

John F. Stevens

Director, International Projects
Environmental Engineering



25 years in the industry

Mr. Stevens is an established leader in the environmental engineering consulting industry, with a particular strength in the industrial, oil & gas, and mining sectors. Throughout his career, Mr. Stevens has held multiple roles across global markets, allowing him to form professional relationships with multi-national clients in the United States, Middle East, Europe, and Australia.

Selected Projects

- Substantial oil and gas and petrochemicals M&A experience obtained over a 25-year career in environmental consulting. Working across global geographies, conducted numerous EDD projects in support of the portfolio management activities of the oil majors. This work has resulted in a full appreciation of the commercial priorities of clients in this sector and a detailed knowledge of the investigation, risk assessment and remediation of petroleum impacts along with the operational protocols which govern the safe execution of this work.
- Commercial Director and technical lead for the EDD of several multiple site downstream petroleum asset portfolios in Italy belonging to *Esso Italiana*. This work was undertaken in order to inform an in-house decision on offering a *fixed price* to conduct the assessment and remedial work necessary to obtain a formal declaration from the Italian regulator that no further action was required at the sites in respect of environmental impacts and risk. For each portfolio, the work involved an evaluation of the completeness and rigour of existing site investigation data, a build-up of further assessment and remedial requirements and the development of scenario based probabilistic risk and cost models such that a fixed price for the work could be offered within reasonable commercial risk boundaries. This cost was then used during a competitive bidding for the work itself (by reverse auction).
- Project Director and technical lead for the EDD of the entire asset portfolio of *Conoco* in Ireland. Working closely with the client team, devised the project strategy and then implemented an assessment of EHS risk associated with several hundred retail, distribution and terminal facilities. This work was conducted for *Statoil* and culminated in the development of a complex risk costing model that allowed for a transparent and defensible valuation of EHS liability across the portfolio and, in turn, a timely and successful conclusion of the transaction.
- Technical lead in the team that successfully conducted the EDD associated with *Dow Chemical* and *Kuwait Petroleum Industries Company* proposed \$14.4 billion JV. The brief for this assignment involved the environmental risk assessment of *DOWs* globally based

Education

M.S., Environmental Technology
& Diploma Imperial College
Imperial College, University of London

B.S., Geography 2:1
University of Plymouth

B.A., Geography
Queen Mary College, University
of London

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polyolefins business with particular emphasis on the potential liability to a JV partner associated with forward looking business threats e.g. future carbon costs, regulatory changes, resource supply and energy security.

- Project Director and technical lead for the vendor due diligence of a portfolio of *Shell* distribution depots in the United Kingdom. Working closely with the client's commercial and technical leads, devised the project strategy and then implemented a program of site assessment, risk assessment and targeted remedial works ranging from minor soil excavations through to complex in-situ groundwater remediation systems. The work was conducted over a 3 year period and culminated in the successful divestiture of the target assets.
- Project Director for the vendor due diligence of *ICI's* vinyl chloride manufacturing complex at Runcorn, UK prior to its acquisition by *European Vinyls Corporation* (EVC). The work focused on an assessment of risk from substantial DNAPL impacts in the dual porosity aquifer underlying the facility. This highly sensitive and logistically challenging project involved balancing the competing objectives of the various parties to the transaction with a realistic assessment of what was technically achievable and then assembling a large technically diverse team to deliver the work under extreme time constraints. The work resulted in a defensible evaluation of risk and liability at the facility which was accepted by both parties to the transaction and reflected in the final sale purchase agreement.
- Technical lead in the team that conducted the vendor due diligence of a portfolio of petrochemical manufacturing and distribution facilities located across Latin and South America. This project was technically challenging but also complex from a public perception and information management perspective as it involved significant on and off-site impacts from pesticides/herbicides and associated media interest.
- Technical lead in the team that conducted the EDD associated with the \$8 billion sale of *Thames Water* by German utility *RWE*. Acting for one of the several bidders for *Thames*, delivered an accessible and commercially focused analysis of the complex risk associated with the entire company portfolio of several hundred individual sites and many other less tangible assets. While the emphasis of the assessment was on the risk associated with historical liabilities e.g. pollution risk, the technical team also conducted innovative assessment of forward looking issues such as climate change adaptation risks and associated costs.
- Project Director for the EDD of a gold mine in Ghana prior to the release of a substantial tranche of World Bank financing. The project focused on three key elements; groundwater impact from gold recovery and tailings storage, sulphur dioxide emissions from ore processing, and displaced communities. Managed site assessment and data collection tasks and developed management plans to mitigate identified environmental and social impacts. The output of the work was used by the client to demonstrate that impacts were being assessed and mitigated and ultimately to secure the funding required to undertake a significant upscaling of activities at the mine.
- Over a 10 year period, acted as the preferred outside advisor for the majority of *Pfizer's* M&A and follow on risk assessment and management work. Typically, the only exceptions were where conflict of

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interest ruled out involvement. This work involved multi-site portfolios ranging from API plants through to distribution facilities, and was conducted in all of the world's major markets. As a result, a detailed knowledge of the environmental issues associated with fine chemical manufacturing, and biotechnology, was obtained together with an intimate appreciation of the approach to EDD and risk assessment adopted by a prominent multinational.

- 18-month full-time secondment to *General Electric (GE) – Power Systems*. Managed all EHS related elements of a project to acquire a former chlor-chemical complex in the north of England and then develop this site into a construction platform for a new gas fired power station. Key tasks included initial M&A, EIA, Part IIA risk assessment, remedial planning and implementation, permit application support, regulator advocacy on behalf of client.
- Managing Partner for the core team and technical lead for numerous multi-country/multi-site environmental due diligence and compliance assurance projects undertaken on behalf of many of the world's leading multinationals. These projects involved pulling together, directing and taking responsibility for the output of globally based teams often assessing portfolios in excess of 100 facilities located in numerous countries.
- Project Director for the team that conducted the EDD associated with the sale of key United Kingdom based thermal generation power assets. Working for a potential acquirer (US Power Utility) assessed the current environmental liabilities and forward looking future risks associated with the purchase and on-going operation of two UK coal fired power stations.
- Over an eight year period, acted as the preferred outside advisor for the majority of the M&A and risk management work conducted by the mining and industrial minerals company *Imerys*. This work involved the EDD of multi-site portfolios ranging from primary extraction sites, mineral processing plants and final product manufacturing facilities in the United States, Europe and Asia. As a result, a detailed knowledge of the environmental issues associated with mining and industrial mineral activities was obtained, together with an intimate appreciation of the approach to EDD and risk assessment adopted by a rapidly growing and highly acquisitive global business.