

# FIRE!

SCE Emergency Response Team Reacts.

In response to a massive fire causing an estimated \$50 Million in damage, officials of Schott North America turned to SCE to assist in the cleanup effort. Literally hours after thirty-five fire departments and 200 firefighters doused the flames, SCE crews were on site, assessing the damage, and beginning the cleanup.

The facility, located in Northeastern, PA, is home to the Germany-based optical giant's North American operation and houses not only a manufacturing plant producing high tech glass and lenses, but also Schott's U.S. Customer Service Hub and Research and Development Center. Schott produces optics and lenses for the consumer camera market as well as the U.S. Department of Defense and Homeland Security. The fire left most, but not all, manufacturing and office structures intact but decimated the enormous two story warehouse where the blaze was concentrated. The main roof of that structure collapsed as a result.

SCE crews were initially involved in emergency response but that role then emerged into a massive undertaking of interior demolition and decontamination. To date SCE crews have returned more than 375,000 square feet of the fire-ravaged complex back to valuable office, warehouse and production areas.



#### And the Winner Is ...

SCE Recently challenged Project Staff to submit images of their jobsites. The winning entry belongs to John Bistran and his images of SCE Excavators dismantling a factory in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Congratulations, John!

#### The Big Dig.

Depths of 35' prove a challenge.

Pennsylvania, the small town of Penndel, Pennsylvania served as the site of SCE's version of "The Big Dig". At a former gas station along busy Route 1, SCE undertook a massive remediation effort involving petroleum impacted soil. The challenge: extreme depth of the dig on a tight and confining site. Contaminated soils had to be removed to depths of thirty-five feet with long reach excavators with a constant eye to maintain soil stability.

The project exemplifies the value of close working partnerships. "This project, undertaken with one of our valued engineering clients, demonstrates the symbiotic relationship that we strive to achieve with all of our clients on all of our projects," notes Director of Client Services, William Bradican. SCE Project Managers and Foremen worked directly with client engineers to ensure the most cost-effective results with safety always at the forefront. At project completion, over 1,100 tons of impacted soil were removed and the site backfilled and restored on budget, on time, and without injury.





#### **Giving Back**

Trudy Cordaro Serves as Fundraising Gala Chair.

Ontinuing its relationship with Marley's Mission, a Pennsylvania based non-profit that provides equine assisted therapy to children who have experienced trauma, SCE's Jody and Trudy Cordaro dedicated their personal time and resources to the planning and execution of the Mission's Blue Ribbon Gala. Mrs. Cordaro was this year's Gala co-chair.

Marley's Mission is an award winning, nationally-acclaimed, and unique facility that encourages children who have experienced trauma to interact with their counsellors in the setting of an equine farm. The Gala is at the core of the Mission's appeal for public support to continue to allow Marley's Mission to provide services free of charge to those in need. February's was once again a sold out affair with over 450 in attendance. SCE applaudes the contributions of our clients and vendors that supported the event and Marley's Mission.

### **Majelus Moves West**

Shale Gas Market Expands.

Our sister company, Majelus, continues its expanded presence in the Marcellus shale industry. With vehicles already in operation in Northeastern PA, the company has now placed a fleet in Southwestern PA to manage the supply and removal of water at various well sites in that region. The Marcellus, centered under Pennsylvania and West Virginia, is the nation's biggest and fastest growing shale gas play, producing about 20 percent of the nation's gas output.

Unlike most gas formations, Marcellus is vast. Beneath major portions of four states (PA, NY, WV, and OH), it varies in depth and thickness and requires horizontal hydraulic fracturing to release the gas trapped within the formation's shale.

The process, known as fracking, is thirsty. During a frack, millions of gallons of clean water will be injected into the well and about 40% of that volume will be pumped back out. Water trucks shuttle the clean water to the site and frack water away for proper disposal. A typical well will go through ten such cycles during its productive life.

The nature of the business requires that the producing companies react quickly to supply, demand and delivery opportunities as market prices change. As a result, the companies that service the industry, Majelus included, must be equally adept at arranging resources, staffing, and facilities to meet the quickly changing conditions.

Marcellus **Natural Gas Production** million cubic feet per day 14.000 Gas +408 12,000 million cubic feet per day 10.000 month over month 8.000 6.000 4,000 2,000

"Transportation routes that are full to capacity one week can dwindle to a trickle the next," notes Operation Manager Peter Sobol. "Conversely, a downturn in one region often triggers an uptick in another." He notes, "the key is to be ready to service the regions that are in play on a moment's notice." With hubs in Nicholson, PA and now in Waynesburg, PA, Majelus is well placed to react at either end of the Marcellus region. An Ohio office is planned in Q2 of 2015 to continue to serve our clients.

#### Emergency Response.

Trailers on Standby.

SCE is engaged in a number of emergency response contracts with various private, governmental, and utility clients that require response times of only a few hours within a circumference of 150 miles. The drive time alone consumes the lion's share of the time allotment.

To be prepared, the company maintains several dedicated Emergency Response Units that remain isolated from standard day-to-day operations and are used only for these time-sensitive events. Ready to go on a moment's notice, the units are stocked with a complement of drums, pumps, tools and materials to address the situations and challenges anticipated by our Clients. In 2014, SCE responded to 23 emergency responses.

#### First Quarter Kicks Off

2015 Season Begins With a Full Plate.

A busy First Quarter kicks off 2015. Despite a harsh winter and challenging working conditions, SCE crews have hit the first quarter of the new year running. The demolition of a former gas station in *Stratford*, *CT*, included asbestos abatement, the removal of universal waste, and the removal of several structures including a multi-bay garage and large fuel island canopy.



In Carteret, New Jersey, SCE crews worked with the logistic challenge of installing a massive concrete pad in the middle of a fully functional major liquid petroleum/chemical distribution terminal. The pad will later be fitted with large chemical tanks that will be used in a remediation system. This is not the company's first venture at the terminal or with this Client. In prior years, SCE has installed multi-well remediation systems (which included welding into an active pipe rack system), the handling of RAD soils, the demolition of a truck wash facility, the abatement of asbestos-coated pipe, and the excavation of over 40,000 tons of contaminated soil.

*In NY State*, SCE has begun an extensive cleanup of a former manufacturing plant. This Closure Plan pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act includes the interior demolition of the eighty-five year old plant and the abatement and removal of hazardous waste.

In the City of Orange, New Jersey, SCE crews completed an environmental soil capping project as part of the Colgate Park Redevelopment Project. SCE stripped and disposed of impacted soils, imported backfill and topsoil for restoration. The park was originally donated to the Township by the Estate of Colgate Soap Company owner, Richard Colgate in 1919. It is the home of a childrens' playground, lighted baseball fields, and walking paths and is one of the Township's longest serving recreation facilities.



In *Jenkins Township*, *Pennsylvania*, crews braved bitter winter conditions in their ongoing effort to demolish a one million square foot manufacturing plant. From the initial implosion of twin concrete silos on December 29, 2014, through the end of the first quarter, over a third of the manufacturing facility, the silos, and an administrative building have all been razed and their various components segregated into waste streams and salvage material. Time is of the essence as the owner is actively involved in the marketing of the property as a prime parcel of commercial real estate.

In *New York City*, asbestos crews continue the abatement of an enormous public housing facility under the direction of the New York City Housing Authority. Battling severe weather and a complex bureaucratic framework, SCE has worked closely with the prime contractor and a myriad of other subcontractors to keep the project on schedule and in compliance with the regulatory requirements of the Housing Authority.

In various locations within Pennsylvania, SCE continued projects awarded under an ongoing Interim Remediation Response Services Contract (IRRSC) with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). Active projects in *Carbondale*,



Center Square, and Hamburg, PA continued throughout the first quarter.



In the heart of *Carbondale*, *PA*, SCE cleaned up the abandoned Torch Lumber Mill. SCE crews performed asbestos abatement in three of the shuttered buildings. This once thriving business that specialized in the production of railroad ties and other creosote treated products, required substantial remediation and soil removal. SCE crews performed soil characterization to understand the extent of the impacted areas as well as excavation, loading, transportation and disposal related to the contaminated soils.

SCE's Center Square Citgo project in *Whitpain Township*, *Montgomery County*, *PA*, is the largest remedial system that PADEP has contracted in several years. This system will remediate a grossly impacted site that once was releasing petroleum onto the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike. SCE utilized directional drilling to cross a road that could not be trenched due to access issues with an adjacent property owner. SCE tied 7 wells into a MET Certified turnkey Dual Phase Extraction (DPE) system mounted in a 40' modified shipping container with an integrated PLC based control system. The system is supported by an air stripper, vapor-phase carbon filtration, and a FALCO 300 Catalytic Oxidizer.



Also during the first quarter, SCE has begun the preliminary

steps for mobilizing a multi-million dollar landfill remediation and capping project in upstate New York. The project calls for the consolidation of two old landfill areas into one and then for the capping of the merged landfill with a vegetative cap. Work at that facility is expected to begin in May and continue through 2015 and into 2016.

In late 2014, SCE entered into a five year on-call contract for the abatement of asbestos, lead and PCB's and emergency response services for the Albany Central New York Region of the New York Power Authority. In the first quarter, SCE received and completed the first work order under the contract.

### SCE Awarded Statewide Remediation Contract.

Residential Foreclosures Fuel Need.



SCE was recently awarded a contract for the remediation of mold throughout structures in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Representing an expansion into the residential foreclosure marketplace, SCE has assembled a mold remediation response team to go into foreclosed homes, remove mold-impacted areas and restore the building.

The contract is not without its challenges. "With potential volume of thirty to fifty requests per month, we must review the scope of work, bid the project, mobilize and complete work within fifteen days of first notice," notes SCE Cost Estimator, Andrew Crawford. He notes, "Our large scale mold remediation teams in the home office and in the field have developed tremendous experience that we now must transfer to the high volume, small scale residential marketplace."

With home foreclosures at historic highs, and with many of those structures falling into disrepair, the market for such services is vast and growing. In only the first weeks of the contract, SCE has participated in 9 projects throughout the Commonwealth.

#### We Heard You.

Client Feedback Weighs In.

As a new regular feature of our Quarterly Newsletter, SCE will be sharing constructive feedback received from Clients during customer satisfaction surveys. For our first installment, we address the concerns of a client who, while scoring us with an overall grade of "A", requested that we simplify employee training record retrieval for workers in the field.

In response, SCE has fitted each crew member with an enhanced identification badge which not only provides photographic identification of the worker but also a synopsis of that worker's essential training and medical certifications. SCE safety inspectors, client representatives, and government officials can now be on site and instantly confirm that a crew member has, for example, a current fit test, or was recently medically cleared, or is up to date on vital safety training.

The badges are printed on laminated cards with security holograms that prevent tampering. Worn around the neck, the badges provide an easy view and immediate access to supervisors, clients and inspectors on the job site. Break-away lanyards ensure that the cards pose no threat to employee safety.

"The information on the badges is verified and monitored by both our Human Resources and Health and Safety Departments," notes Chief Compliance Officer, Bruce Morgan. "We see this as an enormous step forward in providing our supervisors and clients with timely, accurate, and readily available information on each crew member on the job".

#### Value Engineering

#### SCE's Mission Statement In Action on Every Job.

The SCE Mission Statement has remained unchanged for nearly a decade: "To preserve and protect the environment by helping clients make positive, safe, lasting and substantial improvements in their environmental practices in the most economically sound way." The achieve that goal, SCE delivers value engineering solutions that not only preserve the environment but also deliver a big boost to our clients' bottom line. "Our expertise is one of our most valued assets," cites company President, Jody Cordaro, "Our senior people in project management, engineering, and estimating collectively represent over 200 years of experience in the very specialized area of environmental remediation. We take great pride in delivering that experience to our clients every day."

In *Port Jervis, NY*, SCE value engineering saved our client over \$300,000. During the installation of a slurry wall, SCE crews encountered unexpected large cobbles at 20' below ground surface. The traditional solution would have been to over-excavate the area and remove the cobbles. SCE's solution was somewhat more novel. Within 48 hours, SCE had produced a GPS monitored eight foot ripper tooth. The multi-ton unit was mounted to a long reach excavator and ripped the cobble into manageable material with no over-excavating to allow the barrier wall to be installed to depth.

On *Parris Island*, *SC*, SCE was retained to remove soil and sediment. Faced with migration of tidal waters into the excavation areas, SCE value engineered a temporary tidal dam consisting of CY sandbag blocks, an impermeable liner, sediment filtration and water pumps. The sand from the sandbag blocks would later be incorporated as backfill on the site. Compared with traditional shoring or sheet piling, the tidal dam saved the client in excess of \$427,000.

In *Columbia, SC*, SCE was involved in the final closure of a 10 acre, 80 year old landfill. As part of the process, crews installed over 13,000 linear feet of leachate piping. Traditional fusion welding of these pipes would have been time consuming and would have exposed crews to extensive hazardous waste on the decades-old landfill. SCE proposed a better solution: a track mounted "Fast Fusion" machine that dramatically increased the number of fusion welds per hour. The system was installed in a fraction of anticipated time and both project costs and crew safety were better served.

In *Columbus*, *OH*, SCE value engineering delivered over \$1 Million in savings. As part of the closure of a RCRA Solid Waste Management Unit, SCE had to dispose of nearly 9,000 tons of lead-contaminated waste. After extensive analysis of disposal options, the best alternative was to stabilize the lead on site and then dispose of it as non-hazardous material. All soils were stabilized and none exceeded hazardous lead thresholds after treatment.

In *Jenkins Township*, *PA*, SCE encountered over 7,000 tons of radiological material in the demolition of a former television picture tube manufacturing plant. SCE developed a cost saving strategy for the segregation of brick utilizing Geiger meters and on-site sampling. The procedure saved our client in excess of \$600,000.

Mission statements are sometimes little more than catchy phrases developed at an executive retreat. At SCE, however, we live our mission statement every day.



## Last Thoughts ... A Letter From The President



I've always enjoyed the sea and all things maritime. It's not just the sensory experience; there is something symbolic in tales of the ocean and great seafaring adventures. I often find myself viewing life and life's lessons through the looking glass of the captain entrusted with the safety of crew and ship. Yet, I am reminded of the old saying, "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor."

Not all of our seas were smooth in 2014. Not all of our decisions paid the dividends we had hoped. Projects ended with margins thinner than anticipated and lessons were learned throughout the year. All of these elements combined to deliver a year of great volume but not at the returns we have historically enjoyed. In the looking glass, it was clear that our ship was off course and a change in direction was in order. We acted swiftly and methodically to reset the compass.

On January 1, SCE entered the year with a streamlined staff, a more focused expansion strategy, and a firm grasp on project management. The results have been dramatic. The first quarter of 2015 has delivered not only our best revenue in history but also record profits. It is a trend I see continuing throughout the year, and a sustainable and scalable model that can project far into our future.

Our staff made this happen. Our field crews remain the best in the industry. Working through harsh winter conditions, they effectively and efficiently completed many projects and got new ones off to a great start. As always, they never lose sight of the highest safety standards. Back at the home office, a streamlined staff has worked tirelessly to achieve more at higher efficiency. They have taken lessons learned in the past year, kept the effective programs, discarded the ineffective, and improved the overall administration of the company. The combined efforts of office and field have righted this ship and we sail with renewed confidence and direction.

Of course, and as always, we thank our clients for their continued support. Sincerely,

Jody Cordaro



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