



PRESS RELEASE

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Waste Control Specialists Finds Solution to Shipping Cask Shortage

Acquisition of Two New Robatel Containers Enhances Shipping Availability

DALLAS, Texas (April 13, 2012) – William J. Lindquist, CEO of Waste Control Specialists LLC (“WCS”), a subsidiary of Valhi, Inc. (NYSE: VHI), today said that WCS will acquire at least two, federally certified shipping casks to facilitate generators transportation of Class B and C low-level radioactive waste to the newly-opened Texas Compact Disposal Facility for disposal.

“There simply are not enough of these specially designed, highly-engineered casks in the country to support the needs of the universities, research centers and power plants that are generating this waste, particularly now that the Texas Compact facility offers them a new, readily accessible disposal option,” said Mr. Lindquist.

WCS has contracted with Robatel Technologies, LLC to design and fabricate the new casks, code named RT-100, which will be made of stainless steel and include five inches of lead shielding to assure public safety. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (“NRC”) exhaustively reviews the design and construction of each cask and issues a certificate of compliance before it is allowed to be placed into service.

“Our announcement today of our solution to the nation-wide cask shortage is one more example of WCS’ commitment to making the Texas Compact Disposal Facility a success for generators, the state of Texas and the residents of Andrews County. We will begin low-level waste disposal operations later this month using existing casks, with our new RT-100 casks becoming available for use later this year in response to anticipated increased disposal demand,” Mr. Lindquist said, adding that Robatel has collaborated extensively with WCS staff on the performance criteria for the RT-100, as well as working closely with the NRC on cask design certification and construction.

“Robatel is pleased to put our 60 years of experience designing and fabricating radioactive material casks to work for Waste Control Specialists by constructing these new containers. Our casks are engineered and built to meet or exceed the design, testing, use and maintenance regulations of the NRC and the U.S. Department of Transportation,” said Teo Grochowski, an executive at Robatel Technologies.

The entire disposal process, from start to finish, is tightly regulated, beginning with the transportation of the waste to the site in the federally approved casks.

“Strict controls, certified special containers such as the RT-100, rigorous oversight, extensive training and specified routes have made the shipment of low-level radioactive waste a safe, routine part of U.S. commerce for more than 50 years. Radioactive materials are transported on our highways every day and the aforementioned factors virtually eliminate the possibility of a measurable radiation exposure to the public in the unlikely event of a transportation accident,” Mr. Lindquist said.

Key features of the new WCS RT-100 casks:

- Incorporates the latest in regulatory requirements, materials engineering and design know-how.
- Offers larger volume and capability of multiple liners versus the existing casks.
- 100 percent stainless steel construction inside and out. Existing designs have carbon steel outer shells which are subject to corrosion.
- Multiple sealing gaskets incorporate a proprietary design to ensure integrity of seal during normal use or accident situations.
- Designed, tested and fabricated to withstand catastrophic accident conditions to include any combination of crash, drop, roll, fire, impact, puncture, immersion.

About the WCS Facility

The WCS facility in western Andrews County is the only commercial facility in the United States licensed to dispose of Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste. It is also licensed for the treatment and storage of low-level radioactive waste and has safely and successfully served as a temporary storage facility for past U.S. Department of Energy projects.

Situated in a semi-arid and isolated location, the WCS facility sits atop a formation of 500 feet of impermeable red-bed clay which makes it an ideal setting for the storage and disposal of low-level radioactive waste. The state of Texas has determined the WCS facility does not sit above or adjacent to any underground drinking water formations.

The WCS facility is the site of the disposal facility for the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact, and was the site of the successful storage and disposal of byproduct material from the DOE Fernald, Ohio, cleanup site.

WCS has been processing and storing low-level radioactive waste at its facility since 1998.

WCS is a subsidiary of Valhi, which is engaged in the titanium dioxide products, component products (security products, furniture components and performance marine components) and waste management industries.

About Robatel

Backed by the resources of the 180-year-old Robatel Group of companies based in the suburbs of Lyon, France, Robatel Technologies, LLC is a Georgia federally-qualified small business with engineering operations headquartered in Roanoke, Virginia. Robatel offers design engineering and fabrication services with an emphasis on the U.S. and Canadian commercial and government nuclear industries. Drawing on the knowledge base of the Robatel Group, Robatel Technologies offers 60 years of nuclear design-build experience.

For additional information about Robatel Technologies, LLC, please contact Teo Grochowski, Jr. at 540-989-2878.

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