

# Environmental Solutions for *Ground Zero* at the World Trade Center Disaster Site



# OctaFlex

Environmental Systems

NEW YORK - December 16, 2001- OctaFlex, a premier environmental containment and solutions manufacturing company, was contacted in early November

2001 to address a monumental task at the *Ground Zero* World Trade Center disaster site in New York, NY. Earlier in the month the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a mandate that prohibited heavy transport and construction vehicles from removing debris that may contain asbestos and other dangerous matter from the disaster site. As heavy traces of multiple contaminants were detected in nearly all of the rubble, this would prove to be an engineering and environmental challenge. Timber Lake, SD based OctaFlex - along with its wash equipment partners - would have less than two weeks to design, build, and assemble three systems that prevent contamination to other locations while trucks carrying the rubble exit the WTC site and are en route to waste disposal facilities throughout the New York and New Jersey metropolitan areas. Octaflex management and its partners responded immediately by producing an effective heavy vehicle wash-down and containment solution that utilizes fire hydrants as a water source. As requested, the modular systems are completely above ground and fall within the fourteen-foot width requirement. All water and debris collected from each wash-down facility is contained for environmentally safe handling and disposal. To date, these systems are currently in use at three sites within the perimeter of the former World Trade Center. Nearly one thousand heavily loaded transport vehicles proceed through each wash-down system daily.



A. Heavy vehicles slowly enter the system and are sprayed by a series of multi-direction high pressure nozzles that remove truck and debris contaminants.



B. Waste water is collected and contained in channels below the mesh grating then disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.

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