Over 300 leaders of the liquid recycling industry gathered in Orlando in early November 2007. This is the only national event for the liquid recycling industry.

Attendees experienced a dozen education sessions addressing the most important issues facing our industry and your business; including climate change initiatives, renewable energy prospects, succession planning, oily wastewater characterization plus much more.

These sessions were one more way NORA helps members maintain their expertise. Cop-

...continued on page 9

2008 NORA Winter Meeting

The NORA 2008 Winter Meeting will be held at Harrah’s Lake Tahoe Resort February 10th though 12th. NORA’s Winter Meeting provides a powerful mix of networking and business development with important committee and working group meetings.

All NORA members are invited to attend for the nominal registration fee of $99 per person to help cover food and beverage costs. Registration fees are waived for sponsors. Registration/sponsorship information is included in this newsletter.

Located near crystal clear waters and majestic mountains, Harrah’s Lake Tahoe is an AAA four-diamond award winning, 18-story hotel that is as impressive as the lake itself. The property has over 532 guestrooms, eight exceptional restaurants, a magnificent swimming pool, luxurious spa and a first-rate casino.

Room rates at this four-diamond property are $109 during the meeting dates. Those wishing to arrive early can receive the special NORA pre-convention rate of $199 on Friday February 8th and Saturday, February 9th (peak time for the resort). Anyone wishing to stay after the meeting dates can book rooms for $109 for up to three days after the meeting, based on availability.

NORA Executive Director Scott D. Parker comments, “We are excited to be hosting our winter meeting at Harrah’s Lake Tahoe. We are looking forward to another great opportunity to network, further the important work of NORA’s committees and have some fun. Additional details will be mailed to members shortly.”

To make reservations, call 1-800-455-4770. Use the group code “S02SNOR” to receive the NORA room rate.
The following companies are associate members of NORA who provide valuable products and services to the liquid recycling industry.

Companies in **bold** have an ad in this newsletter.

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paul@accurate-energy.com

**Actaris**
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jeff.kiser@actaris.itron.com
Manufacturer of mass flow liquid measurement systems with Net Oil capabilities for the waste oil collection industry.

**AMSPEC**
713-330-1000
nebocoltd@aol.com

**Bedford Industries, Inc**
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Mfg of parts washers & degreasing equipment.

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Think Differently

As 2007 comes to an end and preparations for the New Year begin, I have been considering new models and ideas to think through issues we face in our daily business lives.

I was inspired by Bruce Wilkinson’s Keynote Speech at the recent conference in Orlando, and am reminded of a point he made.

Bruce mentioned the space race and noted something that struck me not only as funny, but also as noteworthy. Those of you who were there might remember the story. If you were not, here is the intriguing account.

The Fisher Space Pen Story

When astronauts began to fly in outer space, it was soon obvious they needed a more dependable pen that would write in all conditions. So like good engineers, they went to work and designed a wonder pen. It worked upside down. It worked in a vacuum. It worked in zero gravity. It even worked underwater! And it only cost a million dollars!

That’s why NASA, after rigorous testing, decided to use space pens on the Apollo missions, and on all manned space flights since. On top of that it had an estimated shelf life of 100 years.

The Russians used a pencil!

What does that mean for us?

As we make plans for 2008 we need to ask ourselves, “How can you make a change for the better by doing something you haven’t necessarily done before or doing it differently?”

As the owner or manager of a used oil and liquid recycling company, are there ways you can work with your competition to grow profits? Are there non-traditional services you are able to provide to your existing customers to increase sales? Is your corporate structure/facilities/personnel what you need to get the job done in 2008?

Whatever your goals are for 2008, the first strategies that come to mind may not be the best. You may not need that million dollar pen. Pick up a pencil and the answer may be closer than you think.

For the last 12 years, I have had a quote that has been sitting by my computer. It is by St. John of the Cross from the 1500’s and reads, “In order to arrive at that which you do not know, you must go by a way that you do not know.” My far less poetic version of this concept is: ‘If you always do what you always did, you will always get what you always got.’

I need to be reminded of this thinking, and I’m writing today to encourage you to do the same.

From all of us here at NORA, thank you for making 2007 a year to remember, and we wish you a Happy New Year.
**2008 NORA Board of Directors Selected**

In mid-October, NORA conducted its annual election for the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The results were announced at the Conference in Orlando.

**Executive Committee**

President: Ben Cowart, Vertex Energy  
Executive Vice President: Jim Letteney, Clean Harbors  
Vice President: Roger Wilson, Holston Env.  
Vice President Finance: Don Littlefield, United Oil  
Immediate Past President: Steve Grimshaw, Safety-Kleen

**Board of Directors**

- Steve Anacker, Safety-Kleen Oil Division  
- Chris Bergstrom, NOCO Energy Corp.  
- Vickie Custer, Southwest Oil  
- Bryan Gray, Midwest Custom Chemicals  
- Rhonda McGhee, Systech  
- Chris Ricci, Ricky’s Oil Service  
- Jim Tefft, Crystal Flash Energy  
- Brandon Velek, Intergulf Corp.  
- Jack Waggener, URS

---

**2007 NORA Board: (l to r) Steve Grimshaw, Roger Wilson, Jack Waggener, Jim Tefft, Bryan Gray, Vickie Custer, Rhonda McGhee, Steve Anacker, Don Littlefield, Dave Brown, Jim Letteney, Ben Cowart (not pictured Chris Ricci and Brandon Velek).**

---

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Greenhouse Gas and Climate Change Update

by Julie Chiaravalli, Trihydro Corporation Environmental Scientist Petrochemical Services

Despite of the continuing debate on the science of climate change, a number of climate change bills are being evaluated in Congress. As of mid-July 2007, lawmakers had introduced more than 125 bills, resolutions, and amendments addressing global climate change and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Meanwhile, mandatory regulations are being passed at the state level across the U.S. In doing so, the first industrial sectors to be affected appear to be refineries, cement plants, utilities, and facilities with large stationary combustion units. As a result, many companies are taking a proactive approach to what they see as impending regulatory requirements.

At the state level, California is leading the pack with the passage the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) and New Mexico is following at a close second. To provide an example of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction targets commonly being set, New Mexico’s regulations are calling for 2000 levels by the year 2012, 10 percent below 2000 levels by 2020, and an aggressive 75 percent below 2000 levels by the 2050. Additionally, the following States either have comprehensive climate change action plans or they are currently under development(*): Arizona, California, Colorado*, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland*, Minnesota*, Montana*, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina*, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina*, Vermont*, Washington (Puget Sound), and Washington State*.

It is difficult to say exactly what a federal or state-level climate change regulation will look like, but at a minimum, it will mandate large industrial sectors to quantify GHG emissions in the form of an annual GHG inventory, receive third party verification of the inventory, and report annually. An inventory of greenhouse gases is a compilation of a company’s GHG emissions and sources, which can provide solid foundations for commitments to demonstrate innovative technologies and a business case for climate change solutions. GHG emissions are generally divided into three scopes:

Scope 1 (direct) emissions are from sources that are directly owned or controlled by your company. For example, flares, process vents, exhaust stacks, and company-owned vehicle fleet or equipment are direct emissions. At a minimum, a GHG inventory should include a company’s direct emissions.

Indirect emissions encompass both scope 2 and scope 3 emissions & “are emissions that are a consequence of the activities of the reporting company, but occur from sources owned or controlled by another party” (GHG Protocol, 2004).

Scope 2 indirect emissions are from the purchase of electricity, heat, or steam from an off-site generator. While most protocols and guidelines require scope 2 emissions to be reported, in the interest of transparency, it is reported separately from direct emissions.

Scope 3 indirect emissions include emissions from various third party activities such as contracted services, shipping, exploration activities, toll processing, employee travel, waste disposal, and even product use. Scope 3 emissions are difficult to quantify and are generally not reported.

Putt Del Pino et al. 2006
Many organizations are taking the first step, which is to create a GHG inventory that accurately, consistently, and equitably quantifies their GHG emissions. The GHG Protocol (www.ghgprotocol.org) has established guidance that is internationally accepted, referenced, and widely used. But the lack of a federal regulatory program in the U.S. results in varying state and regional reporting programs that are not all created equal. Therefore, there can be considerable confusion regarding how to account for, quantify, and report GHG emissions, while at the same time retaining comparability across the industry and over time.

Establishment of a base year GHG inventory is a first step. Because, in order to achieve the aggressive GHG reduction goals noted above, facilities will be required to achieve GHG emissions reductions of their own. Common methods for realizing these reductions often consist of decreasing flaring activities, fuel switching (to less carbon intensive fuels), and finding energy efficiencies through methods such as waste heat recovery and optimization.

Reductions are also expected to be realized through the establishment of a mandatory carbon cap-and-trade system. A NOx & SOx cap-and-trade system was utilized as part of the acid rain program and was successful beyond expectations (USEPA). A carbon cap-and-trade system is an important aspect of both the federal climate change regulations being considered before Congress and written at the state(s) level. A similar system is operating in the European Union (EU) and is expected to be more than a $100 billion dollar market during 2008 – 2012, the first Kyoto Protocol compliance period. Currently in the United States, carbon cap-and-trade programs are currently evolving within the northeast utility sector (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, ‘Reggie’) and voluntarily through the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX).

As part of a carbon cap-and-trade system, carbon credits (1 carbon credit = 1 metric tonne CO₂) are allocated or auctioned, traded, and/or bought and sold in a free market system. In addition to allocated credits or credits purchased at auction, credits can be earned through generation of carbon offsets. Carbon offsetting is the act of mitigating (“offsetting”) greenhouse gas emissions. The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is a common system in the EU by which projects are measured and evaluated to ensure carbon offsets are authentic, genuine, and “additional” activities, those that would not have been otherwise undertaken.

Organizations may offset their own emissions by buying CDM-approved offsets (i.e., carbon credits) from another source. This may be due to a difficulty in meeting a carbon emissions cap and/or the realization that buying offsets from another source is less expensive than making emissions reductions at their own site(s).

The CDM encourages offset projects that involve, for example, sustainable power generation or low carbon energy production. This fact may put the solvent recycling and/or used oil re-refining industries in a beneficial financial advantage in the evolving carbon markets. The total life cycle carbon footprint of a re-refined and/or recycled fuel or solvent is likely quantifiably less than production of virgin fuels. The life cycle carbon footprint can and should be quantified based on up- and down-stream aspects such as exploration, level of effort, distance traveled from source, and energy intensity. In order to achieve saleable offsets, certain CDM criteria must first be met. The offset projects need to be proven to be real, permanent, quantifiable, enforceable, “additional”, and in surplus (to emission reductions that are already needed to comply with an existing requirement).

So stay tuned… the regulatory schemes and climate change markets are only beginning to evolve in the U.S. and if one thing’s for certain, it won’t be boring.

For additional information on the evolving world of greenhouse gases, climate change, and carbon markets, please contact Trihydro: Julie Chiaravalli at 303-907-2877 or jchiaravalli@trihydro.com.

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Attendees at the Conference were treated to an entertaining surprise. NORA’s special guest speaker was ‘Mr. President’. Steve Bridges impersonates President George Bush on the Jay Leno Show, Comedy Central and other programs. Thanks to members Holston Environmental Services, Oil Re-Refining Company, United Oil Recovery, Safety-Kleen and Clean Harbors, ‘Mr. President’ entertained NORA members for 45 minutes. After his presentation, NORA members were able to have their photo taken with him. All of those photos are now available on the NORA website. As a keepsake, members may download a high-resolution copy of the photo right from the website. The video of the presentation will be available soon for members to relive this highlight of the meeting.

At the beginning of the Conference, NORA took a moment to remember the life and contributions of Mike Levitsky of Atlantic Industrial. Mike passed away earlier this year.

Many members were recognized for their many years of membership with NORA. This year, three companies were recognized for reaching the 20 year mark: Ricky’s Oil Service Inc, Kentucky Petroleum Recycling Inc and Repsol-YPF-Applied Technology Center.

Dave Brown of United Solutions, Inc., who is leaving the Board this year, was honored for many years of service.

On Thursday afternoon, Dexsil sponsored the 16th Annual Golf Tournament at the MetroWest Golf Course with record attendance. On Friday afternoon, Vertex Energy hosted the 6th Annual Fishing Expedition, including an adventure just to get to the Walt Disney Private Lakes.

After three days of networking and education, it was time for the Closing Party at Universal Studios on Friday night. Hundreds of participants enjoyed exclusive access to the park, great food and music. Thanks to the sponsors of that function (see page 12).
Rave Reviews for the Conference

“At trade shows, I usually get 10-20 good leads. I got 31 from the 2007 NORA Annual Conference and Trade Show. I was thrilled with the turnout. I had an order yesterday which was a result of a contact at the show which more than paid for our booth.”
- Paul Godfrey, Hill Manufacturing

“I thought the meeting was a huge success. We did make some good contacts. Thanks for your great effort.”
- Ed Flake, Spirit Services, Inc.

“I thought the conference was terrific; well planned and very informative.”
- Nick Cirillo, NRG

“We made more new business contacts/deals at the show than in the past. Our impressions of the networking opportunities at the conference, especially in the trade show area were very good!”
- Bill Briggs, ORRCO

“I wanted to tell you that the meeting in Orlando was great! Very well done!!”
- Rhonda L. McGhee, Systech

“I know a lot of hard work and planning went into this week. I really appreciate all the efforts. The facility and closing party were wonderful. Thanks to all for a wonderful time in Florida.”
- Cathy Santen, Oil Distributing

“Many new business contacts; Re-Acquainted with prior contacts. Successful deals in progress. Conference was well organized. Helpful staff {above and beyond}. Food and entertainment (First Class). Booth arrangement well-spaced... Wonderful job. A real #10.”
- Kay C. Gonzales, LCS

“First of all I would like to say that was a great meeting – the guest speaker was perfect and Universal closing party was top notch. This was the best meeting I have attended.”
- Brian Dick, Quest Recycling

Cracking Up
A packed house enjoys the comedy of Steve Bridges as he impersonates President Bush. At this point, ‘Mr. President’ informs the crowd, “Teach a man to fish..... Shame on me.”

Q&A
Greg Hendrick of Systech asks a question of Mike Langenhorst related to his presentation, “Future Prospects in Renewable Energy.”

New Used Oil Study
Adam Love of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory discusses a used oil study they are working on.

Fielding Questions
Chris Harris, NORA General Counsel, leads a panel of experts.
“We made 15-20 contacts, qualified leads from people who stopped by our booth. There were excellent opportunities as well as at golf outing.”
- Jeff Kiser, Actaris

“My compliments to your and your staff for organizing and executing an excellent business and social networking event. As this was the first annual conference I have attended I was looking forward to the event and I must say I was not disappointed. I made 4 good contacts at the trade show. I thought the industry service aspect of those represented provided some good opportunities for our company. Again thanks for your efforts related to this years annual conference.”
- Thomas J. Gawlik, ESI Environmental, Inc.

“We anticipate approximately upwards to $500,000 in new business from the contacts we made at the show. This was my first with NORA, I can’t image how you will improve it, but I am sure you will. Show was the best I have ever attended. Please call us if we can be of any help. Kudos to your entire staff!!!!”
– William Darling, Mosner Environmental

“Overall for my first time it was an outstanding event and my significant other really enjoyed it all as well.”
– Ron Gemeinhardt, Vertex

“As usual you planned one hell of a conference and you have done our industry some justice and I thank you for that. I always leave the conference with awesome information. Starting with the winter conference this year, I have decided to attend all of the NORA conferences throughout the year Again Scott, you and the NORA crew have done an outstanding job.”
- Cris Chirumbolo, Mesa Oil, Inc.

“NORA is a great place for IWS to see many customers and vendors at one time. The networking opportunities were excellent! This is the most beneficial area for IWS. I liked the way the meetings were setup with afternoons free to do networking.”
- Dale O’Connor, IWS
Universal Studios Closing Party

A Closing Party for the Ages
Hundreds of NORA members took four tour buses to Universal Studios Orlando. The park was shut down for the exclusive use of NORA members. The streets were full of food, drinks and the Universal Studio’s characters. The Jaws ride and the Men In Black ride were open to NORA members with no lines. Souvenir photos were produced for members. Thank you to the sponsors listed at the bottom of this page.

The Three ???
(l to r) Angelo Zanfardino, Safety-Kleen; Cris Chirumbolo, Mesa Oil Inc; and Steve Lewis, Safety-Kleen bust a move to the tunes from the Closing Party DJ.

Thank you to the
2007 Universal Closing Party Sponsors

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Vertex Energy, LP
Ricky’s Oil Service Inc
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Fred Ambach of Akron Canton Waste Oil gets some help from Scooby for a tough carnival game.
NORA Membership Directory Completed

The NORA staff recently completed the 2007/2008 Membership Directory. It has been printed and copies have been mailed to all NORA members (copies were also distributed to conference attendees).

The Directory is 100 pages long, and features an attractive cover promoting NORA’s environmental message with a tag line – “Liquid Recyclers: Saving the Earth One Drop at a Time.” NORA will be using that image for other public relations messages in 2008. It lists all members, contact information, and indexed market data.

Each listing in the directory includes the following:
• Contact information for the company
• Contact information for key personnel (the primary NORA contact is bolded)
• Member Type
• NEW – Volume levels (for the year 2006) are listed for most member types.
• Service Areas (states where the member provides service)
• Services Provided
• Products Provided

Further, a list of indexes is provided to help you locate potential trading partners. The indexes provide lists of companies by service area, services provided and by products provided. In addition, an index of Supplier/Vendor members is also provided at the end of the directory.

The Directory is a fantastic reference guide and marketing tool for members to use all year long. Additional copies are available upon request.

Membership Directory Corrections
Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy in the directory. If you have a correction that needs to be made, email nora@noranews.org
• The e-mail address for Gerry Gordon of Dragon Products, LTD. should read gerry.gordon@modernusa.com
• The e-mail addresses listed for Brian Dick and Jeff Forte should read briand@questrecycling.com and jefff@questrecycling.com

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Safety-Kleen Acquires Advanced Liquid Recycling Business
On December 13, 2007, Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. announced it had acquired the business of Advanced Liquid Recycling, Inc., headquartered in Meriden, CT, one of the Northeast’s largest collectors and recyclers of used oil, oil filters and antifreeze.

Advanced business also includes parts cleaner sales and service.

“This is a very important, strategic asset acquisition for our company,” said Safety-Kleen CEO and President Frederick J. Florjancic. “This further strengthens Safety-Kleen’s presence in the Northeast, significantly expands our used oil and parts cleaner businesses, adds an innovative new product line, and provides the former customers of Advanced with a broader range of waste management solutions. Safety-Kleen has more than 40 years in the environmental services business and provides approximately 50,000 customer service calls per week.”

The Advanced acquisition adds three facilities in Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Hampshire to the Safety-Kleen network, as well as more than 160 personnel and a fleet of 140 vehicles.

For more than 16-years, Advanced has provided a range of collection and recycling services for used oil and oil filters, as well as parts cleaners and windshield washer fluids, to more than 6,000 customer locations in the Northeast.

“Advanced has a solid history of excellent service and customer growth, and their existing operations and product lines align perfectly with Safety-Kleen’s plans for growth through acquisitions that expand our service offerings in existing markets,” said Florjancic. “This acquisition strengthens our core businesses, brings us experienced new employees, provides greater efficiencies for our customers and enhances our profitability.”

Florjancic said Safety-Kleen plans on keeping current service agreements and schedules intact for existing Advanced customers.

“We want to make this transition as seamless and smooth as possible for every single customer,” Florjancic said. “Nothing significant will change. The Advanced team built a solid reputation for quality and reliability and we intend to maintain those traditions.”

EPA Awards Grant to UT Austin
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded $75,000 to the University of Texas at Austin to validate information about used oil management in Ciudad Juarez. Funds from this grant will be used to identify oil management tools such as oil recycling, combustion as fuel, or safe disposal to develop a model for used oil management in any cross-border metropolitan area. The goal of this project is to ensure better use of oil management and recycling.

Safety-Kleen Expands Operations
Safety-Kleen has expanded its operations into China, opening its first mainland office in October in the Shanghai World Trade Tower. Senior Vice President Mike Fraser stated, “As many of our existing customers expand their operations globally, and especially in Asia, they are increasingly asking us to provide them the same kind of world-class environmental services they now receive in North America.” Safety-Kleen has licensee operations in Japan, South Korea, Thailand and Israel. The company has also signed an agreement for licensee expansion in Vietnam in 2008.

LA Recycling Plant to Expand
Industrial Service Oil Company plans to dramatically expand operations at an oil recycling center on the east bank of the Los Angeles River near the Olympic Boulevard bridge. The company has applied with state regulators to more than double the existing 2.2 acre site, which receives large amounts of spent antifreeze, acids and oils from factories and garages across the Southland. Some area residents are opposed to the expansion.

Suit Alleges Retaliation Over Illegal Oil Dumping In East Texas
A former employee of General Foam Plastics Corporation filed a wrongful termination lawsuit against the Corporation at the end of November. Robert Steinruck claims he was terminated because he tipped off the Environmental Protection Agency that the company was illegally dumping used oil.

Steinruck said in 2006 the plant manager at the Paris Industries plant in Paris, Texas told him to dump used oil in the...continued on page 16
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...continued from page 14

plant parking lot to avoid paying fees for proper disposal. Steinruck was concerned about possible contamination so he refused to help. He claims the manager dumped the oil anyway. Steinruck then gave an anonymous tip to the EPA. The EPA investigation resulted in probation for General Foam and an order to have the contaminated soil removed.

Steinruck claims the manager then began to retaliate. Steinruck was laid off, and has since filed the lawsuit in the Marshall Division of the Eastern District of Texas. A jury trial has been requested.

**NASCAR Committed to Becoming More Environmentally Friendly**

Nextel Cup Owner Robert Yates was recently interviewed about NASCAR “going green.” He believes NASCAR can be a catalyst for change. Concerned for the environment, Yates has complained over the past several years, and would like to do away with carburetors and replace them with computer systems that produce better air-fuel ratios, among other things.

NASCAR does currently work to protect the environment. NASCAR’s tire supplier, Goodyear, recycles most used race tires. Safety-Kleen provides oil recycling and refining services at racetracks around the country. It is estimated that they re-refine 167 million gallons of used motor oil annually from NASCAR competitions. NASCAR is also working with it’s fuel supplier, Sunoco, to look at the large range of alternative fuels. Yates stated, “This is just one small community in the world, and our little bit of fuel probably won’t make a dent in what we use. However, it’s got a great statement. NASCAR could be a leader.”

**UTI Ventures Invests in PESCO BEAM**

UTI Ventures, a leading private equity firm, has announced its investment of $8 million into PESCO BEAM Environmental Solutions, a company involved in waste management (waste oil recycling and recovery) and alternate energy systems. PESCO BEAM is one of the leading manufacturers of turnkey skid mounted waste recovery and recycling plants. It has developed technologies in various environmental fields, primarily in the areas of waste management and alternate fuels. PESCO BEAM is a global company co-founded by Luke Staengl and A. Subramaniam. The company operates out of offices and manufacturing facilities in Virginia (USA) and Chennai (India).

Mr. S. N. Rajesh, Director, Private Equity, UTI Ventures said “PESCO BEAM’s track record, deep understanding of the waste recycling and alternate energy systems industry, and strong vision will help the company achieve significant success. We are excited to be partnering PESCO BEAM as they set out to execute their vision”.

**Green Motor Oil Safe for the Environment?**

High gas prices and global warming fears could be a thing of the past for motorist who choose a special “green” motor oil that’s biodegradable. A company called Green Earth Technologies has created G-OIL™, the “first bio-based, high-endurance motor oil to provide superior performance during the maximum oil change interval recommended by vehicle manufacturers”.

The oil, which isn’t really oil at all but tallow from cattle ranchers also has the added benefit of being completely renewable and free from dependence on foreign oil. The process is also very efficient, as one barrel of animal fat can yield one barrel of G-OIL™. In addition, when mixed with a chemical called G-DISPOSOIL™, the used oil G-OIL™ can be converted into soil for growing crops and can be consumed naturally in the soil by microorganisms found there. Even G-OIL™ bottles are 100% recyclable and the labels are printed with soy ink on biodegradable paper.
$34 Million Oil Re-Refining Plant Planned for Western PA

Last month, Global Re-Refining, Ltd., a minority-owned, small business enterprise based in southwestern Pennsylvania, announced that it will acquire a site in the Borough of Monaca, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, to build a multi-million dollar facility that would re-refine 22 million gallons of waste oil annually. Carl Greene, President of Global stated that the Company’s plans envisioned creating strategic partnerships with regional and national governments and business enterprises to provide the feedstock and market the finished products of the facility.

The used oil re-refining plant will initially create approximately 80 jobs, with potential to expand employment to over 120 after production has commenced. Additionally, building the facility will generate numerous construction jobs. Increased transportation, rail and barge traffic will create additional ancillary jobs in the local economy.

Global Re-Refining, Ltd. And Vertex Energy Form Agreement

Global and Vertex have announced the execution of a long-term agreement to supply Global with all of its used oil feedstock needs. Vertex Energy is lending its broad base of expertise in developing new used oil feedstock streams, and total logistics management of a supply chain system.

Ben Cowart, President of Vertex, said, “Vertex Energy is working hand in hand with Global Re-Refining to ensure that used oils are found and then recycled in a safe & compliant manner. This protects the environment from unnecessary pollution while conserving a valuable energy resource that can be brought to the nation’s energy markets to the benefit of all concerned.” Vertex’s used oil feedstock model is currently deployed in many of the major U.S. markets. Added Cowart, “Adding the Global Re – Refining technology further solidifies our position as an industry leader.”

Carl Greene of Global Re-Refining agreed, stating that, “Vertex is one of the leading companies in the nation in oil recycling and we are thrilled to have Vertex as a strategic partner. Vertex’s market presence and experience gives us the ability to control our costs and increase efficiency. Their network of collectors will allow us to reach out to many different markets to obtain our feedstock and keep our plant operating at peak efficiency.”

Quality Protocol Set to Increase Oil Recycling in UK

Proposals to cut regulatory red tape governing waste vegetable oil have been unveiled by the Environment Agency and WRAP. The organizations have drawn up a draft Quality Protocol for vegetable oil, which sets out criteria for when it ceases to be a waste and becomes the product biodiesel. An increasing volume of waste vegetable oil is expected to be recycled into fuel following the announcement of the Environment Agency’s latest draft Quality Protocol. The proposals have been launched as part of a 12-week consultation exercise, which will invite views on the draft protocol from industry and the public before a final draft is drawn up.

Under the suggestions, biodiesel derived from waste vegetable oil would have to be produced via a “chemical process” and in line with approved standards in order to be used free of waste regulations for combustion in “automotive engines”. The development of the vegetable oil protocol follows a court ruling in June when a judge overturned an Environment Agency ruling, which said that that the Clean Fuel Oil produced from waste oil by Merseyside-based OSS Group had to be classed as a waste. If the new protocol is passed, it is now expected to give a big boost to oil recycling in the UK.

India Wants Clear Guidelines To Curb Illegal Waste Oil Trade

The Supreme Court of India has asked the ministry of environment and forests to come out with clear guidelines to contain illegal waste oil trade in India. Mint had reported on 27 August as to how some traders were adulterating furnace oil with illegally procured waste oil. In addition, waste oil was also illegally imported.

The court asked the additional solicitor general to give a comprehensive note in consultation with Sanjay Parikh, counsel for the petitioner. It also directed the ministry to implement the recommendations of the M.G.K. Menon Committee on waste and used oil, set up by the court. On unregulated distribution and adulteration of waste oil from ships, the court noted the issue and agreed to hear the matter in the next hearing, to be scheduled in the next four weeks. “The court asked the ministry to list out the importers, who illegally imported the 133 containers of waste oil, and make them pay for it. The court will pass orders on the 209 other containers of waste oil which are lying at ports at the next hearing,” said Parikh.
Counsel’s Corner
California Used Oil Legislation Stalled But Not Dead;
Used Oil Recycling Study Launched

by Chris Harris, NORA General Counsel

In August 2007, AB 1195, the ever-changing California legislation concerning used oil recycling, which passed the California Assembly and was reported favorably by the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, ran into a couple of major obstacles. A Senate Appropriations Committee hearing on the bill was abruptly cancelled on Monday August 20th. NORA General Counsel Chris Harris and several NORA members had travelled to Sacramento to testify. (This was Harris’ fourth trip to Sacramento to address this legislation.) In another last minute action, the hearing was rescheduled and the Appropriations Committee immediately placed the bill in a category of legislation which precludes further action (although it could be revived.) California’s ongoing budget crisis has derailed many bills (including AB 1195) requiring expenditures greater than $150,000.

Meanwhile, on August 2nd, the powerful California Integrated Waste Management Board sent a letter to the bill’s author, stating the Board’s opposition to the bill and adding that the Board “does not foresee any amendments that would change our current position.” The Board said that “AB 1195 would create a more cumbersome, unenforceable system that, rather than encouraging recycling and reuse, could potentially discourage and prevent the recycling of used oil.” On Friday August 24th NORA Executive Director sent a letter (drafted by Chris Harris) to the chair of the Board commending the Board’s decision to oppose the bill and offering NORA’s full support in providing expertise and information to the Board as it prepares a study on used oil recycling markets, technology and incentives for expanded recycling opportunities.

In early November at NORA’s annual conference in Orlando, the two Lawrence Livermore Laboratory researchers who are conducting the used oil recycling study on behalf of the California Integrated Waste Management Board discussed the status of the study and listened to the perspective of NORA members. At this point, the study is in its planning phase and the scope of the study has not been determined.

However, the California Integrated Waste Management Board has expressed a preference for used oil to be re-refined rather than burned for energy recovery. Several NORA members pointed out that not all used oil was capable of being re-refined. Other members urged the researchers not to recommend policies that would disrupt market forces that sustain the existing used oil recycling system. One member stated that California was largely dependent on out-of-state recyclers to provide collection services to California’s generators. The researchers indicated that they understood the complexity of the used oil recycling system and stated their appreciation for the information NORA is providing.

New Members Join NORA

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<td>Energylogic</td>
<td>Robert Stevens</td>
<td>Antioch, TN</td>
<td>615-251-0680</td>
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<td>Environmental Resource Assoc</td>
<td>Warren Gortze</td>
<td>Marston Mills, MA</td>
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<td>NC State Surplus</td>
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<td>Oilmen’s Truck Tanks Inc</td>
<td>John Faris Jr</td>
<td>Spartanburg, SC</td>
<td>864-573-7400</td>
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<td>Olein Recovery Corporation</td>
<td>Guillermo Silva</td>
<td>San Juan, PR</td>
<td>787-759-3148</td>
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<td>Petroleum Recycling Corp</td>
<td>Christine Paul</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>215-291-9400</td>
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<td>Total Recycling Technologies</td>
<td>Rick Adams</td>
<td>Mexia, TX</td>
<td>800-881-8684</td>
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Member Spotlight

NORA has over 200 members. Each issue of liquid Recycling will feature a different member.

Company Name & Headquarters: Vertex Energy, L.P., Houston, Texas

When was it started: January, 2001

NORA member since: 2001

Your name and title: Benjamin P. Cowart, President of General Partner

Benjamin P. Cowart, the President of General Partner for Vertex Energy, L.P., based in Houston, Texas, has been involved in the petroleum recycling industry for over 22 years. Ben is the founder of the Vertex group of companies which include Vertex Energy, Vertex Recovery, Vertex Refining, Vertex Green Energy, VRM, Crossroad Carriers and Cedar Marine Terminals. As a leader in the Recycling field, Ben helped pioneer the reclamation industry by developing options for many residual materials once managed by a hazardous waste. In addition to his many accomplishments, which includes being awarded the 2003 Business Man of the Year, Ben has taken an active role in the petroleum industry with his involvement in speaking, consulting, chairing, and serving on various committees and industry associations. Ben has not only proudly served as a NORA Board of Directors, he currently serves as this year’s NORA President.

How long have you been with the company/industry and how did you get started? Having been the V.P. of Aaron Oil Company, a regional recycler in Mobile, Alabama, Ben established Vertex Energy in 2001 as a premier consolidator of petroleum feedstocks through contracts with Chevron/Texaco as their buyer of feedstocks for its re-refinery in New Orleans, LA. In 2002, Vertex Energy launched its first partnership company, Vertex Recovery, a generator solutions company for proper recycling of fuel oil and cutter stocks, gasoline blends, off-spec and new crude oil, new and wet lubes, and used oil related materials. In 2004, launched it’s second partnership, Vertex Refining, a gatherer, manager and processor of transmix feedstocks that result in two distillate petroleum products: gasoline blendstock and Marine Diesel Oil. In 2005, Vertex launched its transportation company, a liquid petroleum hauler, Crossroad Carriers, L.P., in addition to Cedar Marine Terminal, a 19 acre bulk liquid storage facility located on the Houston Ship Channel. In 2006, Vertex announced its break through endeavor into the biodiesel market with its sales and distribution company Vertex Green Energy, L.P. as well as Vertex Residual Management, “VRM”, which provides full scale residual management and RCRA compliance.

What services do you provide? Transmix & Chemical Processing
Bulk Buyer / Processor of Used Oil
Terminaling of Oil & Chemical Products
Manufacturing & Distribution of BioDiesel
Oil & Chemical Brokering / Trading
Logistics Management & Transportation
Environmental Compliance & Residual Management

Why are you a member of NORA? #1, “Networking” NORA provides me the ultimate networking tool for the Liquid Recycling Industry. I have the reassurance that NORA is continually seeking opportunities to improve environmental principles and regulatory procedures of responsible recycling while offering members enhanced networking, multiple committee meetings, newsletters and website/email news alerts. This is the only organization I have found which allows me to interact directly with other decision makers to market my products and services in a pre-selected and pre-defined setting.

How do you see NORA helping you build your business or gain new trading partners? I believe Vertex possess the right mix of companies to move us forward in achieving our overall objective of becoming the brand for the petroleum recovery industry in the Gulf Region. Being a part of NORA has been a tremendous asset to the success of Vertex. I highly value the business relationships and personal friendships formed. I also believe in a united front, with NORA’s broad spectrum of member attendee mix I do believe together we can educate America to recycle responsibly. When it comes to protecting our earth, every drop really does count!

Anything else? Yes, I must say I am very excited to see the continued growth in NORA’s membership. Here’s to a record breaking new year!

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### Make your registration choices

#### Premier Sponsor
- $650 (only 4 available)
- **FREE** attendance for all attendees ($99/person value).
- Includes all conference materials and food events.
- Premier sponsor ribbon on badge.
- 60 second address to group at beginning of meeting (optional)
- 3 foot table top display for whole meeting for literature, etc.
- Large sign with logo inside meeting room for whole meeting.
- Logo on front cover of committee book.
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- Full page ad in committee book ($250 value).
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#### Gold Sponsor
- $450 (only 10 available)
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- Includes all conference materials and food events.
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- 3 foot table top display for whole meeting for literature, etc.
- Logo on outside back cover of committee book.
- Logo on sign at registration.
- Thank you printed with name in NORA newsletter.

#### Sponsor
- $200 (only 10 available)
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- Includes all conference materials and food events.
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#### Attendee
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February 10-12, 2008 Harrah’s Lake Tahoe Resort
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Tentative Agenda (subject to change)

February 10th Sunday
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Registration
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Opening Reception

February 11th Monday
(sponsor tables open all day)
7:30 am - 9:00 am Registration
8:00 am Continental Breakfast
9:00 am - 10:00 am Welcome
10:00 am - 10:30 am Antifreeze Working Group
10:00 am - 10:30 am Bio-Diesel Working Group
10:30 am - 10:45 am Break
10:45 am - 11:45 am Re-Refining Working Group
11:45 am - 1:30 pm Lunch Provided (with Special Guest Speaker)
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm G.A. Subcommittee on Research
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm Chem. & Haz. Waste Man. Council
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm Parts Cleaning Council
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm Coffee Break
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm Filter/Abs. Recyc. Working Group
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm Guiding Principles Committee
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Wastewater Working Group
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Conference Committee

February 12th Tuesday
(sponsor tables open 11:45 am)
8:00 am Continental Breakfast
9:00 am - 11:15 am Used Oil Recyc. Council/Government Affairs Comm. Meeting
11:15 am - 11:45 am Coffee Break
11:45 am - 12:30 pm Used Oil Recyc. Council/Government Affairs Comm. Meeting
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch for the Board of Directors
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting