



Latvia

Bulletin

In this issue

<i>Bulletin</i>	1
<i>GVH Associates Update</i>	1
<i>Four Year Business Review</i>	2
<i>Projects Update</i>	2

The Newsletter

Welcome to our new style newsletter. Recognising that our readers are busy executives bombarded by periodicals and flyers day by day we have dropped the old 4-page format in favour of something more compact and manageable. In this our first 2-side/ 1-page issue we bring you up to date with developments in the company.

The principal administrative change is that the company is now incorporated.

For our main articles we summarise developments within our sister organisation

GVH Associates on page 1 and we present a review of the company's business trends in the four years since the company was established in January 1999 on page 2.

Continuing Professional Development

Director Rob Holmes has had an application accepted to be registered as a Specialist in Land Condition. The SiLC registration scheme has been in existence since 2001 and is designed to support the use of the Land Condition Record launched by the Urban Task Force in 1999.

Project Overload

Launched in August 2002

the Overload mailshot successfully ensured that leading environmental and engineering companies in the UK are aware of the availability of the company as expert subcontractors.

Recent Awards

Low Cost Incinerator: pilot rig stage of DFID sponsored research that requires authorisations and the delivery of pre-sorted household waste.

Hong Kong Remediation: team member responsible for environmental mitigation & monitoring aspects in a proposal to the HK government to clean up an old shipyard on Lantau Island prior to redevelopment as a leisure theme-park (Disneyworld).

GVH Associates Takes Off

GVH Associates is an unincorporated association set up by Roberto Vogel, Rob Holmes and Brian Gulley in September 1999 (see photo). The organisation members have collaborated in projects related to waste handling & minimisation, regulatory applications and in process control systems. GVH Associates will

and launch a marketing programme to develop business in the autumn of 2002. The Programme will focus on two sectors: **waste management** and **property development**. Development of the network to include complementary disciplines is complete. A website (www.gvhassociates.com) to support the programme is nearing completion.



L to R: Roberto Vogel, Rob Holmes & Brian Gulley

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The editorial team welcome comments on the newsletter and news for future issues.

Four Year Business Review

The company was formed in January 1999 and during the first two years the work type was dominated by the design and implementation of environmental management systems within automotive and electronics manufacturing plants in the UK and in tourism destinations in Jordan and the West Bank (*see table*).

“The company also increasingly acts as a sub-contractor to bigger environmental and engineering companies.”

TYPES OF WORK (%s)	1999	2000	2001	2002
Contaminated Land	12	3	32	33
Environmental Audit	20	43	29	20
Management Systems	36	40	0	3
Regulatory Support	15	14	23	34
Expert Opinion	0	0	10	10
Training	17	0	5	0
Totals	100	100	100	100

In the last two years there has been a notable rise in work involving firstly, contaminated land - principally in UK-based site investigations and risk assessments and secondly, supporting applications for UK licences and preparing technical terms of reference for

technical terms of reference for tenders in EU accession states.

Analysis of further data indicates a steady rise in business in the waste management sector from 15% in 1999 to almost 50% in 2002. Business involving property – risk assessments

and M&A, rose from approximately 20-25% in the first two years to about half the business in 2001-02. Over the same periods there has been a fall in the amount of training work and an equivalent rise in expert opinion work.

Over the period business projects have increasingly been located in countries outside the UK. In 2002 the proportion based in the UK was 45% with about one quarter in the rest of Europe and the remainder in the Far East. The company also increasingly acts as a sub-contractor to bigger environmental and engineering companies. The proportion just exceeded half in 2002.

Projects Update 2002

Regulatory Support

Malta: Technical specialist for the preparation of contract documentation and terms of reference for conducting site investigations and risk assessments, and developing remediation & restoration plans for three waste landfill sites on the Islands of Malta and Gozo. The site at Maghtab has deep seated fires (*see photo, left*). Undertaken for the Maltese Ministry for Resources and Infrastructure, through ISL(2001/02).

Latvia: Acted for the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development in Latvia in drawing up three sets of terms of reference for the preparation of tender dossiers to build the country's hazardous waste landfill to EU Landfill Directive standards, specify and procure equipment for the operation of the landfill and supervise construction of the landfill.

Contaminated Land

Hampshire, England: Acted as team leader, site ‘competent person’ and report author on environmental assessment site investigations at three properties with active gas installations. The SI design followed the requirements of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations, 1994. The projects included groundwater sampling and monitoring following well installation.

Norfolk, England: Acted for the owner of half of a highly contaminated 21 hectare property located in an inner city area following the recommendation of a quantity surveyor. The task involved independently assessing the large amounts of site investigation and analytical data available and giving an expert opinion on data quality and interpretation, the proposed remediation strategy, clean-up costs and the apportionment of costs to the client's property.

Environmental Auditing & Inspection

Oxfordshire, England: A Landfill Performance methodology was produced on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council Waste Management Department to enable them to demonstrate Best Value for the landfill service provided at four landfills for the years 2001 & 2002. The methodology uses the Audit Module of the information management system *E Quest*.

Cambridgeshire, England: Carried out an assessment of environmental regulatory compliance at the main facility of a large automotive component manufacturer.

Ankara, Turkey: Carried out a lease pre-acquisition audit of a commercial building on behalf of a telecommunications multinational.



Malta



Oxfordshire



Cambridgeshire