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**GEOTUBE® TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES SOLUTION FOR DETROIT
RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP**

The Largest Facility of Its Kind Under Construction In the Country

PENDERGRASS, GA – A simple idea in environmental cleanup is saving the taxpayers of Detroit a substantial amount of money while taking care of an important environmental cleanup project.

The City of Detroit Water and Sewer Department (DWSD) is implementing Miratech's Geotube technology at its Conner Creek facility to positively impact the environmental future of the Detroit River and all those who utilize its resources. The Conner Creek hydraulic dredging and dewatering project is part of a much larger \$182 million City of Detroit project to build a 30 million gallon retention and treatment facility for a Combined Sewer Outfall (CSO).



The Conner Creek project is using 75 Geotube containers to collect contaminated sediments.

The DWSD is using a total of 75 Geotube containers, each measuring 45 feet in circumference by 200 feet long, to remove, dewater, and dispose in a Class 2 landfill, 100,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from Conner Creek, with effluent water returning to the Detroit River meeting very stringent discharge requirements. Conner Creek has served the City of Detroit as an outfall tributary to the Detroit River for over 50 years. In a five square mile area densely populated by heavy industrial manufacturing, Conner Creek has been the primary collection of runoff from storm water

and overflow sewage water. In 1996, the City of Detroit adopted a program to clean up of all of its CSOs and to collect and treat all future run-off. The Conner Creek project is currently the largest such facility under construction in the country.

Miratech worked with Aquatic Restoration, the dredging and dewatering sub-contractor for the Conner Creek project, to determine the proper circumference and length for the Geotubes and also design an efficient dewatering basin to contain the Geotubes. The basin was constructed in September 2002, and dredging and dewatering proceeded in October 2002. The dredging and dewatering process is expected to continue for one year.

The Conner Creek project is one of the most extensive uses of Geotube technology, notes Miratech Vice President Tom Stephens. “Due to the project location, the impact of Geotube technology is tremendous. By efficiently handling the dewatering process under very tight inspection and controls, Geotube technology provides immediate relief of an environment contamination threat to the Detroit River and the general public of the greater Detroit area, as well as the lower Great Lakes region in general. The results are so successful and cost-effective that the DWSD will utilize Geotube dewatering technology in its next project as well.”

How Geotube Works

Dewatering with Geotube containers is a three-step process. In the confinement stage, high strength Geotubes, made of geotextiles with unique retention properties, are filled with fine-grain sludge, hazardous contaminated soils, or dredged waste materials. The Geotube’s unique fabric confines the fine grains of the material, containing them in the desired location.

In the dewatering phase, excess water simply drains from the Geotube. The decanted water is often of a quality that can be reused or returned to native waterways without additional treatment. As the solids build up inside the Geotube, decanted water quality often improves.

In the final phase, consolidation, the solids continue to densify due to desiccation as residual water vapor escapes through the fabric. Volume reduction can be as high as 65 percent. The Geotube can then be opened and the solids are recovered and hauled off for disposal.

A single Geotube can handle up to 300 cubic yards of material per day. At the Conner Creek project site, the Geotubes will process a total of are processing a total of ____ cubic yards of material daily.

“Once again, Geotube technology has proven its cost-effectiveness and ability to provide solutions to difficult bioremediation problems,” Stephens said. “This is a particularly good example of a significant environmental solution through the use of Geotubes.”

Geotube is manufactured by Miratech, a division of Ten Cate Nicolon. Ten Cate Nicolon produces a variety of textile solutions for environmental, industrial, construction, recreation, and other industries. There are dozens of successful Geotube applications recorded around the world. To learn more about Geotube and its capabilities, visit www.geotubes.com or call 888-795-0808.

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