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Comments

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Odessa Facility Wastewater Service Expands



September marked the beginning of a new service at GCA's Odessa South Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility in Odessa, Texas. Champion Technologies, a specialty oilfield chemical company, delivered its first load of industrial wastewater on September 8.

"The current water from Champion Technologies is low strength non-contact process wastewater," said Joe

Cumbest, Facility Manager. "We think we will see increased business from Champion in the future."

Odessa South is now receiving 15,000 to 20,000 gallons per week of the industrial wastewater. Acceptance of this waste was a logical extension of its existing services to the area. For three years the plant has been receiving sanitary (municipal) wastewater from Kent's Complete Vacuum Truck Service,

Crowne, and B&W Portable Toilets.

"We were able to piggy-back on existing employee training to develop the procedures necessary for handling the unloading of the industrial wastewater," Cumbest said. "We want to continue to expand our services to better meet our commitment to provide an affordable and effective waste management service in the Odessa region."

WTF Shutdown



On September 21, as a result of an unprecedented coordinated shutdown of customer flow, the Washburn Tunnel Facility (WTF) successfully completed major modifications of its in-plant flow distribution system. Completion of this work was successful due to the combined efforts of WTF customers and GCA staff with the assistance of its contractors and consultants.

“As far as I know, this was a unique event,” said Jack Wahlstrom, Facility Manager. “We’ve had to cut back flow from time to time or ask a particular discharger to hold up on flow, but totally shutting down most of the treatment plant is a first.”

The 18-hour almost complete shutdown of the plant was necessary to build a portion of the current project underway to modify the Facility to

reduce air emissions. These reductions are required by the TCEQ as a provision of the Facility’s air control permit. When the project is complete, one of the existing Primary Clarifiers will be transformed in the first step of a two-step aggressive biological treatment system specifically designed to destroy VOC with minimized air emissions. This will be accomplished in part by the use of a pure oxygen aeration system in the modified basin.

“As you can imagine,” said Wahlstrom, “this has involved a huge amount of pre-planning with our participating industries. About two or three months of preparation have gone into this to make sure that everything about the shut-down ran smoothly. Input from the user industries has been critical. We all had to be on the same line of the same page on this plan.”

During the planning it was found that one of the customers did not have the ability to curtail flow for the required period of time without stopping production. GCA staff got together and devised a plan to install temporary piping to accept the flow and continue to provide treatment in a portion of the Facility that was not impacted by the shutdown.

In addition to coordination with customers, the plan required simultaneous activities to be executed in five different locations throughout the Facility. Most of this work had to be planned using historical drawings, some predating GCA’s purchase of the Facility. The plan had in place adequate staffing to allow alternative solutions when field conditions were not exactly as represented on these old drawings.

In addition to the components completed during the shutdown, the project included a significant amount of process piping modification, installation of an oxygen distribution system, and control system upgrades to allow optimization of the new process. The modifications are scheduled to be fully operational by February of 2007.

Board Elects Officers

With one exception, the current officers of the Board of Directors of GCWDA were re-elected at the group's September meeting. J.M. "Mark" Schultz was re-elected Chairman; Rita Standridge, Vice Chair, and Sam Dell'Olio, Secretary.

Previous Board Treasurer, Franklin D.R. Jones, nominated Dr. Irvin Osborne-Lee for that position. Dr. Osborne-Lee was elected Treasurer.

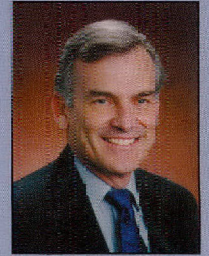
The state statute creating Gulf Coast Authority calls for the election of officers by the Board. Officers serve two year terms. Nine members make up the Authority Board. Three members are appointed from each of GCA's primary counties: Chambers, Galveston and Harris. In each of those counties, the Governor makes one appointment, the Mayors of the county make an appointment, and the Commissioners Court makes an appointment.



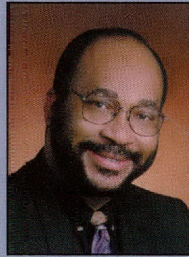
J.M. "Mark" Schultz
Chairman of the Board,
Chambers County



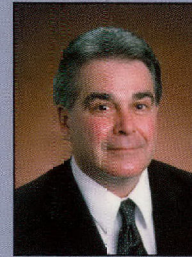
Rita E. Standridge
Vice Chair,
Chambers County



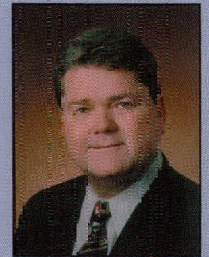
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Member,
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Member,
Harris County



Zoe Barinaga
Member,
Harris County



Shirley Seale
Member,
Chambers County

A contingent of representatives from Daqing, China, visited the Bayport Facility on August 28. The group was headed by Tan Wen, Director of Development & Reform Office, Heilongjiang Provincial Government and Zhai Dongsheng, Deputy Manager, National Office of Revitalizing Northeastern China. Bayport Facility Manager, Ricky Clifton and Operations Supervisor, Monroe Parker, gave a short presentation about Bayport's history and operations.



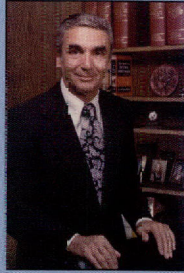
They will be missed.



S.I. (Seth Irvin) Morris, reknowned Houston architect and former member of the GCWDA Board of Directors, died August 1st, just short of his 92nd birthday. His contributions to building design in the

region would fill this entire publication. Just a few of the projects he worked on are the Astrodome, One Shell Plaza, Transco Tower and the Wortham Center.

Mr. Morris served on the GCA Board from 1975 to 1979 as an appointee of the Harris County Commissioners Court. Born in Madisonville, Texas, he entered Rice Institute at age 16 where he studied architecture and graduated in 1935. He later served on the Rice Board of Governors and in 1981 was named a Distinguished Alumnus. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II retiring as Commander, USNR. A recipient of innumerable awards, Morris is survived by his wife of 60 years, Susie Morris, and five adult children.



Royal Hatch Brig. Gen. (retired) Royal Hatch, 89, died during August at his home in Mountain Brook, Alabama. Gen. Hatch was the first Chairman of the Board of Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority. He

leaves a legacy of public service and private accomplishment both domestically and internationally.

Born in Massachusetts, Gen. Hatch graduated from Kent School and Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. He was a newspaperman in Boston for two years before he joined the Air Force as a flying cadet in 1941. He retired from the Air Force 25 years later as a Brigadier General. During those years he held assignments at the Pentagon as Commander of the First Air Force Region in the northeast U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

Hatch later served as an advisor on aviation facilities to both the State of Alabama and the

City of Birmingham. In 1966 he joined IBM in Washington, D.C., as a member of its Federal Systems Division. He came to Houston two years later as Management Services Manager of IBM's Houston Operations.

Gen. Hatch was twice recalled to active duty: from 1950 to 1953 to serve with the Air Staff at the Pentagon in Air Operations, and from 1955 to 1960 with Continental Air Command as staff officer responsible for Air Force training of the Air National Guard. Hatch was twice commended by the U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff for planning duties. He was also commander of the Alabama Air National Guard.

During his 12 years in the Houston area, Hatch found time to serve as Executive Director of the Houston-Galveston Council of Governments. He continued to serve his community after his return to Birmingham in 1979. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Nancy Beddow Hatch; sister, Marianna Heath and niece, Gage Swanson; sons, Royal and Andrew; grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Comments

Gulf Coast Comments

Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority
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Houston, TX 77058

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