

CI Technologies, Rinker Settle Patent Infringement Case

New Orleans-Hydro Conduit Corp. and Pipe Liners Inc. (collectively Rinker Materials) and CI Technologies have announced the settlement of patent infringement litigation between them involving the Sure-Line pipeline rehabilitation system.

The litigation had been pending in the Federal District Court in Delaware. The specific terms of the settlement are confidential, but the parties have announced that CI Technologies has acknowledged the validity and enforceability of Rinker Materials' U.S. Patent No. 4,985,196 on the U-Liner pipeline rehabilitation system, and has agreed not to challenge its validity or enforceability in the future. The parties further announced that the Sure-Line system has joined together with U-Liner to promote deformed HDPE as the preferred rehab solution. All deformed HDPE will be manufactured and installed under the U-Liner trade name.

This settlement will enhance the business of all deformed HDPE installers throughout the country, accorded both parties. The management of the companies involved in the litigation expressed their pleasure at resolving the dispute and will continue to work together to promote and enhance the deformed HDPE market and product.

operated, depending on size. Each machine can be used to accommodate various pipe sizes using shell inserts.

With speeds of up to 39 feet per minute with a 5-inch pneumatic machine and 13 feet per minute with the larger 12-inch hydraulic model, pushing machines can speed up the sliplining operation. The machines are simple to operate requiring no special labor and minimum maintenance. The pushing action can be reversed to pull back the pipe if an obstacle is encountered. Because of the very long pushes possible with the 315 and 500 models, operator seats are incorporated with these machines.

Inliner Technologies Recent Acquisition By Reynolds Latest Step In Transformation

Inliner Technologies Inc. has undergone a change in ownership, announced Ed Kampbell, vice president of Inliner Technologies.

Reynolds Inc., a top-ranked utility contractor located in Orleans, IN, - which previously owned 50 percent of Inliner Technologies - recently acquired all the remaining outstanding shares controlled by the Swedish-based Johnson Corporation. "The new ownership structure provides a much stronger commitment to the company's development of new technology and growth in North America," said Kampbell. "Inliner's objectives will be better achieved by a U.S. ownership team." Reynolds, a licensee since 1992, has been serving as the managing partner of Inliner Technologies owner team since 1999.



Kampbell, a 23-year industry veteran, was hired to expand the Inliner network and increase the availability of the Inliner product line. "Currently, our company is experiencing some exciting changes," he said. "We pride ourselves in innovative thinking and bringing new ideas to the market."

Inliner is also changing their logo to reflect this emphasis on growth and in increasing their brand's awareness. Inliner's management has significant plans for the near future. "The industry is currently growing at a rate of about 16 to 20 percent, as municipal and industrial systems age and suffer deterioration. We want to capitalize on this growth, and to increase in market share as we increase our visibility and grow our network of licensees."

Inliner Technologies Inc. is currently one of the largest cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) companies in the U.S., with five licensees performing pipe renewal projects throughout the North American continent. Licensees include Reynolds; Wester Slope Utilities, Breckenridge, CO; Kenny Construction Co., Wheeling, IL; Lametti & Sons, Hugo, MN; and E.E. Cruz Inliner Inc., Holmdel, NJ.

Reynolds is a full-service utility contractor providing a broad range of construction and water-related services to municipalities and the industry throughout the Midwest and southern United States. Founded in the mid-1930s by John L. Reynolds Sr., the company now employs more than 750 full-time personnel. Reynolds has branch offices in Fairburn, GA; Birmingham, AL; Indianapolis, IN; Louisville, KY; Middletown, OH; and St. Louis, MO.

NACE Opens Corrosion Prevention Training Facility

NACE International, the professional society of corrosion engineers, opened a new corrosion prevention training facility constructed in an open field next to NACE's headquarters in the Park Ten industrial park in west Houston. One of two training facilities of its kind in the U.S., the first one was built in Florida, and Houston needed one, say NACE officials. Besides cost -- corrosion costs the U.S. economy \$400 billion per year -- public safety and protection of the environment are major corrosion concerns. Corroded pipes can leak which can result in environmental damage, health hazards or explosions, as was the case with the El Paso explosion one year ago in Carlsbad, NM, that killed 12 people.

Lee Bone, president of NACE and a retired Arco employee said, "We see this

course benefiting all kinds of companies -- oil and gas producers, pipeline companies, utilities, water companies. Corrosion prevention has to be learned in the field through experience. And students, mostly industry professionals, will come from all over the world to learn the latest corrosion technologies at this facility."

The hands-on training facility was designed by Buddy Hutson of Florida Gas Transmission, who also designed the site in Florida. The facility features a 120-foot section of epoxy-coated steel pipe that crosses a 90-foot section of bare steel pipe, simulating a situation common to corroded pipe. The field has segments of pipes with two different types of cathodic protection and three kinds of coatings. It also has a solar-powered DC source and a thermo-electric generator. Two of its pipelines cross in a casing, simulating pipelines going under streets or railroad tracks.