

# EMERGING TECHNOLOGY

Design and Construction Innovations for Tomorrow  
A PUBLICATION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING RESEARCH FOUNDATION (CERF);  
AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS (ASCE)

## PavePro...A New Solvent for the Environment

Complying with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations when cleaning tar and asphalt from tools and equipment is one of the most important considerations for disposing of nonhazardous waste materials. PavePro, a biodegradable asphalt solvent produced by Chemtek, Inc., of Research Triangle Park, N.C., reportedly does this work in an environmentally sound manner. According to David Elam, national sales manager, PavePro is the most effective alternative to diesel fuel or other petroleum-based solvents because it meets EPA regulations specified in the Clean Water Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

PavePro is unique because it is completely biodegradable, has a high flash point (147 degrees Fahrenheit-closed cup) that satisfies RCRA standards for nonhazardous waste, and stays on tools longer because of its slow evaporation rate. Elam notes that PavePro is useful for cleaning shovels, lutes, and spraybars; scrubbing truck beds; and, preventing buildup on tailgates.

Currently PavePro is being used by the Departments of Transportation (DOT) in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, and Tennessee. One client, Gerald Presley, a DOT processing assistant in North Carolina, has been using the product since October 1996. He said that although he has tried many products like PavePro, "this is the best" he has found so far. "They all work in the same way," Presley stated, "but this doesn't evaporate as fast."

Harold Coleman, Jr., a DOT resident maintenance engineer for Marion County in Marion, S.C., also has had success with PavePro. He stated that PavePro "cleans tools and equipment like diesel fuel," and that no other product works as well.

PavePro has been on the market for three years, and a U.S. patent is pending for the product. Chemtek also makes Avion 50, a product that removes rubber from airport runways.

—by Rona Mendelsohn

For more information, please contact David Elam at 800-672-8536 or [pavepro@mindspring.com](mailto:pavepro@mindspring.com).