supercritical. The high solubility of organics and gases (e.g. oxygen) in supercritical water allows for the rapid exothermic oxidation of any organic compound, yielding only inert inorganics, recoverable heat, and clean vent gas as the final products. Since 1982, SCWO was popularized and applied by various researchers and companies to municipal and industrial sludges, military waste, and organic industrial chemicals (Svanström et al., 2005; Bermejo & Cocero, 2006) and have shown a positive environment impact as measured by life-cycle assessment (Svanström et al., 2004). The City of Orlando, Florida's Water Reclamation Division has been investigating technologies such as SCWO for biosolids management. Their current biosolids management strategies - land application or landfill – are currently limited by wet weather restrictions (SB 712) and lower acceptance of the biosolids at landfills. The City is simultaneously seeking solutions to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to safeguard water sources potentially impacted by biosolids disposal. After evaluating various management strategies, including composting, incineration, and drying, the City identified 374Water's SCWO system as a viable candidate for biosolids volume reduction and contaminant elimination.

**Methodology** 374Water's commercial scale AirSCWO 6 system was used for this demonstration study (Figure 1.1), with a design capacity of 6 wet tonnes of sludge (at ~10-20% dry solids (DS) content) per day. The sludge is stored in a feed hopper with a homogenization tank and internal recirculation to keep slurry in suspension. A high-pressure pump transfers the homogenized waste to the SCWO reactor via a heat exchanger, which preheats the incoming slurry. A high-pressure compressor compresses pre-heated ambient air, before the air is fed into the plug flow once-through SCWO reactor. The reactor output is sent through a series of heat exchangers and depressurizing equipment to bring the outputs to near ambient conditions. The system is typically run for 12-36 hours per test run, with a typical residence time for sludge in the reactor of 5-10 seconds. Grab samples were between the end of sludge handling and the AirSCWO 6 inlet and at the effluent of the AirSCWO 6 unit. Grab samples from each sampling point were analyzed for various parameters including flowrate, chemical oxygen demand, and PFAS (via EPA Method 1633). PFAS analyses were conducted by a third-party accredited lab. Most operating parameters were monitored in real-time, while others, such as trace and emerging contaminants, were analyzed offline.

**Results** The facility secured funding (\$812,000) through an awarded State Revolving Fund (SRF), after which the AirSCWO system was mobilized, installed, and commissioned by September 2024. The project is currently ongoing and is in the operations phase.

Results of sludge volume reduction are immediately apparent post-treatment via the AirSCWO 6 system. WAS obtained at ~0.5% DS and pre-treated prior to SCWO was treated and discharged from the AirSCWO 6 system as an effluent with a small fraction of settleable inorganic solids (Figure 1.2). Once dried, the solid fraction became a manageable inert ash. The AirSCWO 6 system performed exceptionally well at eliminating a broad range of PFAS. Across the seven (7) PFAS detected in the AirSCWO influent (WAS at 8% DS), the lowest destruction and removal efficiency (DRE) was ~96.5%. DREs ranged from 96.5 to >99.5%, with no distinct hindrance from PFAS chain length or classification (Figure 1.3). The system also demonstrated the ability to eliminate the precursor NetFOSAA with >96.5% DRE, which confirms previous mass balance studies by 374Water that illustrate near complete mineralization of PFAS with no transformation of precursors.

**Discussion & Conclusions** This demonstration of 374Water’s AirSCWO 6 technology at the Iron Bridge Water Reclamation Facility provides encouraging results for adopting SCWO at scale in the municipal water/wastewater field. To accelerate the implementation of SCWO in the field, technology providers, such as 374Water, and municipalities should continue to pursue joint projects that leverage federal and state funding opportunities (such as the EPA’s SRF). Integration with and/or funding support from industrial dischargers can further promote efforts to increase the scale (throughput) of SCWO to align with utility sizes for which SCWO is in budget at current pricing, and/or circumvent water/wastewater treatment plants by installing SCWO on industrial dischargers’ sites. Additionally, this demonstration validates previous studies from 374Water, across various scales, that show broad spectrum PFAS destruction of over 95%. Continued testing in this demonstration will mirror previous studies to pseudo-identify the final fate of PFAS via fluorine mass balance analysis and increase the frequency of PFAS emissions analyses. The teams at 374Water and the City are continuously working to complete this pilot study successfully and on-schedule. The performance results will be shared with the FDEP and EPA to aid them in their development of databases and tools. At the conclusion of the pilot study, the City will receive the second part of the grant to support the design, construction, and installation of an AirSCWO 30 system. Additionally, a long-term partnership with the City has been established to continue operating the AirSCWO 6 unit for treatment of other PFAS-contaminated materials. The AirSCWO 30 will be built and tested at Iron Bridge before being relocated to Orlando’s Water Conserv I facility, the smallest of the city’s three treatment plants, which processes an average of 5.5 million gallons per day. The AirSCWO 30 system should be capable of handling all sludge produced at Conserv I for the foreseeable future. We thank Alan Oyler at the City of Orlando Public Works, who has advocated for and enabled this innovation to be tested, further developed, and demonstrated at their facility.

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***Advancing PFAS Data Management and Regulatory Tracking Using an Integrated Digital Framework***

Heather Nunn, Sr. Data Management Lead, Langan Engineering

**Abstract:**

The rapidly evolving regulatory landscape for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) presents significant challenges for site investigation, compliance evaluation, and risk management. Variations

in federal and state criteria, coupled with increasing public concern and complex site conditions, require approaches that can integrate diverse data sources while supporting timely, defensible decision-making. This presentation describes the development and implementation of an integrated digital framework designed to centralize PFAS regulatory criteria, site data, and project workflows. Built on EQulS Enterprise and a firmwide environmental database, the system incorporates an interactive regulatory mapping component to provide current access to Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), health advisories, and state-specific action levels. This approach supports consistent compliance evaluation across multiple jurisdictions and enables project teams to respond efficiently as regulatory standards evolve. The framework has been applied to a range of use cases, including due diligence, site assessments, sampling program design, and data review and reporting. Implementation results demonstrate improvements in the efficiency of regulatory evaluations, standardization of PFAS data integration across projects, and coordination between field teams, data managers, and risk assessors. The presentation will also discuss lessons learned during system development, including considerations for long-term maintainability, regulatory updates, and the importance of collaboration between regulatory, technical, and data management subject matter experts. Examples from multi-state PFAS investigations will be used to illustrate both the benefits and practical challenges of deploying a scalable PFAS data management and regulatory tracking solution.

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***Mitigation Strategies for PFAS in Stormwater: A Collection of Case Studies***

Jenny Olmsted, P.E., Environmental Engineer, CDM Smith

**Abstract:**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) present a persistent and complex challenge in urban stormwater systems, necessitating innovative management strategies to mitigate environmental and public health risks. PFAS can enter stormwater systems through multiple pathways including industrial discharges, airport operations, urban surface runoff, and atmospheric deposition, making it challenging to pinpoint and manage sources effectively. PFAS comprise thousands of compounds with varying fate and transport properties. Monitoring and treating such a diverse group requires specialized analytical methods and tailored treatment technologies. Conventional stormwater structures, such as detention basins and vegetated retention areas, are not equipped to remove PFAS and may inadvertently facilitate their migration into soil and groundwater. Due to their environmental persistence and unique fate and transport characteristics, PFAS that accumulate on both paved and unpaved surfaces can continue leaching into stormwater systems for decades, serving as a long-term source of contamination. Treatment technologies developed for PFAS removal in drinking water and groundwater often face challenges when applied to stormwater due to elevated levels of suspended solids, organic carbon, and other co-contaminants. Many states have yet to establish definitive standards for PFAS concentrations in stormwater, and those that have typically address only a limited subset of compounds. This regulatory void creates uncertainty in setting design goals and determining appropriate treatment targets. Mitigating PFAS in stormwater requires a tiered approach that balances effectiveness, feasibility, and cost. The first and most proactive

strategy is source control, which involves preventing stormwater from contacting PFAS-contaminated media—such as soils, pavement, or industrial materials—through isolation, containment, or diversion techniques. This method minimizes downstream contamination and is often the most cost-effective long-term solution, however successful implementation requires a robust PFAS conceptual site model. The second strategy focuses on optimizing existing stormwater infrastructure, such as retrofitting detention basins or bioretention systems with PFAS-targeted amendments like activated carbon or specialized media. This approach leverages existing assets while enhancing their ability to capture and retain PFAS. The third option is to install dedicated PFAS treatment systems such as advanced filtration units designed specifically for PFAS removal. While these systems can offer targeted performance, they are typically expensive to implement and may be less efficient when dealing with the variable water quality and flow conditions characteristic of stormwater. An integrated strategy that prioritizes source control and infrastructure optimization, with selective use of treatment systems, offers the most practical path forward. This presentation highlights findings from four case studies on practical strategies for managing PFAS in stormwater systems. Approaches include in situ soil mixing with commercial amendments to reduce PFAS leaching from soil to stormwater and enhancements to existing stormwater control measures using passive sorptive media. It also showcases CDM Smith’s recent work on aerosol and foam enhanced PFAS capture, along with a review of PFAS dynamics in plant-based stormwater systems, all aimed at advancing treatment train implementation. These strategies contribute to a broader multi-stage treatment approach, offering scalable, site-specific solutions for PFAS mitigation.

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***Advanced PFAS Destruction Through Custom Reactivation of Spent Granular Activated Carbon (GAC)***

Benjamin Pepper, Business Development Manager, Norit Americas

**Abstract:**

As regulatory pressure increases and disposal options for spent granular activated carbon (GAC) become more limited, water utilities must seek sustainable and effective methods for PFAS mitigation. This study presents the findings of Norit Americas’ custom reactivation trial conducted at its Pryor, OK facility, demonstrating the complete destruction of PFAS in spent GAC through high-temperature thermal reactivation. The reactivation process utilized advanced process controls, including kiln processing at temperatures exceeding 1750°F, an afterburner for emissions treatment, and a caustic scrubber for fluorinated byproduct neutralization. Comprehensive mass balance analysis confirmed >99.98% PFAS destruction, with rigorous emissions and water quality monitoring ensuring zero detectable PFAS release into the environment. Furthermore, performance testing confirmed that reactivated GAC maintains its PFAS adsorption capacity, proving to be a viable, cost-effective alternative to virgin carbon for water treatment applications. These findings highlight custom GAC reactivation as a practical circular economy solution, offering utilities a sustainable, regulatory-compliant approach to PFAS management.

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***Verralize: A Portable, Battery-Powered 16-Channel Carbon-Nanomaterial PFAS Screening Kit with Single-Use Sensor Cartridge and US EPA Method 533 LC-MS/MS Benchmarking***

Dr. Saion Sinha, CEO, Founder, Verralize (Formerly 12-15 Molecular Diagnostics)

**Abstract:**

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) monitoring programs often require rapid screening to guide sampling decisions and prioritize confirmatory testing, yet laboratory turnaround times can delay field actions. We have developed Verralize, a portable, battery-powered, compact standalone PFAS screening kit that delivers qualitative presence/absence calls and quantitative concentration estimates in <15 minutes from drinking-water samples. The system consists of a 16-channel Verralize reader/analyzer and a single-use, carbon-nanomaterial-based 16-sensor cartridge, enabling rapid on-site field screening without dependence on benchtop laboratory infrastructure or highly trained personnel. The workflow is designed for simplicity and speed. A single universal (class-selective) ligand is mixed directly with the water sample and briefly vortexed to promote rapid ligand–PFAS association. The mixture is then applied to the disposable sensor cartridge, where interactions with the carbon-nanomaterial sensing interface are transduced into a measurable conductive electrical signal captured by the Verralize reader/analyzer. The universal ligand is designed based on the chemical surface properties towards PFAS targets, which are differentiated using property-driven response behavior, where signal magnitude and response characteristics vary with chain length, functional group chemistry, ionic/charge behavior, and concentration-dependent interaction strength. The platform targets PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS. To improve sensitivity and confidence, the disposable cartridge implements two replicate sensing channels per target (12 analyte channels total) with replicate aggregation and outlier flagging. The remaining channels provide internal QA/QC, including two negative controls (blank/matrix blank) to quantify baseline and nonspecific response and two positive controls (defined PFAS mixture spike) to verify assay function and sensor responsivity each run. Water samples collected across the Tri-State region (Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York) were measured using Verralize and benchmarked against LC-MS/MS using US EPA Method 533. Across tested drinking-water samples, the system demonstrated ppt-level sensitivity down to ~1.5 ppt, supporting highly sensitive, rapid field screening at low concentrations and enabling fast prioritization of samples for confirmatory laboratory analysis. This work demonstrates a practical pathway toward higher-throughput PFAS monitoring by combining a rapid universal-ligand workflow, carbon-nanomaterial signal transduction, disposable 16-sensor cartridges, embedded controls, and orthogonal laboratory corroboration. Keywords: PFAS; rapid field screening; Verralize; portable sensor; battery-powered reader; disposable cartridge; carbon nanomaterial; conductometric array; universal ligand; EPA 533 validation



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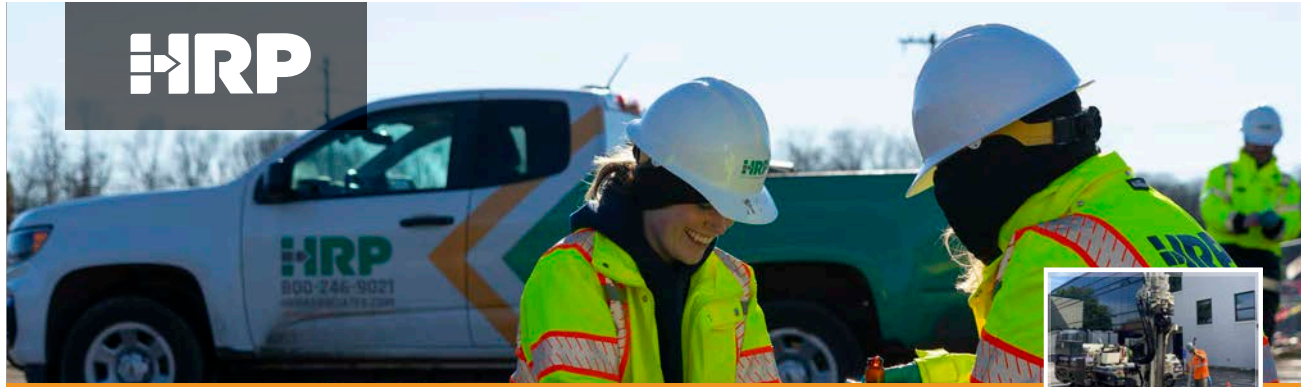
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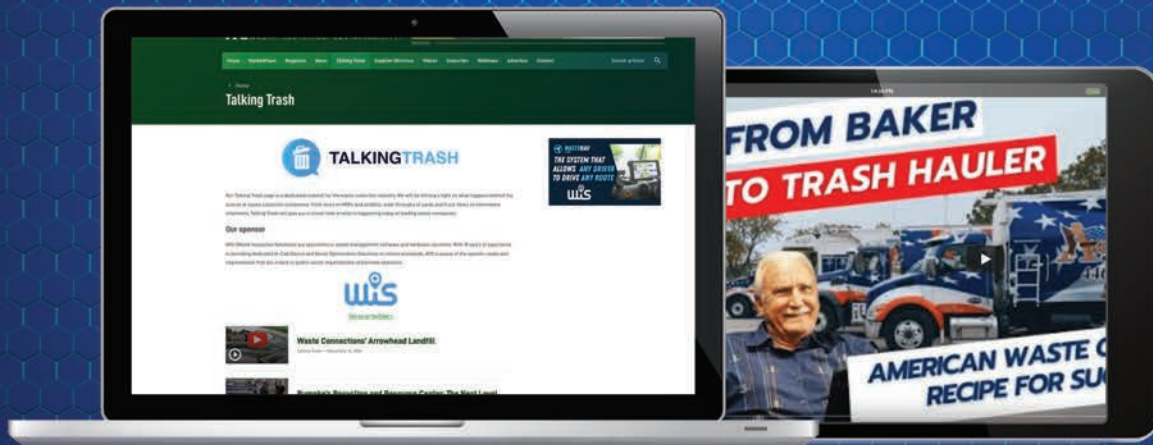
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- Business Aspects for the Environmental Professional
- Other Relevant Topics

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# PFAS Forum VI

## Program at a Glance

Wednesday, May 13, 2026		
2:30 pm - 6:30 pm	Registration Open	Junior Ballroom Foyer
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Exhibit and Poster Board Set Up	Junior Ballroom F
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop: AFFF-Impacted Sites: Investigation, Modeling, and Treatment Decisions</b>	Junior Ballroom G
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Reception - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F

Thursday, May 14, 2026		
7:45 am - 7:00 pm	Registration Open	Junior Ballroom Foyer
7:45 am - 8:30 am	Continental Breakfast - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F
8:30 am - 10:00 am	<b>PFAS Forum VI Opening Session: PFAS at the Crossroads: Policy, Precedent, and the Path Forward</b>	Junior Ballroom G
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F
10:30 am - Noon	<b>Session I: PFAS Regulation, Policy &amp; Compliance in a Rapidly Changing Landscape</b>	Junior Ballroom G
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch (Provided)	Grand Ballroom A
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	<b>Session II: PFAS Monitoring, Analytical Methods &amp; Data Confidence</b>	Junior Ballroom G
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	<b>Session III: PFAS Fate, Transport &amp; Cross-Media Exposure Pathways</b>	Junior Ballroom G
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Reception - Exhibit Hall - Poster Presentations	Junior Ballroom F

Friday, May 15, 2026		
7:15 am - 12:00 pm	Registration Open	Junior Ballroom Foyer
7:15 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F
8:00 am - 10:00 am	<b>Session IV: PFAS Treatment Solutions for Small, Rural &amp; Real-World Systems</b>	Junior Ballroom G
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Refreshment Break - Exhibit Hall	Junior Ballroom F
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Session V: PFAS Risk, Treatment, and Disposal: Protecting Public Health Through Practical Solutions</b>	Junior Ballroom G
12:00 PM	Adjourn	
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Exhibitor and Poster Presenter Breakdown	