



**Kathryn Le Warne BSC (Hons), MIIRSM, DipSM
Quality, Health, Safety & Environmental (QHSE) Manager**

Kathryn graduated from the Nottingham Trent University in 1993 with an honours degree in Microbial and Biotechnical Technology. Following graduation she worked as a Microbiologist for William Grant & Sons Distillery, Girvan, Ayrshire. A major part of this role was to carry out a pilot scale investigation into the treatability of distillery effluent using anaerobic technology.

Work at the distillery paved the way into Environmental Consultancy, firstly as an Environmental Scientist for Clean Technologies Ltd (formerly a subsidiary of ACWa Services Ltd). During this time Kathryn focussed on the application of wastewater treatment technologies to a variety of industries, including distilling, dairy, food and textiles. She was responsible for carrying out initial laboratory scale treatability studies and followed this through to in situ pilot scale studies. She was also heavily involved in trouble shooting on full scale aerobic and anaerobic wastewater treatment systems throughout the UK and Ireland, and conducted a series of effluent audits in the food industry.

Kathryn later joined IBS Viridian Ltd as an Environmental Scientist on a LINK grant looking at the remediation of heavy metals in contaminated land using a novel electrokinetic technique and also carried out further treatability studies on industrial wastes, including metal cutting fluids. During her time at Viridian, Kathryn became involved in Health and Safety and Quality Management on a part time basis. She was responsible for the development of the company's Quality Management System and helped them to achieve ISO 9002 accreditation.

Kathryn transferred into the management arena full-time when she took the position of Quality, Environment, Safety & Health Manager at Thor Overseas Limited in 2000. Thor Overseas is located in Margate, Kent, and forms part of the Thor Group, which is a multi-national organisation involved in the manufacture, sale and distribution of speciality chemicals.

The nature of the manufacturing operation at Margate, coupled with increases in productivity lead to the company's classification as a low-tier site under the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations in 2002. Kathryn was responsible for the assessment and improvement of health and safety management systems in order to meet the high standards required by these regulations. This involved very close liaison with the Hazardous Installations (HID) division of the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

Thor Overseas operated by authorisation under Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) until the transition to Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) in 2003. Kathryn co-ordinated the preparation and submission of the application to the Environment Agency and managed the requirements of the subsequent permit. She was also responsible for the management of an extensive environmental investigation which resulted from the application process.

Kathryn joined Ecologia Environmental Solutions Limited in 2006 and is responsible for the maintenance and continual improvement of the Quality Management System. Her remit also includes the implementation and enforcement of the company's health and safety policy to ensure the health and safety of staff and the company's compliance with all relevant legislation. She is currently driving the implementation of an OHSAS 18001 Management System. A future expansion of Kathryn's role within Ecologia will involve the formalisation of Ecologia's environmental procedures in accordance with ISO 14001.