



experts on the ground

Mike Summersgill, M.Sc, MBA, C.Eng, C.Env, SiLC-Director

Mike is a graduate of the Universities of Cambridge, Imperial College & Kent. With a first degree in Engineering at Churchill College in 1975, he then obtained a Masters in Soil Mechanics in London in 1983, before completing a part-time business course at Canterbury Business School in the 1990's. Mike became a Chartered Engineer in 1979, a Specialist in Land Condition in 2002, and a Chartered Environmentalist in 2007.

Mike has spent over 35 years in the civil/ground engineering field, in the UK and overseas (6 years in Middle East), with the last 23 years based in the South-East of England but working throughout the UK and Europe. Initially trained in water, drainage & highways work, Mike has moved through geotechnical engineering (dealing with foundations, excavations & slope stability) in the 1980's into the environmental/regeneration fields in the 1990's, and is an acknowledged player in the remediation, contaminated land and landfill/waste fields in the UK.

Mike has worked for both Consultancies and Contractors, large & small, and also been directly involved in Site Investigation company management and in running a SME advising Developers on land issues. Mike is a Trustee of CIWEM, the professional institution for environmental managers, and is also Vice-Chair of CL:AIRE's technical advisory board; he has been (inaugural) chair of the Service Providers Group of NICOLE in Europe.

Starting work for Yorkshire Water, Mike worked for Balfours & Halcrows in the 1980's in UAE & London, before moving to Kent in 1987 to start an infrastructure design capability within the Weeks Group (now ESG), where he became Technical Director responsible for that unit for 5 years. He then moved into a Project position, managing the Wheal Jane emergency in Cornwall for over a year, mitigating the acidic minewater outflow into the estuary. Following that assignment, Mike also undertook a voluntary engineering posting for the Red Cross in Sarajevo in 1994 and was Business Manager for a site investigation firm in Kent throughout 1995. In 1996, he joined WS/Atkins in Epsom, to manage their GeoEnvironmental unit, which remediated several redundant gasworks in the region, and included the first vented biopile project in the UK at Imperial Wharf, Fulham.

Mike moved into Contracting as General Manager of VHE Technology, working on the £5m soil washing project at Woolwich Arsenal, and major landfill/colliery remediations throughout the UK, introducing bioremediation & stabilisation capabilities into the firm, rather than procuring these externally. Following a period of self-employment and advisory work for regional contractors & consultancies, Mike was appointed by RSK to develop their regional ground engineering capabilities in 2006, out of the Tonbridge office, and worked on a portfolio of projects ranging from one-day ground investigations up to the design & overview of site clearance/remediation work for a new £100m paper mill in Norfolk, remediating (sorting + bioremediate) a municipal landfill for housing, and compliance work on all environmental Planning conditions for the £500m LNG terminal on Isle of Grain.

Mike is a Qualified Person (QP) under the industry-led initiative for the 'Definition of Waste: Development Industry Code of Practice'. He has been involved in other industry-led initiatives, such as the Single Regeneration Licence, advising government departments on the efficient operation of the marketplace for land remediation, and helped to initiate the Specialist in Land Condition qualification (as CIWEM's representative).

Mike joined Ecologia in 2011, having previously worked closely with them in 2003/04 on market development, to reinforce their skills in contamination investigation & remediation, but primarily to expand their geotechnical & waste competences. In November 2011 Mike has been appointed Director.

Technical Publications

Barry, D.L, Summersgill, I.M. et al (2001). Remedial Engineering for Closed Landfill sites. *CIRIA Report C557, London, 2001.*

Brownfield Briefing Remediation Solutions Guide – Consulting Editor for Vols 1-10; bi-annually, 2004-2009. *Newzeye Ltd, London.*