

Wheelabrator veteran receives award for outstanding contributions to the waste-to-energy industry

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

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HAMPTON, N.H. - Oct. 21, 2008 - Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. announced today that its Vice President of Technical Services Artie Cole was awarded Waste-to-Energy Research and Technology Council's (WTERT) 2008 Outstanding Contribution Award presented at Columbia University.

WTERT, an academic organization headquartered at Columbia University, called for nominations of individuals who, as researchers, inventors, policy makers and industrialists, have made an outstanding contribution to advancing the recovery of energy from municipal solid wastes in a nation or a region. After reviewing submissions from around the world, WTERT judges Dr.'s Themelis and Castaldi of Columbia and Ted Michaels, president of the Integrated Waste Services Association, chose Mr. Cole from among seven candidates by unanimous vote.

"For over 30 years, Artie has not only been fixing problems, but he has also been inventing solutions credited for changing how the waste-to-energy industry operates all over the world," said Wheelabrator's President Mark A. Weidman. "With the patents he has won and the influence he has on the operation and maintenance of our plants, Artie has been a quiet and powerful force in the company and the industry. His ingenuity and common sense approach to working with employees, customers and contractors to solve problems personifies the Wheelabrator culture."

Mr. Cole's career started in Saugus, Massachusetts in 1977 when he joined the company as an entry-level maintenance mechanic just as Wheelabrator's RESCO plant opened its doors. As the first privately owned refuse-burning, steam-generating plant in operation in the U.S., Mr. Cole and his peers had their work cut out for them.

RESCO, often called Saugus University, served as a laboratory where the team experienced setbacks and hard-won successes. All knew failure was not an option so they banded together to work night and day on making the plant operational.

Currently, Mr. Cole holds the position of vice president of technical services overseeing engineering activities designed to maximize plant performance for Wheelabrator's 16 waste-to-energy facilities and five independent power plants. Mr. Cole holds a remarkable eight U.S. patents including improvements for air pollution control spray nozzles, grate combustion systems, ram feeder carriage systems, reciprocating combustion grate guide system, refractory tiles, waterwall furnace platens, and a two-piece front face replaceable grate block. An active member in industry organizations such as WTERT, Integrated Waste Services Association and American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Mr. Cole continues to support the advancement of the waste-to-energy industry.

About WTERT

The Waste-to-Energy Research and Technology Council (WTERT) is a top-tier-technical group that brings together engineers, scientists, and managers from industry, universities, and government with the objective of advancing the goals of sustainable waste management globally.

About Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management of Houston, Texas, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. is a world leader in the safe and environmentally sound conversion of municipal solid waste and other renewable waste fuels into clean energy. Wheelabrator's 17 waste-to-energy facilities provide safe waste disposal for towns and cities across the U.S. Wheelabrator also operates five independent power plants designed to generate electricity using an assortment of fuels, including waste wood, tires, waste coal, and natural gas. In addition to producing electricity, some of these facilities also produce steam sold to nearby government and commercial establishments. Wheelabrator's

22 facilities have a combined electric generating capacity of 896 megawatts, enough energy to power more than 985,000 homes. To learn more, visit www.wheelabratortechnologies.com.

About Waste Management

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. It is also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. The company's customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more, visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

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