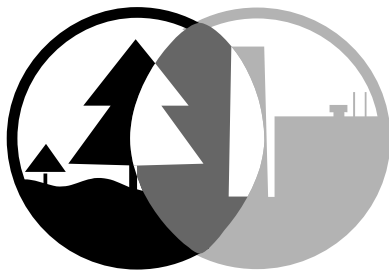




# Sediments Remediation Action Team



## RTDF

Remediation Technologies  
Development Forum

## Current RTDF Action Teams

**Bioremediation Consortium**

**INERT Soil-Metals Action  
Team**

**Permeable Reactive  
Barriers Action Team**

**Phytoremediation of  
Organics Action Team**

**Sediments Remediation  
Action Team**

The Sediments Remediation Action Team was established in March 1996. It is one of the five current Action Teams under the Remediation Technologies Development Forum (RTDF). The RTDF was created by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1992 to foster collaboration between the public and private sectors in finding innovative solutions to mutual hazardous waste problems. The Sediments Remediation Action Team includes representatives from industry, government, and academia who share an interest in developing alternatives for remediating contaminated sediments.

### *The Problem of Concern*

Contaminated sediments, both in freshwater and marine systems, are a significant issue in the United States and abroad. Remediation of sediments is often complex and is usually compounded by the presence of more than one contaminant at a site. Sediments often contain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals. Many traditional remediation techniques, such as dredging and subsequent off-site treatment, are not cost-effective, and proper assessment, which is critical for implementation of a remediation strategy, also may be difficult and costly.

### *The Action Team's Mission*

The mission of the Sediments Remediation Action Team is to develop cost-effective, on-site technologies to remediate contaminated sediments and enable recovery of biological systems. The Action Team is exploring a number of potential focus areas, including:

- Developing *in situ* remediation approaches
- Evaluating on-site, *ex situ* remediation technologies
- Examining the applicability of existing soil remediation techniques to sediments
- Understanding the mechanisms and rates of natural attenuation
- Enhancing or developing procedures for evaluating the need for and success of remedial activities

### *Accomplishments*

The Action Team has developed subgroups to focus on the following three areas of interest:

- **Assessment**—This area includes the measurement and evaluation of hazard, stress, and exposure resulting from sediment-associated contaminants. Information required for the human and ecological risk

assessment paradigms includes (but is not limited to) toxicity, transport, and the ability of the sediment (biotic and abiotic) to naturally attenuate the contaminants.

- **In Situ Capping**—*In situ* capping as a remediation alternative involves placement or broadcasting of a covering or cap of clean isolating material (e.g., sediment, sand, gravel, geotextiles, etc.) over a deposit of contaminated sediment to isolate it physically and chemically from the aquatic environment.
- **In Situ Treatment**—A number of *in situ* remediation technologies are under consideration by the subgroup, including natural attenuation, phytoremediation, introduction of chemical additives to enhance the natural processes, reactive disposal approaches, and electrokinetics. The subgroup is most interested in passive technologies that will remediate the contaminants without significantly increasing the stress on the ecology.

## The Action Team's Plans

The efforts of the three subgroups will be coordinated to create a cohesive research team. The Action Team is identifying sites at which a cooperative field effort may be pursued. Team members are evaluating the resources, experience, and facilities they can make available to carry out a field effort.

## Action Team Members

The Action Team includes representatives from government, industry, and academic organizations, such as the following:



### Government

Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
U.S. Army  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Navy



### Industry

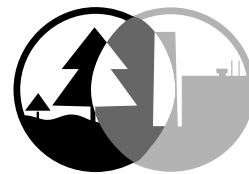
Alcoa  
Battelle  
BBL, Inc.  
Boeing  
Chemical Land Holdings, Inc.

Dow Chemical Company  
DuPont Company  
Exxon  
General Motors  
General Electric  
National Council for the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement  
PPG  
Quantitative Environmental Analysis, LLC  
Reichhold, Inc.  
Rohm and Haas



### Academia

Louisiana State University  
Tufts  
University of Illinois



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## Would You Like More Information?

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For more information on the RTDF or other Action Teams, please visit the RTDF World Wide Web site at [www.rtdf.org](http://www.rtdf.org) or contact:

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