Rapid Remediation of Subsurface Organic Contaminants a Contact Sport!

> Dr. Harm P. Gross President



Example 1 - Natural Contact

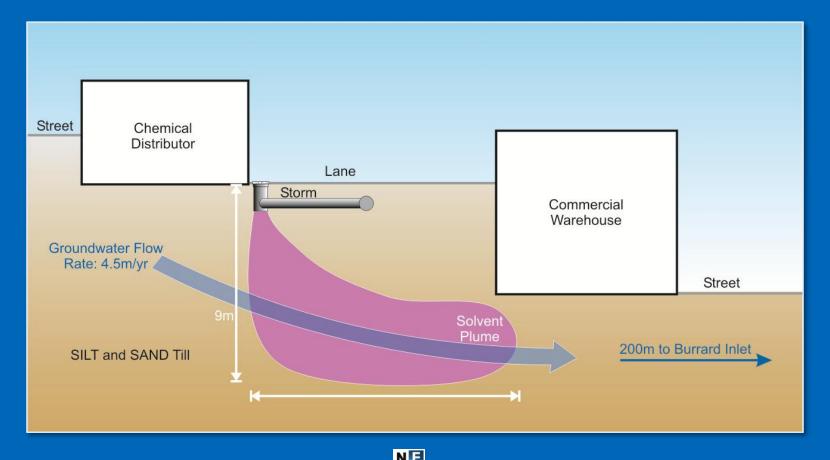
How do you transform a contaminated commercial site into a marketable property?





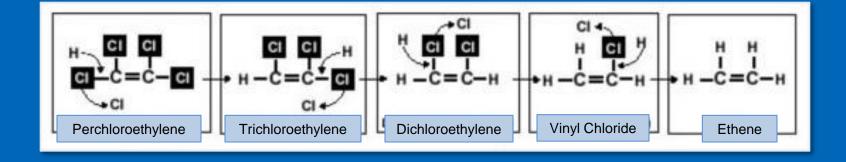
Mechanism for Natural Contact

The groundwater gradient both created the plume and provided a natural mechanism for achieving contact with the contamination.



What is HRC?

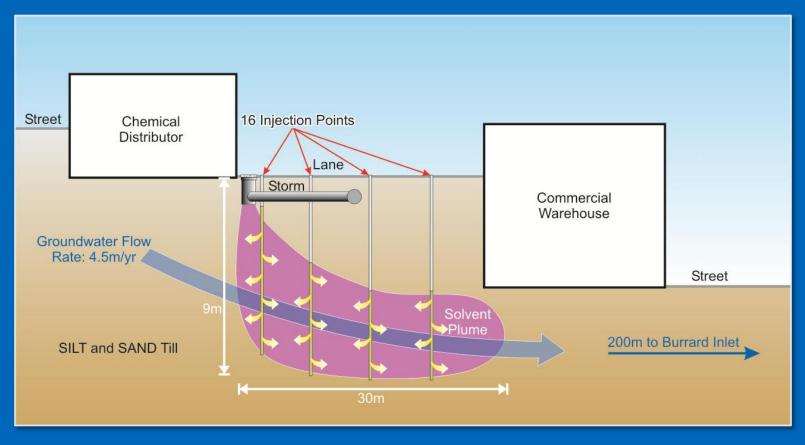
HRC[®] (Hydrogen Release Compound) is an electron donor material. It produces a controlled release of lactic acid upon contact with water. Microbes metabolize the lactic acid and generate hydrogen. Hydrogen is then used for anaerobic reductive de-chlorination.





Injection Points

Injection locations were limited, forcing reliance on natural groundwater movement to make contact between HRC and the contamination.



Concentrations

Remediation cost was \$150,000.

Contaminant	Aquatic Life Standards	Pre- Remediation Concentrations	Post- Remediation Concentrations	Time to Remediation
PCE (Perchloroethylene)	1,100 ppb	4,000 ppb	<100 ppb	7 months
TCE (Trichloroethylene)	200 ppb	1,500 ppb	<200 ppb	7 months
VC (Vinyl Chloride)	200 ppb	(700 ppb)	<200 ppb	26 months
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Example 2 – Forced Contact

How do you transform a Brownfield into a profitable new development?



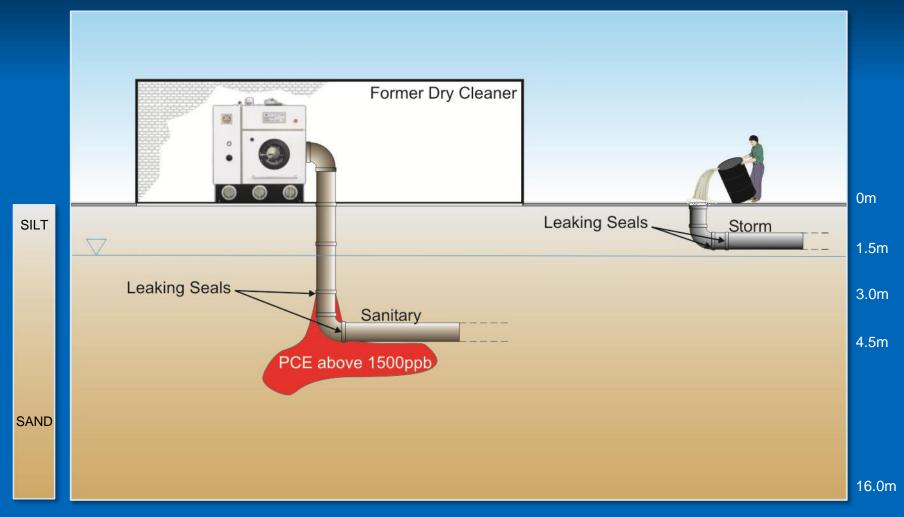




Strip mall with Dry Cleaner.



The Source

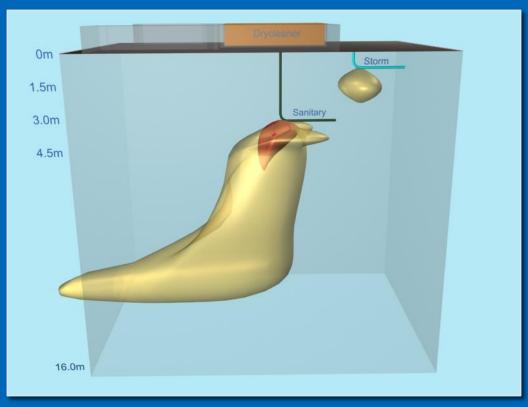




Regulatory Issues

Introduction of Drinking Water standards in three (3) months will dramatically increase the size of the contaminant plume.

Contaminant		Standards < Feb. 1, 2011	Standards > Feb. 1, 2011	
PCE	Soil	50 ppm	50 ppm	
	G'water	1,500 ppb	30 ppb	
TCE	Soil	50 ppm	0.015 ppm	
	G'water	11,000 ppb	5 ppb	





Technical Issues

Obstacles to numerical remediation in only three months

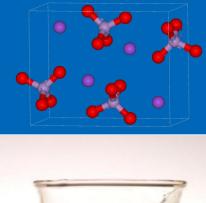
- Excavation is extremely limited due to high groundwater table and floodplain soils which can easily collapse as a sinkhole when dewatering.
- Flat groundwater gradient resulting in a flow rate of 1.5m/yr, means unsuitable natural delivery system for the injectant.
- Need fast-acting injectant



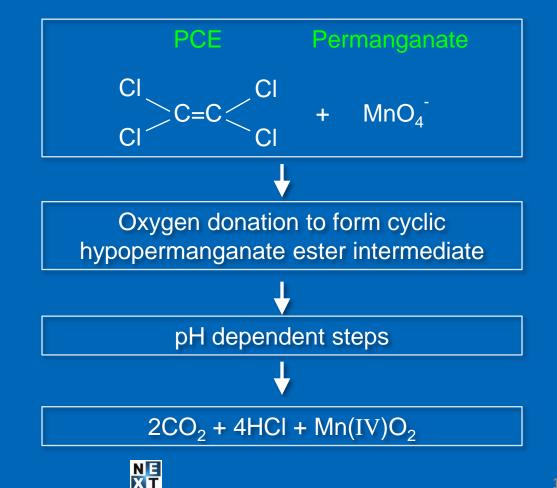


Fast Acting Injectant

Potassium permanganate (KMnO₄) is a powerful oxidant.

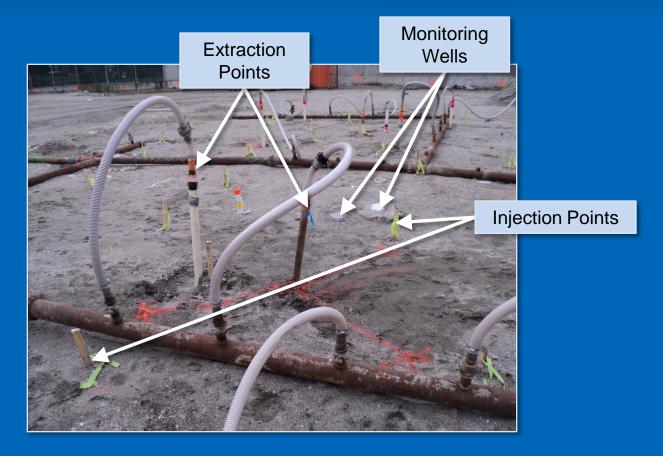






Fast Contact Mechanism

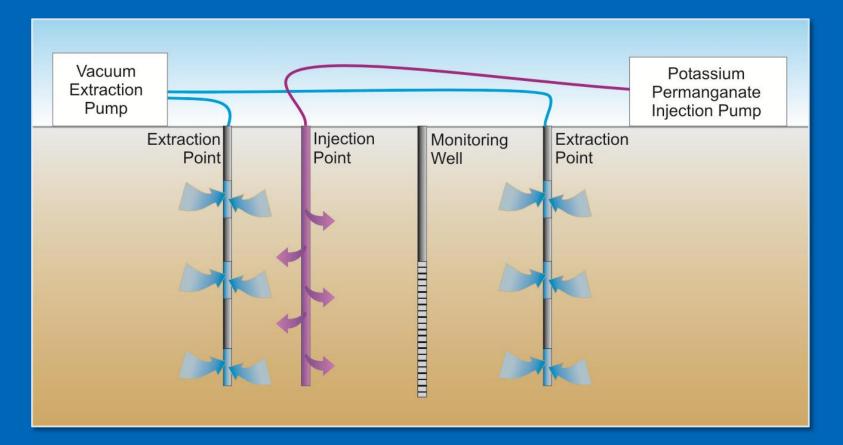
Accelerate groundwater flow by combining extraction and injection.





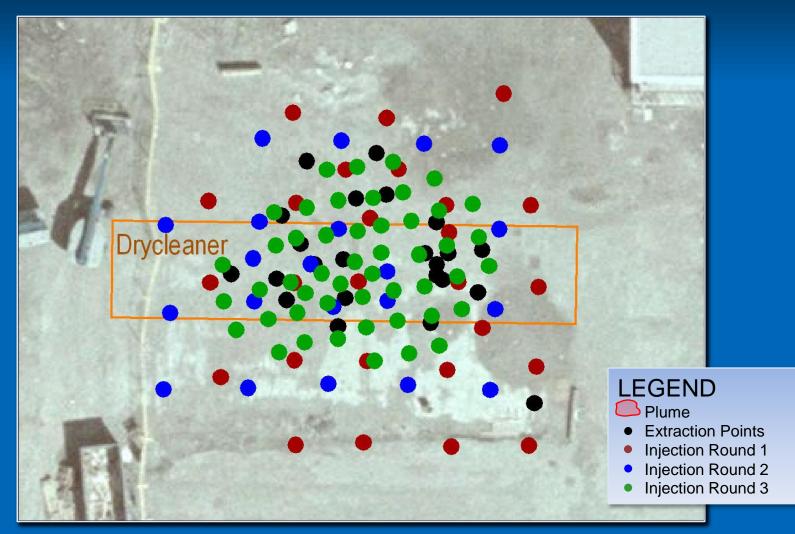
Forced Delivery System

The concept is simple. Execution requires precision.





Injection Series





Concentrations

Remediation cost was \$850,000.

Contaminant	DNAPL Standards	Pre-Remediation Concentrations	Post-Remediation Concentrations	Time to Remediation
PCE (Perchloroethylene)	1,500 ppb	41,000 ppb	<600 ppb	3 months
TCE (Trichloroethylene)	11,000 ppb	78,000 ppb	<940 ppb	3 months





Landfill, Burnaby



Bulk Fuel Storage, North Vancouver



Works Yard, Nelson



Service Station, Vancouver



Investigation - Remediation - Risk Assessment



Commercial/Industrial, North Vancouver



Drycleaner, Richmond



Tungsten Carbide Facility, Port Coquitlam



Shipyard, North Vancouver

Degradation Sequence of PCE

BH406 VOC Concentration vs. Time

