INTERNATIONAL CLEANUP CONFERENCE ADELAIDE 2026

Workshop -1

Title	**PFAS in Practice: Industry Response, Remediation, and Risk Management**	
Date and time	Sunday, 13 September 2026, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	
Duration	Full Day	
Venue	Adelaide Convention Centre*	
Presenters	Morning Session - Chuck Newell - GHD representative - Roger Brewer - Kurt Pennell	Afternoon Session - Chuck Newell - Phil Goodrum - Roger Brewer - Paul Nathanail
Registration Fees	$ 680 incl GST (The workshop is fully catered and will be provided with morning, afternoon tea and lunch.)	

About this workshop

This workshop will provide a practical and industry-focused overview of how organisations are responding to the growing challenges associated with PFAS contamination. Bringing together leading international experts and practitioners, the sessions will explore the full spectrum of PFAS management - from investigation, monitoring and source characterisation through to remediation technologies, risk management, stakeholder engagement and emerging policy directions.

The workshop will focus on real-world applications, operational challenges and lessons learned from industry case studies, while also examining the regulatory, legal and ESG drivers shaping decision-making. Participants will gain insights into current best practices in PFAS investigation and modelling, understand what remediation approaches are proving effective in practice, and explore strategies for building community confidence and supporting defensible, future-focused outcomes.

Why Attend?

The attendees will benefit after attending the workshop by -

- Practical PFAS investigation and remediation insights
- Learn from leading international experts
- Understanding evolving regulatory and ESG requirements
- PFAS modelling, risk assessment and management approaches
- Real-world case studies and industry experience

Workshop attendees will receive

- 6.5 hrs of CPD point
- Presentation slides (as secured PDF) on USB
- A downloadable online resource folder on USB

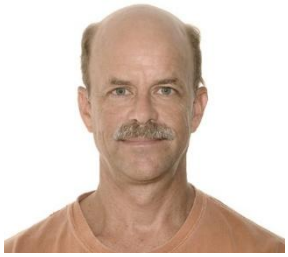
Program

Workshop Program	
9:00 - 9:10 AM	Welcome and Introduction
9:10 - 10:00 AM (50 Minutes)	PFAS in Practice: Where the Challenges Really Sit – Chuck Newell (Focus - Moving from theory to operational reality)
10:00 – 10:15 AM	**Morning Tea Break**
10:15 – 10:50 AM (40 Minutes)	Regulatory, Legal, and ESG Drivers Shaping Industry Response – GHD (Focus: Navigating a rapidly evolving compliance landscape)
10:50 AM – 11:25 AM (35 Minutes)	Investigation, Monitoring, and Risk Characterisation – Roger Brewer (Focus: Getting the evidence base right)
11:25 – 12:15 PM (50 Minutes)	Remediation Technologies: What Is Actually Working – Kurt Pennell (Focus: From containment to treatment)
12:15 – 1:15 PM	**Lunch Break**
1:15 PM – 2:00 PM (45 Minutes)	Source Characterisation, Groundwater Plume Delineation, and PFAS Modelling – Chuck Newell (Focus: Understanding where PFAS comes from, how it moves, and what happens next)
2:00 – 2:40 PM (40 Minutes)	Risk Management, Stakeholder Engagement, and Community Confidence – Phil Goodrum (Focus: Social licence and communication)
2:40 – 3:00 PM (20 Minutes)	Industry **Case Studies** and Applied Decision-Making – Roger Brewer and Phil Goodrum (Focus: Learning from practice) <u>Proposed Case Studies by Roger</u> - • *Accidental release of 1,000 gallons of Ansul AFFF and associated removal and testing of soil;* • *-Soil and groundwater investigation of an active fire training area (old and new formulations of AFFF);* • *-Studies of WWTP influent, effluent and biosolids.* <u>Proposed Topics by Phil</u> “Lessons learned” to maximise information from biota datasets – reflecting on experience from both AFFF-impacted and industrial release sites in the U.S.
3:00 – 3:15 PM	**Afternoon Tea Break**
3:15 – 4:00 PM (45 Minutes=Total 65 Minutes)	Industry Case Studies and Applied Decision-Making (**Continued**) – Roger Brewer and Phil Goodrum
4:00 – 4:40 PM (40 Minutes)	The Road Ahead: Innovation, Collaboration, and Policy Alignment – Paul Nathanail
4:40 – 5:00 PM (20 Minutes)	**Panel Discussion, Q&A and Closing Remarks**

Presenters

Charles J. Newell, PhD, PE, BCEE
Vice President/Principal Engineer
GSI Environmental Inc. USA

Dr. Charles Newell is a Vice President at GSI Environmental Inc. in Houston, Texas. He is a Board Certified Environmental Engineer (BCEE) through the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (AAEES) and an Adjunct Professor at Rice University. Dr. Newell has co-authored more than 30 technical publications on PFAS fate, transport, and remediation, and has led multiple PFAS research projects funded by the U.S. Department of War. His honours include the 2014 SERDP Project of the Year Award as Co-Principal Investigator, the 2016 ITRC Environmental Excellence Award, the 2019 AEHS Foundation Achievement Award, and the 2024 Gordon Maskew Fair Award from AAEES.



Dr Roger Brewer (PhD)
Senior Environmental Scientist,
TOS Environmental (retired Hawaii Department of Health), USA

Dr. Brewer has over thirty years of experience in environmental site investigation and human health and ecological risk assessment. He retired after twenty years with the Hawai'i Department of Health in 2024 and currently works as a free-lance consultant (TOS Environmental LLC). His academic background includes a PhD in geology and post-doctoral research at Nanjing University in China. His environmental experience includes regulatory compliance audits; characterisation of contaminated soil, water and air; contaminant fate and transport; vapor intrusion and human health and ecological risk assessment. He has also worked as an environmental consultant in the US, Asia and South America and as a senior geologist and environmental risk assessment specialist for the California Environmental Protection Agency. He has given numerous formal and informal training classes on methods to identify and address environmental hazards at contaminated industrial sites and is actively involved in the continued development of state and federal environmental risk assessment programs. He is currently assisting various regulatory agencies and environmental institutes in preparation of guidance on the investigation and assessment of environmental risks posed by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs).

Kurt Pennell, PhD, PE BCEE, F. ASCE, F. AEESP
250th Anniversary Professor of Engineering
School of Engineering, Brown University

Dr. Kurt Pennell is the 250th Anniversary Professor of Engineering in the School of Engineering at Brown University. Previously, Dr. Pennell was Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Tufts University, and the Bernard M. Gordon Senior Faculty Fellow in Environmental Engineering. Prior to moving to Tufts, Dr. Pennell was a Professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology and held an adjunct faculty appointment in the Department of Neurology at the Emory University School of Medicine. His current research focuses on the environmental fate and remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), the use of high resolution mass spectrometry to characterize the exposome and associated metabolic responses. Dr. Pennell has published over 250 referred journal articles and book chapters, is a registered Professional Engineer (PE), a Board Certified Environmental Engineer (BCEE), a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and a Fellow of the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP). He has received several research and teaching awards, including the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) Project of the Year in Environmental Restoration, National Institutes of Health K25 Career Award, and the Order of Omega Faculty Member of Year Award.

Philip Goodrum, Ph.D., DABT
Principal Toxicologist
GSI Environmental Inc. USA

Dr. Philip Goodrum is a Principal Toxicologist with GSI Environmental Inc. with 35 years of experience in the health and environmental science fields, working on behalf of both government and private sector clients. He serves on the adjunct faculty of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF) where he taught a course in environmental risk assessment and currently advises PhD students conducting research on PFAS mixtures toxicology. He is board-certified as a Diplomat in toxicology by the American Board of Toxicology and is also a certified ecologist with the Ecological Society of America. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Technology from Cornell University, and both a Master's of Science in Water Resources and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from SUNY ESF. He has served on national science advisory committees for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), USEPA, National Institute of Health, and the Consumer Products Safety Commission on matters related to lead (Pb) exposure and toxicity, heavy metals risk assessment, and the

development of environmental models to support national health-protective standards. His current research interests involves risk assessment and risk communication of chemical exposures in the context of medical toxicology and public health policy.

Paul Nathanail,
Land Quality Management Ltd, UK

Paul is a Chartered Geologist and Specialist in Land Condition (SiLC, source broadly akin to an Auditor) who combines consultancy, research and training in all aspects of risk-based contaminated land management and brownfield redevelopment.

Paul and his team developed the UK's most widely used soil screening values, pioneered the use of bioaccessibility in human health risk assessment, and explored the risk posed by fugitive nanoparticles injected into source zones to remediate polluted groundwater. He is the lead author of the UK's standard guide on asbestos in soil and created the Dose-Response Roadmaps to discern when risks to human health are dangerously high. He has worked on value engineering panels and provided intelligent client functions on major projects over the past 30 years.

Paul is the lead author of CIRIA C819, the UK's Guidance on PFAS in soil and water and co-chaired of the NICOLE PFAS working group.

Paul has developed human health soil screening levels for over 20 individual PFAS, carried out groundwater risk assessments for 48 PFAS and proivided independent oversight of soil and water remediation of PFAS contamination.

Paul is director of LQM, a specialist consultancy, and a visiting professor in environmental science at Nottingham Trent University.

Notes:

(*) Workshop room details will be advised closer to the event date.
(+) Time slots suggested in the program are indicative and may vary slightly based on the final program.
- Delegates are required to bring their laptop to complete hands-on exercises and access workshop resources.