

INNOVATION AWARD WINNERS

PITTSBURGH BUSINESS TIMES

Innovation Awards

Honoring those who are developing transformative products and ideas.

SECTION BEGINS ON PAGE 23

AQUASOURCE TECHNOLOGIES CORP.

INNOVATION: High-temp method to treat wastewater from oil, gas drilling



AQUASOURCE TECHNOLOGIES

High heat is used to treat water used in the horizontal oil and shale gas drilling process.

The recent boom in the shale oil and gas industry has brought with it a serious problem – how to dispose of the polluted water that's used in the hydraulic fracking process.

Several treatment methods have been developed, including injection of the wastewater into deep underground wells. But earthquakes that have occurred near these disposal sites are making local governments wary of this method.

AquaSource Technologies Corp. has introduced a unique method of remediating this water, according to Shyam Dighe, president, founder and CEO.

"We use high-temperature plasma technology to treat wastewater generated by the oil and natural gas industry during drilling," he said.

According to Dighe, the process completely eliminates the need for disposal of any kind, since there are no residual wastes once the technology is used. The end products of the treatment system are distilled water and salt with no residue that requires further disposal, he explained.

- Richard Certilli

AQUASOURCE TECHNOLOGIES CORP.

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- ▶ **TOP OFFICER:** Shyam Dighe, president and CEO, 412-720-1539, dighesv@aquasourcetechnologies.com
- ▶ **WHAT THE COMPANY DOES:** Water treatment technology provider
- ▶ **EMPLOYEES:** 4