



CleanUp 09 Conference (24–30 September 2009)

CleanUp 09 combined the 5th International Workshop on Chemical Bioavailability in the Environment (24–25 September) and the 3rd International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference (27–30 September). Over the duration of the Conference, delegates from more than 25 countries were in attendance to listen to more than 160 presentations relating to contamination assessment and remediation.

Close to 500 leading scientists, industrialists and regulators from around Australia, and the world, gathered at the event. The conference began in 1996 with 246 participants and a focus on soils, and grew to more than 500 in 2009 with the scope enlarged to almost every major aspect of contamination affecting our planet.

The two-day Bioavailability Workshop provided the opportunity for scientists, consultants and regulators to exchange knowledge and experience on contaminant bioavailability. The workshop focused on theory and principles of methods used to assess contaminant bioavailability and the application of bioavailability in risk assessment and remediation frameworks. In addition to platform oral presentations and poster sessions, the workshop incorporated four discussion sessions to address current research and policy issues relating to contaminant bioavailability.

As part of the 3rd International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference, seven very successful and well-attended workshops were held on the Sunday and covered:

- Risk communication - guidance for contaminated land practitioners
- Asbestos in soils
- Sediment sampling and risk assessment
- Modelling and field assessment of vapour intrusion threats
- Fire-fighting foam and the environment
- Health-based screening levels for petroleum hydrocarbons
- Technical writing and presentation skills.

On the Sunday evening, the official opening of the conference was performed by Judge Christine Trenorden, the Senior Judge of the Environment, Resources & Development Court in South Australia, followed by the Opening Plenary Address by Stuart McConnell from EPA Victoria.

More than 270 delegates attended the Gala Dinner at the Hilton, at which Professor Suresh Rao (Prudue University, USA) and Dr Terry Weston (Australian Department of Defence) were both presented with the award of CRC CARE Fellow for their significant contributions towards the research programs and capacity building of the CRC. Dr Zuliang Chen, from the Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation (CERAR) at UniSA was awarded with the inaugural Agilent Technologies Environmental Award for leading edge site assessment methodology development.

A Technical Tour of four Adelaide sites included ITP, Department of Defence Edinburgh and North Para Environment Control (NPEC), which is a dedicated winery wastewater treatment facility.