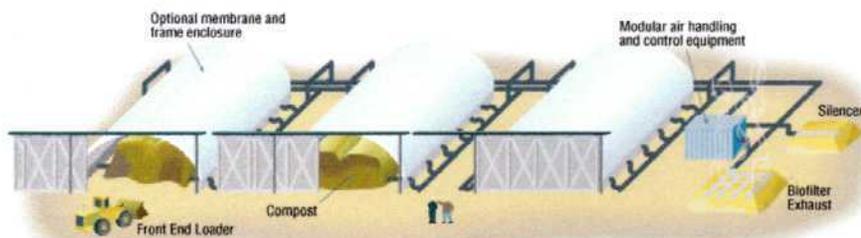


Composting invention gives firm entry into new aspect of waste management



C:N Composting System

Rather than just dumping garbage in a landfill, wouldn't it be better to help waste decompose more effectively?

Jan Allen, a senior technologist with the Energy, Environment and Systems Business Group, and Chuck Kemper, waste management market segment leader, have developed and patented the C:N Composting System to do just that.

"It's a low-cost, low-odor method for converting organic materials into valuable soils," said Allen. "We took an existing technology called 'aerated static pile composting' and added a biofilter to draw air through a pile of organic matter and consume odor in the process. The end result is faster decomposition of waste, and the creation of high quality products that are used in bagged soil mixes and in organic food production."

The flagship C:N Composting System is currently operating in Eugene, Ore.; although, there are 4,000 waste sites across the United States that could potentially benefit from this technology.



Many are currently using less-effective composting technology and many have issues with odor.

"This technology differentiates CH2M HILL in the marketplace. Diverting organic waste from the waste stream is a global theme that's becoming more and more important," said Kemper.

"It's like the 'Model T' of composting technology. As organic recycling becomes more widespread there are tremendous opportunities for this invention," said Allen. "It's exciting and our biggest challenge now is getting the word out and finding ways to apply this technology across all business groups and perhaps with OMI."

Want to know more? Check out one of these web sites:

- www.expresscompostingsystems.com
- www.ch2m.com/composting

Waste that could be composted with Allen and Kemper's C:N Composting System:

- Yard waste
- Manure
- Food waste
- Biosolids (sewage sludge)
- Paper waste
- Household organics

Attacking anthrax

IDC's Aketon Technologies has developed a system to counter mail-borne terrorism.

MailWorks™, which has the interest of the U.S. Government, is designed to keep postal workers, private businesses and the public safe from biological agents, such as anthrax, in mail.

MailWorks includes sealed, portable mail containers; mailroom facilities are equipped with ventilation hoods and filtration systems to purify air where the containers are opened and mail is processed.

IDC has met with federal government officials to introduce the product. MailWorks costs \$10,000 to \$400,000, depending on a client's specific requirements.

