

CEO's Corner—New Services Offer “Cradle to Grave” Approach

by Jim Holland P.E./CEO

As a much needed antidote to budget cut-backs, pending environmental regulations, and overall management hurdles, Pinnacle has adopted a “Cradle to Grave” approach to our service offerings. In providing a broader scope of capabilities and services, we are providing a better means of support to our clientele. With our new field testing services and strong subcontractor support, we are taking a project from the initial planning phase, through the development, inspection and testing stages, and ending with the engineering of a new structure or system. This consistency allows Pinnacle complete control of the project—keeping costs in-line while working more efficiently.

Some key markets in which Pinnacle uses this approach and our related service areas are outlined below.

Land Development and Re-development: Brownfields services, Phase I and II site assessments, property transfer, Geotechnical Engineering, fieldwork and reporting, permitting and sampling, engineering design, wetland remediation and delineation, and monitoring well sampling.

Pinnacle Opens La Crosse Operations

As of December 1, 2002, Pinnacle Engineering, Inc. has officially opened the doors at our new office location—115 5th Avenue South in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Our La Crosse office will allow Pinnacle the opportunity to better serve our Wisconsin clients. The city of La Crosse was chosen for our office expansion because it is a growing area, close to the Mississippi River, which propagates a need for environmental and industrial related services. Also, by being in close proximity to our Rochester office, our La Crosse staff can draw assistance from our Rochester team.

With this expansion, Pinnacle is committed to providing a strong presence in Southwestern Wisconsin. We have specialized engineers and technicians on staff to provide complete turn-key project management. By promoting minimal down-time and consistent, up-to-date communication with our clients, we stay in-tuned to our clients needs.

Glen Rosenhamer is our Lead Engineer for the La Crosse office. He can be reached at 608-784-9001 or you may email him at Grosenhamer@pineng.com.

Feedlot Operations: waste treatment planning, engineering design, management and reporting.

Manufacturing: air and water quality services, environmental compliance, plant and process engineering, industrial hygiene, waste management services, and waste stream sampling.

Storage Tank Facilities: site assessments and investigations, compliance

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Winona—Dredging and Harbor Expansion Underway

Over the last four months, Pinnacle engineers have been working with the Winona Port Authority on the dredging and expansion of harbor facilities on the Mississippi River. The project involves obtaining permits for dredging and wetlands impacts, and completing an environmental assessment worksheet. The project commences with the procurement of a dredging permit to be obtained from the MPCA, DNR and the Army Corps of Engineers. The first step in the permit process involves sediment sampling to determine if contamination is present in the sediments that will be dredged. A mussel survey has also been conducted to determine if any threatened or endangered mussel species are present.

A number of other issues need to be considered as the dredging progresses, including management of wetland issues in the dredge area and the dredge spoils disposal site, as well as delineation and mitigation of those wetland sites. For additional information pertaining to this project, contact Bill Keis, Project Geologist or Scott Thelen, Project Manager at 763-315-4501.



Main harbor area above, aerial view of harbor at left and proposed sediment disposal area shown below.



Storage Tank and Air Compliance Issues

“Regulated” Underground Storage Tank Compliance Update: Even though you have updated your system, are you in compliance with required, monthly record keeping?—penalties could cost you thousands! UST Monthly Record keeping is one of Pinnacle’s new services. Call us for more information.

November 1, 2003 AST Compliance Deadline Fast Approaching: all aboveground storage tanks need to be brought into compliance or be taken out of service by this date—no extension currently offered. Greater than 70% of all tanks still need to be upgraded within a 10 month time period—schedule your inspection now while reimbursement dollars are still available. Currently, a tank owner can get up to a \$10,000 reimbursement based on 90% of the total upgrade or decommission costs. Based on budget concerns, State reimbursement dollars for such compliance upgrades may soon be coming to an end.

Minneapolis Clean Air—Vapor Recovery Law: the City of Minneapolis has passed a law for Stage I Vapor Recovery requiring the recovery of 95% of vapors that are emitted from loading and off loading a tanker truck—all facility upgrades to be completed by January 1, 2007.

For more information on any of the above issues call John Landwehr at 763-315-4501.

Expansion of ISTS Design Capabilities

Pinnacle has expanded our service areas to include **Individual Sewage Treatment System Design**. This capability offers our clients full-service support.

Updated design techniques allow our engineers the expertise to not only consult on a project but also design its components and systems for optimal performance.

For additional information contact Larry Sibik or Kris Luneau at 763-315-4501.



Producing Environmentally Friendly Products and Processes Becomes An Easier Task

by Larry Sibik, P.E.

We all know that making policy can be a lot easier than implementing it. Changing a company's focus toward environmentally friendly products and processes takes time. It involves a set management plan with defined goals, a plan of action and requires the commitment and participation of the entire company. A complete management program must be adopted by all employees that accommodates changing technologies while accounting for environmentally safe manufacturing practices.

A sustainable pollution prevention program has to be cost-effective, provide a measure of accountability as well as allow for easy implementation company wide. An Environmental Justification Worksheet (EJW) is an example of a management tool that can be used to measure and judge the environmental merit of various projects. The EJW is similar to and works in conjunction with a capital equipment requisition. The EJW provides an outline for presenting the environmental impacts of a project. These impacts might include: energy usage, waste generation, air and water emissions, anticipated management costs (permits, reports, training, etc.), and use of regulated/reportable substances. This type of format helps to compare various options to existing practices.

While the use of a EJW can help quantify and define some of the environmental costs associated with a project, the element of "environmental risk" remains more difficult to quantify. Another option involves a less rigorous method of accounting for risk, which is to assign a lower standard for capital approval for projects that meet environmental management goals. For example, a company requires a two-year payback on capital expenditures over \$50,000. For

projects that meet specified goals such as the elimination of a hazardous waste stream, an additional six months of payback is allowed. The final project justification would have to meet a 2.5-year payback. The less rigorous payback is a method of quantitatively accounting for the risk associated with off-site disposal of hazardous waste.

In addition to company accounting incentives and engineering strategies, a variety of employee incentives can be offered, monetary as well as personal recognition, to build employee confidence and trust in the environmental management program.

Another sector of an environmental management program requires the development and use of innovative technology to achieve a company's long-term goals of environmentally friendly products and processes. Successful implementation of new technology requires access to new developments and changes in technology. ***Pinnacle's Industrial Services Division plays a major support role in the development and implementation of a company's environmental management plan.*** Our Process Engineers assist company engineers in evaluating their manufacturing processes, then instituting design changes or process alterations which better serve the environmental interests of the company. Our Industrial Engineering Group reviews compliance requirements and outlines strategies to keep a company on track with environmental regulations.

For additional information on how your company may benefit from environmental management planning and/or environmental process engineering, contact Larry Sibik in our Minneapolis office at 763-315-4501, Steve Schleicher in Rochester, 507-280-5966, or Glen Rosenhamer in Wisconsin at 608-784-9001.

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audits, remedial services, and reimbursement program coordination, and monthly record keeping.

Ethanol Processing: air and water quality services, environmental compliance, plant and process engineering, industrial hygiene, and waste management services.

As one of the individuals responsible for the direction of Pinnacle's future, I take pride in knowing our customers' needs are met. I also believe that our customers take pride in knowing they are working with a strong, reliable company that has their best interests in mind. Feel free to contact Matt Stokes or John Landwehr in our Minneapolis office, or Steve Schleicher in Rochester for additional information.

Regulatory Calendar

February 1, 2003 (MN)—2001 Emission Inventory Corrections

February 1, 2003 (MN & WI)—OSHA 200 Log Posting Deadline

February 4, 2003 (MN)—Hazardous Waste License Application/
Hazardous Waste Annual Report (Greater MN)

February 28, 2003 (MN & WI)—Tier II Turnaround Report (MN
and WI ERC & Fire Department)

March 1, 2003 (MN & WI)—OSHA 200 Log Removed from Post-
ing/EPA Pesticide Report/EPA Biennial Hazardous Waste Report
(large quantity generators)

March 1, 2003 (MN only)—MN Pesticide Report for Sales in MN

March 1, 2003 (WI only)—WDNR Air Emissions Information Sub-
mittal/WDNR Hazardous Waste Information Submittal

March 31, 2003 (MN)—Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
Annual Report

April 1, 2003 (MN)—Air Emissions Inventory Report

April 15, 2003 (MN)—Hazardous Waste Generator Tax Due

April 24, 2003 (MN)—Hennepin County Grant Program Deadline

May 1, 2003 (MN)—DTED Grant Application Deadline and Metro-
politan Council Brownfield Grant Deadline

November 1, 2003—AST Upgrade Requirement - Rule 7151 dead-
line—(see compliance issues, page 2)

June 30, 2005—Minnesota Petrofund Sunset. Final date to perform
reimbursable investigation or cleanup of petroleum storage tanks in
Minnesota—(see compliance issues, page 2).

Projects in Progress ...

- **Ethanol Producing Facility, Southern, MN**—Pinnacle is completing a Best Available Control Technology (BACT) analysis to control air emissions.
- **Aggregate Facilities, MN and IA**—Pinnacle is assisting an aggregate company in an environmental review process.
- **Petroleum Cooperative, Southern, MN**—Pinnacle is assisting with the closure of five bulk storage facilities.
- **Manufacturing Facilities, Metro Area and Central, MN**—Pinnacle is completing regulatory compliance assessments for chemical production and equipment manufacturing.

Log on to our web site pineng.com for additional information—you will find additional information on our service offerings, archived articles, a Regulatory Calendar, newsletters and more.

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