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### Environmental guild forms to help Montana companies bid on international projects

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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“This release is available electronically on INN (News Net).”

Sept. 23, 1998

**Contact:** Fraser McLeay, senior manager, Montana World Trade Center, (406) 243-6982.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GUILD FORMS TO HELP MONTANA COMPANIES BID ON INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

#### **MISSOULA --**

The Montana World Trade Center at The University of Montana-Missoula invites companies that specialize in environmental services and technologies to join its newly formed Montana Environmental Technologies Guild.

The guild is comprised of environmental companies, the Montana University System and the Montana World Trade Center.

“The international market for environmental services offers great opportunities for Montana’s companies,” said Arnie Sherman, MWTC executive director. “Our intent in forming the guild is to allow us to pool efforts to successfully compete for international environmental projects that amount to billions of dollars in funding each year.”

The guild will combine the skills and resources of Montana’s environmental companies with the technical research and marketing expertise, translation abilities, and financial and political support of the University System and MWTC. Eighteen Montana companies already have joined the guild. Working together, the guild’s members will actively develop proposals to bid on international projects in the following areas:

- mining pollution prevention, remediation and reclamation;

- more -

- sustainable resource development;
- environmental engineering and construction;
- tourism development; and
- environmental assessment and management.

“Gov. (Marc) Racicot and our congressional leaders strongly support the guild,” Sherman said. “By combining our strengths, we can bring Montana’s environmental industry to the forefront of international commerce.”

In addition to helping Montana companies compete for international contracts through the formation of the environmental guild, MWTC tentatively has scheduled an International Symposium on Pollution Prevention and Remediation Technology for the mining industry next summer. This symposium will be designed to showcase Montana’s environmental technology companies.

Companies interested in learning more about MWTC’s efforts to increase trade opportunities for environmental companies should call Phil McCreedy or Fraser McLeay at (406) 243-6982.

MWTC provides customized consulting to help Montana companies realize international sales and expansion goals. For more information, call (406) 243-6982 or visit the MTWC Web site at <http://www.mwtc.org>.

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