

**Chemex Newsletter Issue #3  
December 2009**

Welcome to the latest edition of the CHEMEX Environmental International Ltd newsletter. We hope that these news items and updates are of interest and that the links provide adequate supporting information. Should you have any queries about these news items please do not hesitate to contact us via the web site at <http://www.chemex.co.uk> or by telephone on +44 (0)1954 252519

- **!NEW! screening method for Extractable Hydrocarbons in soil**  
Chemex has introduced a NEW screening method for Extractable Hydrocarbons in soil. The method has been derived from the MEWAM draft (Jan 2009) method 'The determination of hydrocarbons in soil and associated materials'. This method is suitable for pentane:acetone extractable hydrocarbons in the range of C8-C40 on "as received" samples using gas chromatography with flame ionisation detection. The following hydrocarbons with carbon band ranges are determined: C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>, C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>, C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>, C<sub>16</sub>-C<sub>21</sub>, C<sub>21</sub>-C<sub>36</sub>, C<sub>36</sub>-C<sub>40</sub> and total sum C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>. This method was granted ISO 17025 and MCERTS for soils accreditation in July 2009, for our updated scope of accreditation please visit [http://www.ukas.org/testing/schedules/Actual/1110Testing%20Single\\_023.pdf](http://www.ukas.org/testing/schedules/Actual/1110Testing%20Single_023.pdf) For further information regarding this or the wide range of other hydrocarbon testing that we conduct please contact us or visit the website.
- **Twitter-** follow chemex on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/Chemex\\_Env](http://twitter.com/Chemex_Env)
- **Web site** – there have been a number of additions to the website, including a French language welcome page, the addition of an archive page for previous issues of the Chemex newsletter and a links section for Chemex associates and other useful contacts.
- **Management structure** - In order to optimise the company's business performance, the Chemex management structure underwent significant reorganisation in spring 2009. The principal reason for this was to ensure that we are in the best position to achieve our long-term objectives and continue to succeed. The new Chemex management team consists of Nathan Read- Chemex Management Director, Julian Froment - Manager of Environmental Chemistry, Dominic Sacker - Manager of Ecotoxicology, Rasa Cooke - Manager of QA and General Admin and Tim Carter - Finance. For full contact details please visit the website at [http://www.chemex.co.uk/contact\\_us/meet\\_the\\_team](http://www.chemex.co.uk/contact_us/meet_the_team)
- **General Staffing** - We would like to bid a fond farewell to our Client Liaison Officer Cheryl Fitzpatrick who is leaving us in December on maternity leave. We wish Cheryl and her family all the best and we hope to see her back at Chemex soon.

We also would like to take this opportunity to introduce our two new Client Liaison Officers - **Elizabeth Draper** and **Laura Cutter** - who have recently joined Chemex. Both Elizabeth and Laura have a number of years of customer service and administration experience. We hope that they soon will become an

invaluable part of our busy and friendly team and wish them every success for the future.

- **Consultancy activities** - Chemex continues to extend laboratory consultancy activities overseas with a memorandum of understanding signed with a new partner in Saudi Arabia. There is increasing interest in our ongoing work in the North Caspian region, with requests for audit reports from a range of oil industry operators.
- **Air analysis** - Chemex have increased the range of sampling apparatus available to hire or purchase. Chemex now have taken delivery of an Indoor Air Quality-meter for the measurement of carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, humidity and temperature. In addition a system for the sampling of bioaerosols has been acquired. Added to our existing chemical analytical capabilities we can now offer a comprehensive indoor air quality assessment service.
- **BOSIET Training** - Chemex have been involved in various projects for the offshore oil industry ranging from toxicological testing of new products through to auditing of environmental laboratories.

As part of this programme we have recently been tasked with auditing offshore sampling during offshore environmental monitoring.

In order to undertake this work a member of our consultancy team has gone through an OPITO approved BOSIET course (Basic Offshore Safety Induction and Emergency Training) including HUET (Helicopter Underwater Escape Training). The programme also required H2S training and use of breathing apparatus.

These qualifications are valid worldwide and so we are actively seeking similar projects elsewhere.

- **Christmas opening** - For the convenience of our customers, Chemex will be open and operate its usual hours during the Christmas and New Year period, with the exception of the bank holidays. However, we would strongly recommend that you contact us before arranging any sample deliveries between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of December.
- **Special OFFER** - Join our website mailing list in December and you will receive a free Chemex 2010 table calendar, coaster and pen! Offer is subject to availability. Sign up here [http://www.chemex.co.uk/contact\\_us/mailling\\_list](http://www.chemex.co.uk/contact_us/mailling_list)

**Finally, we would like to wish all of our clients a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**