1993 NOVA AWARD WINNER

MecTool Soil Remediation System

MecTool is an integrated system of components, engineered to provide a variety of in-situ remediation methods for contaminated soils. It consists of soil boring and mixing tools, a hollow stem Kelly bar with integral gas or fluid delivery system, very high torque earth drilling equipment, soil shroud containment and collection system, and a computerized monitoring system for control and documentation of soil treatments. MecTool can treat a soil column, up to 14 feet in diameter, to depths exceeding 100 feet. The Kelly bar is supported vertically by a construction crane. The Kelly bar is rotated by a drilling attachment mounted on the crane. Mounted on the Kelly bar is a drill with four horizontal blades that have cutting teeth. Steam and chemical remediation compounds are pumped into the top of the Kelly bar and injected into the soil through orifices along the trailing edges of the blades. Fluid components are designed to fit each particular remediation treatment. Surrounding the Kelly bar is a dome shaped shroud that rests on the surface of the ground to capture and allow purification of any volatiles resulting from mixing the soil column. The system was patented in 1992.

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