



Truck-and-Train Plan Gains Steam for Oil Sands Transportation Initiative

Construction on a \$1.8-billion plan to improve road and railway access to northern Alberta's oilsands could begin as early as next spring and be completed by late 2008, according to the Oil Sands Transport Initiative, a new public-private partnership. A \$2.5-million feasibility study, undertaken by newly formed Athabasca Oil

Sands Transportation Corp. (OSTI), is scheduled to be completed in mid-July. It is to determine how best to achieve an integrated and sustainable transportation solution to support the future growth of the oilsands region as more than \$60 billion of projects are slated over the next decade.

Developing an Interactive Web Presence

By Grant Little, P.Eng.

THE START OF AN "E-ADVENTURE"

The new millennium shakeout in the "dot-com" world of information technology had a reverse effect on the development of the late-1990s "e-commerce" initiative of Tartan Engineering Ltd. If anything, that shakeout resulted in renewed commitment to what is known affectionately as Tartan's "e-adventure."

Tartan Engineering, formed in 1977 with a focus on simple oil and gas well site and production facilities, has since expanded to offer complete EPCM services in gas processing, heavy oil recovery, liquids fractionation, sour gas processing, sulphur recovery and multi-phase pipeline transportation. Tartan was one of the first Calgary engineering firms to embrace computer-automated drafting in the 1980s, and subsequently developed, copyrighted and leased proprietary engineering specifications to various clients and other third parties.

THE ROAD TO AN INTERACTIVE WEB PRESENCE

In late-1996, we made a commitment to update an existing Quality Program and to become ISO 9001 ready, which was accomplished in the first quarter of 1999. An assessment of Tartan's project management and design processes was undertaken, including the evaluation of design tools and procedures to identify and capture best practices. The work process for this assessment included: