

Newfoundland & Labrador Environmental Industry Association

Promoting the growth and development of the environmental industry in Newfoundland and Labrador

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2006

NEIA announces environmental industry awards winners

St. John's, NL – The Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Industry Association (NEIA) presented its Environment Industry Awards on Thursday, March 2, 2006, during the NEIA Annual General Meeting, Conference and Trade Show at the St. John's Holiday Inn.

1. **The Capacity Building Award** was presented to **Hi-Point Industries Limited**. Hi-Point has developed and manufactures a peat oil absorbent named "Oclansorb". Oclansorb is a highly efficient and effective oil absorbent that is now sold in over 25 countries and Hi-Point has further developed absorbent sox, pads and boom using Oclansorb. In recent years Hi-Point has expanded into other business areas related to its markets or access to raw material. These include oil booms and containment systems, industrial supply, and horticultural peat. Most recently Hi-Point has taken control of the commercial composting business, Genesis Organic in Corner Brook. Under Hi-Point's direction new sales records for Genesis were set. The Capacity Building Award is presented to a company with a proven record of building the environment sector in Newfoundland and Labrador.
2. **The Environmental Performance Award** was presented to **BAE-Newplan Group (Voiseys Bay Project)**. As the main consultants for the construction of the Voiseys Bay mine site, BAE-Newplan had full responsibility for environmental systems, permitting and monitoring. The BAE-Newplan Group was able to go beyond regulatory requirements in establishing hi-level environmental management and infrastructure systems in a sub-arctic environment. These systems included full modern solid waste and sewage waste systems. This was also accomplished with, and to the acceptance, of local aboriginal groups. The Environmental Performance Award is presented to a company that has gone beyond environmental compliance and has demonstrated a commitment to improved environmental performance.
3. **The Outstanding Individual Contribution Award** was presented to **Mr. Urban Williams**. Mr. Williams is an employee of Petro-Canada and has been a major supporter, advocate and promoter of Newfoundland and Labrador environmental companies to the oil and gas industry and to other groups, boards and committees on which he serves. Mr. Williams has also been a significant contributor to NEIA's highly successful international oil spill conferences, in assisting to develop their content and facilitating major sponsorships. The Outstanding Individual Contribution Award is presented to an individual who is or has been a key force in developing the environmental industry in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Bill Melendy, NEIA President, congratulated the winners and all nominees. "The environmental industry awards were established to recognize significant achievements in environmental industry excellence, commitment and capability," said Mr. Melendy. "The award winners are representative of NEIA members and the tremendous contributions being made to building the environment sector in Newfoundland and Labrador."

Charlie Riggs, NEIA Executive Director, said, "The NEIA Environmental Industry Awards recognize the strong and capable expertise and business skills that exist within the environment industry in Newfoundland and Labrador. NEIA companies have, and are implementing, the solutions for the sustainable development of our province's resources and communities," said Mr. Riggs.

Nominees came from the NEIA membership, which is made up of 125 companies. An independent selection committee identified final selections.

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