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| **Environmental Enlightenment #193** By Ami Adini - July 28, 2016   |  | | --- | | This is a SHORT, LIGHT and SIMPLE newsletter. Its purpose is to rekindle in the initiated terminology they have once learned, and enlighten the uninitiated on terms they may have heard but never known the meaning of. | | **Canister Sampling**  http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/160728-NL193NL/envEnl-193_clip_image002.jpg  *SUMMA* relates to *Sumo* only by sound and intonation.  Some may claim that *SUMMA* canisters are a reminiscence of the *Sumo* fighter.  http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/160728-NL193NL/envEnl-193_clip_image004.jpg  The SUMMA canister for whole air sampling was developed in 1965 by Dr. Hutton and Dr. Rasmussen, who were then with the U.S. Army. The word *SUMMA* was the trademark of Molectrics, for the proprietary electrochemical polishing process that was used on the stainless steel canisters, and comes from Latin, meaning “highest,” and probably referred to the quality of their electropolishing (S.D. Hoyt, “Using EPA TO-15 Full Scan and SIM for Volatile Organic Compound Analysis,” AWMA Specialty Conference, Air Toxics Measurements, San Francisco, California, October 2002).  These canisters are versatile and are used to sample for indoor air quality, environmental compliance, worker exposure, and other applications.  A “whole air” sample is collected when the air is drawn into the canister.  In the picture below, we draw a sample from air inside a vent pipe—the black pipe with white cap being the part of the vent. The canister comes from the lab under (almost) absolute vacuum. At first, the vacuum pump (on the right) purges the vent for a few minutes to ensure that the sample will be representative of the environment it gets drawn from; the valving blocks the canister during that priming operation. Then we change the valves so that the pump is blocked from the vent and blocked from the canister, and the canister opens toward the vent. The air sample now enters the empty canister.  http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/160728-NL193NL/envEnl-193_clip_image006.jpg  All things considered, I find SUMMA more workable than Sumo.  Happy New Year,  Ami Adini | | You can find past issues of our "Environmental Enlightenment" at [amiadini.com](http://www.amiadini.com/)Wealth of information about environmental site assessments in the real estate transactions and issues concerning assessment and cleanup of contamination in the subsurface soil and groundwater. |  |  | | --- | | Call me if you have any questions. There are **no obligations.**  Ami Adini Environmental Services, Inc. Environmental Consultants & General Engineering Contractors California Lic. #1009513 A B HAZ ASB **818-824-8102**; [**mail@amiadini.com**](mailto:mail@amiadini.com) [www.amiadini.com](http://amiadini.com/)  Ami Adini is a veteran environmental practitioner with over 40 years of experience. He carries a Bachelor of Science degree (B.Sc.) in Mechanical Engineering including academic credits in Nuclear and Chemical Engineering and postgraduate education in these fields. His career includes design and construction of nuclear plant facilities, chemical processing plants and hazardous wastewater treatment systems. He is a former California Registered Environmental Assessor Levels I & II in the 1988-2012 registry that certified environmental professionals in the assessment and remediation of environmentally impacted land, and a Registered Environmental Professional (REP) since 1989 with the National Registry of Environmental Professionals (NREP). He is a California Business & Professions Code Qualifying Responsible Managing Officer (RMO) in the General Engineering Contractor classification with Hazardous Substance Removal and Asbestos certifications, and president of AMI ADINI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. (AAES), a general engineering contractor and consulting firm specializing in environmental site assessments, rehabilitation of contaminated sites and removal of environmental risks from real-estate transactions. (Contact Ami for a complete resume.) **AAES provides practical solutions to environmental concerns using the highest standards of ethics and integrity while providing its clients with maximum return on their investments.** | |