

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 2

In the Matter of:

MUNICIPALITY OF RÍO GRANDE  
PO Box 847  
Río Grande, Puerto Rico 00745

RESPONDENT

Proceeding pursuant to Section  
309(g)(2)(B) of the Clean Water Act, 33  
U.S.C. § 1319(g)

SUPPLEMENTAL  
PREHEARING EXCHANGE

DOCKET NUMBER  
CWA-02-2009-3458

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY-REGION 2  
2009 NOV 13 PM 1:49  
REGIONAL HEARING  
CLERK

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONDENT INITIAL**  
**PREHEARING EXCHANGE**

Comes now the respondent to the instant action and very respectfully avers and prays as follows:

1. Pursuant to the order on Motion for remedies dated October 19, 2009 and the prehearing order, dated July 16, 2009, respondent hereby files its Respondent Supplemental Prehearing Exchange.

2. Attached is the Curriculum Vitae of CPA Alfredo López Vega and the Eng. Juan C. Mercado Torres.

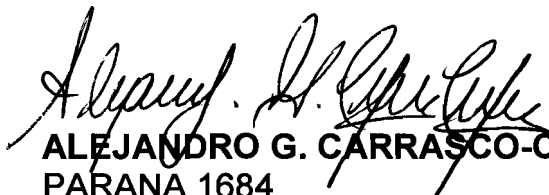
3. (a) The Municipality has no evidence from developer or whoever it corresponds to transfer title of the small municipal separate storm sewer system.

(b) Same as above.

(c) A copy of the Financial Statements of the Municipality of Río Grande for the year ending June 30, 2008 was attached to the

(d) Same as above.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, in San Juan, Puerto Rico this 12 day of  
November 2009.

  
ALEJANDRO G. CARRASCO-CASTILLO  
PARANA 1684  
URB. EL CEREZAL  
SAN JUAN, PR 00926-3144  
TEL. (787) 756-8748 / (787) 756-8687 FAX  
E-MAIL: [carrasclaw@prtc.net](mailto:carrasclaw@prtc.net)

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In the Matter of:

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PO Box 847  
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DOCKET NUMBER  
**CWA-02-2009-3458**

**CERTIFICATED OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing Supplemental Respondent Initial Prehearing Exchange, dated November 12, 2009, and bearing the above-referenced docket number, in the following manner to the respective addressees below:

Original and copy by **Federal Express** to:

Karen Mapples  
Regional Hearing Clerk  
Region 2  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
290 Broadway, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007-1866

Copy by **Certified Mail** to:

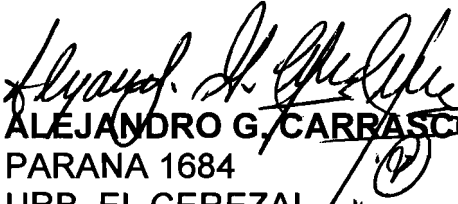
Attorney for Complainants:

Roberto M. Durango, Esq.  
Associate Regional Counsel  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2  
Office of Regional Counsel – Caribbean Team  
Centro Europa Bldg., Suite 417  
1492 Ponce De León Ave.  
San Juan, PR 00907-4127

Original by **Federal Express** to:

The Honorable Susan L. Biro  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Administrative Law Judges  
Franklin Court Building  
1099 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 350  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
Fax: (202) 565-0044

Issued this 12 day of november 2009.

  
ALEJANDRO G. CARRASCO-CASTILLO  
PARANA 1684  
URB. EL CEREZAL  
SAN JUAN, PR 00926-3144  
TEL. (787) 756-8748 / (787) 756-8687 FAX  
E-MAIL: [carrasclaw@prtc.net](mailto:carrasclaw@prtc.net)



## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Project Management
- Environmental
- Consulting
- Design

Tel (787) 746 3333

Fax (787) 704 2333

Juan C. Mercado Torres, P.E.

P.O. Box 822  
Caguas P.R. 00726  
e-mail [mercadojc@itgpr.net](mailto:mercadojc@itgpr.net)



Providing cost effective solutions since 1997

P.O. Box 822 Caguas, P.R. 00726  
Tel: 787-744-2333 / 787-746-3333  
Fax: 787-704-2333  
[www.itgpr.net](http://www.itgpr.net)



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## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

May 2009

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## COMPANY DESCRIPTION

i-TECHNICAL GROUP (ITG) improves its customers' business performance by providing a cost-effective alternative to companies, agencies and individuals operating in and outside Puerto Rico.

ITG's success is based on providing our customers with quality projects. We specialize in the areas of civil, sanitary, and environmental engineering, providing the full range of services from feasibility studies and economic analyses to final design and construction contract administration. Our target markets include private industry, municipal, state and federal governments. We maintain a team relationship with our clients. We take pride in our knowledge of the community and its individual needs, constantly striving to improve the quality of life, keeping abreast of the latest in technology, construction methods, and funding alternatives.

Our philosophy is to *"provide quality projects with a hands on approach, utilizing sound engineering practices and methods, innovative technology, economic feasibility and good common sense."*

Proper management and team effort throughout the planning, design and construction phases ensure quality and economy in every facet of every project.

**Control of Cost.** ITG places constant emphasis on project construction cost

control. We begin in the earliest phases of project inception, teaming with the client, the project manager, the design team, and the construction inspection team. Realizing the disruptive effect of changes, we concentrate heavily on up-front planning, ensuring complete communication among team members. Topics of discussion include available budget, design alternatives, construction methods, construction materials, building materials, length of construction, timeframe of construction, participation of the ultimate facility user, and phasing.

**Quality of Work.** We emphasize client support and quality of products and services, but we also realize that quality requires more than just a dedicated team. It requires the best equipment, training, and resources. ITG provides that to every employee. We possess the hardware and software necessary to deliver quality products and services, and we support programs of continuing education.

**Compliance with Performance Schedules.** ITG is dedicated to meeting delivery schedules. We establish project schedules, identify critical dates, set up team meeting reviews, and monitor the milestones. The size of our firm allows every member to gauge our success, and our success is measured by the quality of the product and the satisfaction of the client. Although every project has a manager and a team, each employee feels ownership, and we provide mutual support as necessary. We meet our deadlines.



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At ITG we depend on repeat business and an excellent reputation to maintain our workload. We are a progressive firm with conservative business policies. We fully believe in team building and partnering, but we also select our partners and joint ventures carefully. We devote that same effort to the selection of equipment. ITG staff and its associates have designed, permitted, and

provided construction contract administration on projects throughout Puerto Rico and the US. We have surveyed, permitted, held public hearings, prepared environmental assessments, prepared site suitability studies, designed, and provided QA/QC on many projects.





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### LIST OF SERVICES

1. Environmental Engineering
2. Civil Engineering
3. Mechanical Engineering
4. Electrical Engineering
5. Architectural Services
6. General Permitting Services in the following Government Agencies:
  - a. Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board General Permitting Services
  - b. United States Environmental Protection Agency General Permitting Services
  - c. Puerto Rico Department of Environmental and Natural Resources
  - d. Puerto Rico Department of Health
  - e. Puerto Rico Department of Labor (Health & Safety)
  - f. Puerto Rico Permits and Regulation Administration
  - g. Puerto Rico Planning Board
  - h. United States Army Corps of Engineers
  - i. United States Fish and Wildlife Service
  - j. Federal Emergency Management Agency
7. Preparation of the following documents / permits applications:
  - a. Environmental Assessments
  - b. Environmental Impact Statements
  - c. Air Permits
  - d. Water, Wastewater & Stormwater Permits
  - e. Development of Best Management, Pollution Prevention, Emergency Response and Chemical Safety/Hygiene Plans
  - f. Preparation of RCRA, SPCC and CES Plans
  - g. Permit and Liaison with Regulatory Agencies
  - h. Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements
  - i. Environmental Audits (Phase I, Phase II)
  - j. OPA-90 Oil Pollution Response Plans
  - k. Indoor Air Quality Investigations
  - l. Water / Wastewater Management
  - m. Hydrologic / Hydraulic Evaluations, Stormwater Management



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- n. Solid Waste Management /  
Landfill Design/Infrastructure  
Design
- o. Indoor Air Quality Surveys
- p. OSHA Compliance Audits  
and Training Seminars
- q. Safety Inspections / On-site  
Safety Courses
- r. Process Safety Management
- s. Exposure Monitoring and  
Industrial Hygiene / Surveys
- t. Topographical and Boundary  
Surveys / Control Surveys /  
As-Built Drawings
- u. Earthworks (Cut and Fill)  
Calculations



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## REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

MASSO	Caribbean Industrial Construction
Masso Enterprises	C&R Development
Damart Development	HRA Architects and Engineers
Caguas Lumber Yard	Empacadora Hill Bothers
INTEGRA Design	LORD Electric
INTEGRA Builders	Continental LORD
Vives Construction	HH Consultants
SEM Architects & Engineers	Amphibious Engineering General Contractor
Municipality of Barceloneta	Alejandro Carrasco Law Offices
Municipality of Barranquitas	Calle Aguilu Law Firm
Municipality of Caguas	EST Hardware
Municipality of Carolina	HDR Engineering
Municipality of Cayey	Amphibious Engineering
Municipality of Coamo	Caribe Environmental Services
Municipality of Juana Diaz	Ferrovial Agroman General Contractor
Municipality of Toa Alta	AJ Oster
Municipality of Toa Baja	Municipality Consultants Group
Municipality of Rio Grande	Wal-Mart
Municipality of Cabo Rojo	Valley View Park Developers
Municipality of Florida	RJ Industrial
Municipality of Vega Baja	Boston Scientific
Municipality of Santa Isabel	Newport Recycling
PE Engineering Group	AR Waste
Applied Robotics	
Junco Steel Corporation	

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A large, high-contrast, black and white graphic. The background is a textured, grainy image of a landscape with a body of water and some buildings. Overlaid on this is the ITG logo at the top, followed by a list of services in large, bold, black letters with a white outline. At the bottom of the graphic is the phone number 787-744-2333 in the same large, bold, black font with a white outline.

**ITG**

- **Ingenieros**
- **Consultoría**
- **Diseño**
- **Ambiental**
- **Permisos**
- **Desarrollos**

**787-744-2333**

*Providing Cost Effective Engineering Solutions Since 1997*

**Juan Carlos Mercado Torres, P.E.**

**Professional Engineer**

P.O. Box 822 Caguas, P.R. 00726

Email: Sanitaria@gmail.com

**MAJOR QUALIFICATIONS**

- ◆ Licensed Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and a Registered Engineer in the State of Florida
- ◆ Design / Build Experience
- ◆ Subtitle D 40 CFR Experience in the State of Florida and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
- ◆ Sales and Presentation Skills
- ◆ Experience in Client/Market Development
- ◆ Bilingual: Spanish, English fluently
- ◆ Project Planning, Management and Supervisory Experience
- ◆ Ability to Interact Effectively with Clients, Peers and Subordinates both in English and Spanish
- ◆ Good Analytical and Communication Skills
- ◆ Design / Build Experience

**LICENSES**

- ◆ Professional Engineer Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
- ◆ Registered Engineer State of Florida (1996)
- ◆ Licensed Insurance Agent Commonwealth of Puerto Rico
- ◆ OSHA HAZWOPER- (11/21/97)

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

***President and Owner – I-Technical Group, Caguas, P.R. (5/97-Current)***

- ◆ Responsible for the development of the consulting firm, which started right after leaving the University of Florida with a degree in environmental engineering. ITG specializes in independent engineering consulting services in several technical areas and currently holds a list of over 15 major clients and several minor clients (Please Refer to ITG statement of qualifications or for further information or capabilities visit our website at [www.itgpr.net](http://www.itgpr.net))
- ◆ General Environmental Permitting Documents, Project Management, Feasibility Studies, Solid Waste Management, Air Quality, Water and Wastewater Treatment.
  - New Medtronic Facility in Juncos, Puerto Rico
  - Guidant Puerto Rico, Dorado, Puerto Rico
  - Colgate, Juncos, Puerto Rico
  - Pfizer Fajardo, Puerto Rico
  - Pfizer Barceloneta, Puerto Rico
  - Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority, New Secure Housing Project, Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico
  - Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority, New Secure Housing Project, Lajas, Puerto Rico
  - Confidential Private Hotel Development, Guanica, Puerto Rico
  - Confidential Industrial Development, Northwestern, Puerto Rico

**Juan Carlos Mercado Torres, P.E.**

**Professional Engineer**

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- ◆ Puerto Rico Highway and Transportation Authority  
Toyota de Puerto Rico

***President and Owner – Independent Insurance Agency (2/2002 – Current)***

- ◆ Responsible for the development of the agency environmental and construction insurance market. Currently provides services to several confidential clients in the pollution liability / construction related insurance areas.

***Project Manager, Brown and Caldwell, Inc, Miami, Florida / San Juan, PR (2/99-2/00)***

- ◆ As a consultant, responsible for the day to day activities of marketing, project management and project delivery in the Caribbean Region, mostly in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- ◆ Established new client and joint venture relationships. Assessed business growth and development. Developed strategic business plans.
- ◆ Maintain strong relationship and interactions with vendors and customers
- ◆ Lead the development of the business market opportunities in the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

***Project Manager, Camp Dresser & McKee, Miami, Florida (2/99-2/00)***

- ◆ Responsible for the day to day activities of marketing, project management and project delivery in the Caribbean Region, mostly in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- ◆ Established new client and joint venture relationships. Assessed business growth and development. Developed strategic business plans.
- ◆ Maintain strong relationship and interactions with vendors and customers
- ◆ Lead the development of the business market opportunities in the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

***Project Engineer, Camp Dresser & McKee, Tampa, Florida (3/97-2/99)***

***Project Experience;***

***Infrastructure Financing Authority, AFI, San Juan, Puerto Rico, (3/99-Present):***

- ◆ Currently assisting on the design, specifications/contract production, shop drawing review and construction services for a new potable water treatment plant in the municipality of Mayaguez.
- ◆ This fast track, ten million dollar construction cost project includes the design of a process to treat high turbidity water from the Yaguez river in order to meet all EPA Safe Drinking Water Act, PRASA and Department of Health design criteria and regulations.

***Southern County, Delaware Solid Waste Authority, Delaware (6/98-1/99):***

- ◆ Assisted on the design, specifications/contract production, permitting, shop drawing review and construction services for a new 30-acre cell at the Southern Solid Waste Management Center.

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- ◆ This expansion includes a new disposal area with doubled lined containment, a stormwater management system, perimeter access roads, a small load drop-off area, and additional pump stations and mains.

City of St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Florida (5/98-12/98):

- ◆ Responsible for the modeling and analysis using Cybernet 3 of the reclaimed water system for the City of St. Petersburg.
- ◆ Modeling conditions will be presented to the client with projections to the year 2030 in order to be able to manage future reclaimed water demand for the county.

Bay County, Panama City Beach, Florida (10/97-5/98):

- ◆ Assisted on the design, specifications/contract production, shop drawings review and construction services for a new municipal solid waste cell at the Steelfield Road Landfill in Panama City Beach, Florida.
- ◆ In coordination with a team of three civil, mechanical and environmental engineers this 72,000 square yards, multimillion dollar project was successfully completed on-schedule and will serve as an active municipal solid waste disposal facility for the next seven years.
- ◆ Responsible for the leachate collection system, leachate detection system, liner, and stormwater collection system design and construction services.
- ◆ This new cell was designed following all EPA/DEP municipal solid waste disposal regulations.

Hillsborough County, Tampa Water Department, Tampa, Florida (3/98-7/98):

- ◆ Represented Camp Dresser & McKee in contract negotiations and marketing presentations for this five-year management consulting services / capital improvement plan project.
- ◆ Performed management consulting services for the Tampa Water Department in order to organize and optimize their planning and budgeting process.
- ◆ Provided the client with renewal and replacement cost data and analysis of the current equipment and future needs of water, wastewater and reclaimed water facilities.

Hillsborough County, Plant City, Florida (9/97-Present):

- ◆ Represented the City of Plant City during one of its worst floods, surveying and assessing damages and citizens concerns and presented possible solutions.
- ◆ Responsible for the design of the Pistol Range Stormwater Pond and open channel facility, a successful project to alleviate flooding problems and stormwater runoff pollution for the City of Plant City.

Martin County, City of Palm City, Florida (4-98-7/98):

- ◆ Responsible for the leachate collection system, leachate detection system, liner, geosynthetic clay liner and stormwater collection system design and construction services.
- ◆ This new cell was designed following all EPA/DEP municipal solid waste disposal regulations for geosynthetic clay liners and double liners.

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- ◆ Performed hydraulic analysis of existing pump station network and advise the client about future problems due to the future addition of flow to the existing system.

Rockwell Inc., Miami, Florida (10/97-11/97):

- ◆ Performed Environmental Assessments /Audits for a major real estate group transaction.
- ◆ Reports and site visits were prepared in both English and Spanish in order to accommodate the needs of the Spanish-speaking client.

Elias & Associates Law Firm, Tampa, Florida (10/97-11/97):

- ◆ Performed consulting services for a Spanish-speaking client of the Elias & Associates Law Firm.
- ◆ Served as a liaison between the client and the Department of Environmental Protection, explaining technical issues of hazardous waste storage and disposal in Spanish and English to both parties.
- ◆ The client was able to save over ten thousand dollars in fines due to a misunderstanding caused by his language barrier.

Marmon Investment Group, Orlando, Florida (8/97-9/97):

- ◆ Performed an Environmental Assessment /Audit for a major real estate investment group transaction.
- ◆ Identified possible chemical hazards and pollution sources on-site.
- ◆ Evaluated solid wastes, stormwater, and wastewater management systems and prepared a successful proposal for the improvement of all three-management systems.

Tampa International Airport-Hillsborough County Aviation Authority, Tampa, Florida (7/97-3/98):

- ◆ Performed Environmental Assessments /Audits for a major real estate acquisition by the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (HCAA).
- ◆ Responsible for site visits, interviews and evaluation reports. Most interviews were conducted in Spanish since most of the land to be purchased by HCAA is located within the Hispanic business-residential community of Tampa.

Escambia County, Pensacola Beach, Florida (3/97-9/97):

- ◆ Responsible for the modeling and analysis of the potable water systems network for Pensacola Beach Florida.
- ◆ Peak hour, average daily flow and fire flow modeling conditions were presented to the client with projections to the year 2015 in order to be able to manage future water demand for the county.

Leon County, Tallahassee, Florida (4/97-6/98):

- ◆ Assisted in the production of permitting design drawings, calculations and coordination of the Lake Munson Restoration Project.



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- ◆ This multimillion-dollar project has the ultimate goals of restoring Lake Henrietta, Lake Munson and Munson Slough back to a more natural system in order to alleviate current flooding problems in Leon County.

***Hillsborough County, Ybor City, Florida (11/97-12/97):***

- ◆ Developed a solid waste collection strategy study for Ybor City, a nineteenth century historic District City that has become a major commercial area in the Tampa Area.
- ◆ The collection strategy developed tries to preserve and/or enhance the aesthetics of the area while accommodating for the current commercial needs.
- ◆ The collection strategy developed was presented to the client in CADD overlays and is currently being used in a GIS database and for other field collection scheduling.

***Hall Director, Division of Housing, University of Florida: Gainesville, Florida (5/96-5/97)***

- ◆ Responsible for the entire operations of Graham Hall Building, a student residence hall with an occupancy of approximately 300 students.
- ◆ Supervised an administrative budget and a staff of six employees.
- ◆ Approval and verification of room transfers and assignments, damage controls systems and billing, judicial system, fire safety control systems / fire Marshall compliance regulations, and verification of supplies inventory.

***Solid Waste Containment Design Process Manual, Alachua County, Florida (10/96 – 5/97)***

- ◆ Performed independent research concerning federal regulations, design criteria and management options of municipal solid waste landfills and hazardous waste treatment and disposal.
- ◆ Prepared presentations for engineering and non-technical audiences on how to site, design, operate, apply closure plan, landfill gas treatment, leachate treatment system and hydraulic system design for a municipal solid waste landfill.

***Resident Assistant, Division of Housing, University of Florida: Gainesville, Florida (8/93-5/96)***

- ◆ Advised, counseled, and created a positive living environment in a coed section of a residence hall.
- ◆ Enforced policies, resolved conflicts, and implemented entertaining programs to educate residents.
- ◆ Served on campus wide planning committees for theme weeks and specialty programming.

***Research Assistant, Central Caribbean Univ. School of Medicine: Bayamón, Puerto Rico (8/91 - 5/92)***

- ◆ Assisted Dr. Walter Silva on his research of Bovine Brain Proteins.
- ◆ Responsible for lab equipment inventory, maintenance and ordering.

**Juan Carlos Mercado Torres, P.E.**

**Professional Engineer**

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Email: Sanitaria@gmail.com

**EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering-** University of Florida, Gainesville, FL  
May 1997

- ◆ Core emphasis in water & wastewater treatment, solid waste management, and sales engineering.

**University of South Florida Engineering Masters Program-** Tampa, FL- August 1997-July 1999

- ◆ Graduate courses and seminars in the areas of total quality management, solid waste management and remediation treatment processes.

**University of North Florida-** Jacksonville, FL- November 1997

- ◆ OSHA 40-Hour Hazardous Materials Health & Safety Training Course, National Fire Protection Association- Life Safety Code Seminar and Construction Safety Seminar.

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

- ◆ AutoCAD 2003, SoftDesk Civil Modules (Earthworks, DTM, Cogo), HELP ( Hydrologic Evaluation of Landfill Performance) Model, C++, Cybernet (Potable Water Systems Design), WaterCad, EPANET (Pipe Network Analysis), Microsoft Office, Geographical Information Systems ArcView-ArcInfo, SureTrack (Primavera Systems)

**AWARDS & ACTIVITIES**

- ◆ Camp Dresser & Mckee Outstanding Performance Recognition Award (October 1999)
- ◆ Camp Dresser & Mckee Excellence Bonus Award (October 1999)
- ◆ Engineering & Information Technology Magazine Portrait Article (Summer 1998 Issue)
- ◆ Camp Dresser & Mckee Excellence Bonus Award (January 1998)
- ◆ President's Recognition of Outstanding Students Award (1994 - 96)
- ◆ Outstanding Service Awards for UF Division Of Housing (1993 - 96)
- ◆ University of Florida National Alumni Association
- ◆ National Society of Hispanic Engineers
- ◆ American Water Works Association

**PROFESSIONAL SEMINARS**

- ◆ Several Seminars in Puerto Rico and the US related to the Environmental Engineering Field 1998-2003
- ◆ CDM Advance Project Management, 1998, Miami, FL
- ◆ CDM Basic Project Management, 1998, Tampa, FL
- ◆ CDM Financial Management, 1997, Tampa, FL

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- ◆ CDM Project Management, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ CDM SoftDesk COGO, DTM, and Design Tools, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ EDI Air Diffusers Design, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ GSE Lining Technologies, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ Air Mixing Systems Design, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ Engineered Membrane Diffusers Design, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ Rapid Sand Filter Design, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ Geosynthetics and Underdrain Products, 1997, Tampa, FL
- ◆ Environmental Law Symposium, 1996, Gainesville, FL

**REFERENCES**

References, company financial statements and good standing certificates as well as additional information available upon request.

## PEOPLE

### Juan Carlos Mercado, EI at CDM



"I wanted to do something that would enable me to give back to my community later on. That's how I decided to become an environmental engineer," says Juan Carlos Mercado.

In his current job, consulting engineer for Camp Dresser & McKee (CDM, Cambridge, MA), he's well on the way to being able to do that. He joined CDM in 1997 and works in the firm's Tampa, FL, office. At the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), he specialized in solid waste management and design.

CDM is a fifty-year-old civil and environmental engineering firm. It's a broad-based, multinational company with offices throughout the U.S. and worldwide.

Mercado says seeing a project become reality is a real thrill. "When I look at the drawings, that makes me proud. But when I actually go out to the site with the drawings in my hand, and I see that the project is built to the specifications of the design, that's when I get the feeling that this really works."

His team's most recent project was the construction of a \$2.4 million, 15.2-acre landfill at Panama City Beach in Florida's Bay County. "It was a real sacrifice to work on the beach," Mercado says with a smile. The solid waste cell followed all EPA and DEP regulations and is expected to last at least six years.



# What A Great Idea!

RECOGNIZING PEOPLE AS OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE!

At Georgia-Pacific Corporation, we've had a 70 year history of great ideas. That's why we're now a multi-billion dollar industry leader competing in the global marketplace. Perhaps one of our best ideas was to create career development programs to help us nurture young talent. Just as we select the best seedlings to grow in our forests, we select the best people and help them blossom in their careers.

Georgia-Pacific's college program offers diverse, entry-level career opportunities in accounting, engineering, forestry, information resources, corporate initiative communications, logistics and more to individuals with a four-year degree. A career with Georgia-Pacific offers limitless opportunity for challenge and advancement.

In addition to our entry-level opportunities, we also have a co-op/internship program with meaningful and challenging opportunities in many of our Building Products, Paper and Corporate divisions. We provide ongoing support to our employees with training programs, educational assistance, transfers, and a promote-from-within policy.

At Georgia-Pacific, we enhance each employee's opportunities for advancement by offering training, career planning, and matching job opportunities with individuals' career interests. We encourage proactivity and strive to create a work environment that fosters innovation.

To continue our legacy of success and meet our goals for the future, we'll need even more great ideas. We'd like to hear yours! Please send your resume to:

Georgia-Pacific Corporation  
Staffing Dept. GA030-24  
College Relations  
133 Peachtree St. NE  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
e-mail: [recruiting@gapac.com](mailto:recruiting@gapac.com)  
Visit our website at [www.gp.com](http://www.gp.com)

An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

# Georgia-Pacific



Mercado worked as liaison to the site, under the direction of Darwish Elhajji, PE, the engineer who designed the project. Working with senior

engineers in the company is helping him learn about the many aspects of environmental engineering, like solid waste design, potable water

and waste water system design, he says. In the year since he joined CDM, Mercado has worked on storm water management systems, potable

water projects, and a wetland restoration project in Bay County in northern Florida.

Mercado grew up in Bay County. *Continued on page 27*

## Mercado

Continued from page 26

mon, Puerto Rico. He's the youngest of four brothers; all have gone to college. "My dad and my older brothers and my mom guided me through high school," he says. "My mom is a teacher and she taught me how to become a successful student. My father owns a family-operated liquor store and taught me the importance of hard work."

When Mercado was in high school, he paid a visit to the lab of the local medical school. The scientist he worked with suggested that he could have an exciting career and make a contribution to his community as an environmental engineer. "Environmental problems on the island are very big," Mercado explains.

When it came time for college, Mercado was accepted at the University of Puerto Rico and several schools on the mainland. He weighed his options and decided that the opportunity to study in Florida and become truly bilingual was too good to pass up.

In college, Mercado worked as a hall director, managing several buildings and supervising a staff of six people for the university's Department of Housing. "It was great experience for me, and it also allowed me to pay for my schooling with few loans," he says. Mercado also believes the work experience helped him land his job with CDM.

The combination of field and desk work in his job is ideal, Mercado says. "Sitting in front of a computer may be all right for some," he explains, "but I'd rather put on my boots and hard hat and go out somewhere. It's good to have the sun on my face."

The location is ideal too. Long term, Mercado would like to use his knowledge of Spanish in his work. He's already made a start. "We've had a couple of Spanish-speaking clients, and I've been able to communicate with them in their own language, which tends to put

them more at ease." Mercado feels he'll have no problem finding work in Puerto Rico when he decides to return. "I know the technical and engi-

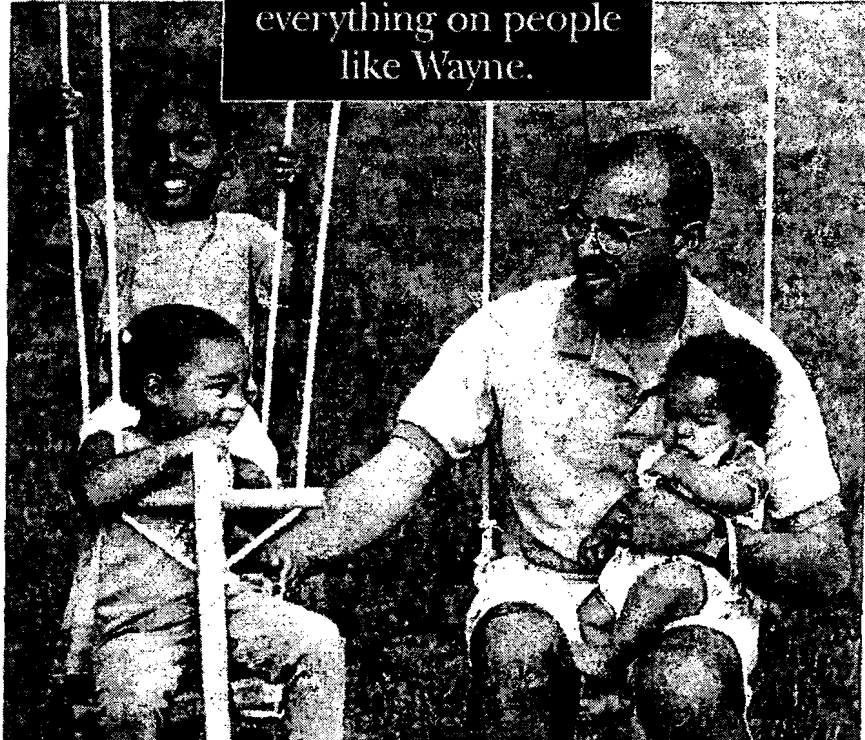
neering aspects of both languages," he says.

Mercado balances hard work with an active personal life. "My philosophy is 'work

smarter, not harder.' Sometimes I stay at work until ten, but other times I get out at five. I do what I have to do to get the job done for the

client," he says, "but I would not be able to function if I couldn't go to the gym or go out to dinner with my girl friend once in a while." *DA*

At GE, we're betting everything on people like Wayne.



**Name:** Wayne Hewitt, Husband, father and General Manager, Petrochemicals and Global Sourcing, GE Plastics.  
**Home:** Dalton, MA. Originally from Kingston, Jamaica.  
**Education:** BS and MS Industrial Engineering, Stanford University.

**Influences:** His parents instilled strong values which "focused on respecting people, applying yourself to accomplish goals and maintaining family."

**Heroes:** His dad: "He taught me that it's not where you start that's important, but where you end - go after your dreams."

**Interests:** Spending time with his kids, international travel and listening to loud reggae music on a very hot day.

**Investment Strategy:** Wayne focuses on stock funds, both global and domestic.

**Strength:** Quick study who finds a way to win regardless of environment.

**Weakness:** Sweet desserts, especially cakes.

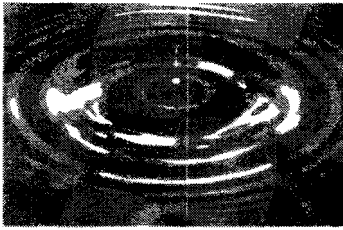
**Philosophy:** "Make a difference in everything you do."

**What's best about working at GE:** "If you make a difference, you will be noticed and challenged. You're constantly being driven to be your best."

The future of GE depends on people like Wayne. So, if you're looking for an opportunity to make a difference, bet on GE. Our leadership vision includes you. When responding to this ad, please refer to Corporate HR - AN002. Send resume via e-mail to: [resume@opportunities.ge.com](mailto:resume@opportunities.ge.com) (Use the word 'resume' in the subject, ASCII text only.) Or fax to (513) 543-7346. An acknowledgement letter will be sent to confirm receipt of your resume into our electronic database. GE is an equal opportunity employer.



*We bring good things to life.*



# ITG

Es con gran entusiasmo que deseamos informarle sobre el establecimiento de nuestras nuevas oficinas de servicios profesionales de ingeniería localizadas en la Calle Acosta # 2A, Altos, en Caguas, Puerto Rico. En esta oficina se ofrecerán los siguientes servicios profesionales:

- Ingeniería Civil
- Ingeniería Ambiental
- Ingeniería Mecánica
- Ingeniería Eléctrica
- Servicios de Arquitectura
- Gerencia de Proyectos
- Inspección de Construcción
- Análisis de Reglamentos y Leyes Ambientales
- Preparación de Permisos y Documentos Ambientales Estatales y Federales
- Evaluaciones Ambiental y Declaraciones de Impacto Ambiental
- Desarrollo e Implementación de Programas de Manejo De Desperdicios Sólidos
- Desarrollo e Implementación de Proyectos y Actividades de Educación Ambiental
- Redacción de Propuestas, Reportajes y Documentos Educativos
- Proyectos de Cumplimiento con la reglamentación para el manejo de desperdicios sólidos (subtitulo D, 40 CFR, 258).
- Auditorías Ambientales – (Fase I, Fase II)
- Permisos de Control de Erosión Estatales y Federales
- Estudios de Caracterización y Muestreos
- Permisos de Extracción Corteza Terrestre
- Permisos de Fuente de Emisión Atmosférica

- Permisos de Construcción de ARPE
- Permiso de Uso
- Permiso de Extracción de Agua (DRNA)
- Consulta de Ubicación ante la Junta de Planificación
- Adiestramientos de Seguridad y Salud
- Representación de clientes en vistas publicas
- Trabajamos con las comunidades
- Otros servicios profesionales

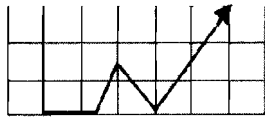
El equipo de ingenieros licenciados de ITG cuenta con profesionales graduados de universidades de Puerto Rico y Estados Unidos debidamente licenciados y miembros activos del Colegio de Ingenieros y Agrimensores de Puerto Rico. Nuestros profesionales cuentan con sobre 15 años de experiencia combinada trabajando en proyectos estatales y federales. La solidez financiera y las referencias de excelencia caracterizan a ITG como una firma de consultoría responsable y exitosa. Si desea conocer mas sobre nuestras capacidades en el área de Puerto Rico y Florida se pueden comunicat con nosotros al 787-744-2333.

**ITG**

- **Ingenieros**
- **Consultoria**
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ITG Environmental Engineering, Design & Project Management  
Tel: 787-744-2333 Fax: 787-704-2333  
[www.itgpr.net](http://www.itgpr.net)



***López-Vega, CPA, PSC***

Certified Public Accountants / Management Advisors

## **FIRM PROFILE**

**CONTACT PERSON:**

**ANGEL ALFREDO LOPEZ VEGA, CPA**

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[alfredolopez@lopezvegacpa-pr.com](mailto:alfredolopez@lopezvegacpa-pr.com)**

## **FIRM PROFILE**

**LÓPEZ-VEGA, CPA, PSC** is a Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) and Management Consultants Firm, with extensive experience in serving private and public sector. The Firm was organized joining the experience of a group of professionals with over twenty (20) years in public accounting.

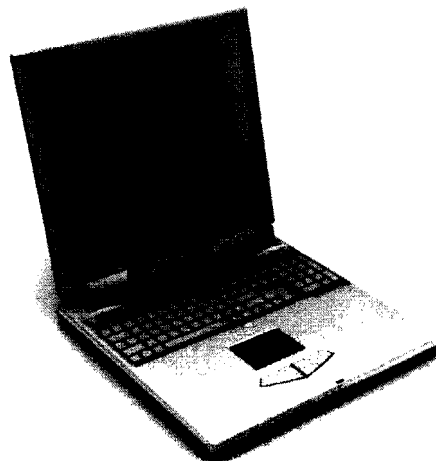
The Firm provides the following services; auditing, accounting, computer software development and management and financial consulting. Also, we offer continuing education programs to internal auditors, accountants and other **Municipality** personnel.

Our staff has worked in international, national and local firms, and has extensive experience in the services offered by our Firm.

Our CPA's are members of the Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants and of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).



Our office is located in # 1686 **Paraná Avenue, El Cerezal, San Juan, Puerto Rico**, and have a team of professionals adequately trained to provide service with quality and excellence, with reasonable costs, and with the best technology in the market. All our professionals have provided audit, consulting, and computer programming's services to governmental entities. We are also trained to use the most advanced auditing techniques, aided by software tools, such as "*Creative Solutions Professional Suite, Engagement CS and Trial Balance CS*". This tool is an audit program designed specifically for government audits. This program has helped us to perform our work efficiently and with high precision and quality.





### **FIRM PROFILE (CONTINUED)**

Our professionals have extensive experience auditing governmental entities, such as agencies, municipalities and consortiums. At the present, our Firm performs more “*Single Audits*” than other company in Puerto Rico. **LOPEZ-VEGA, CPA, PSC** select the best talent for each project.



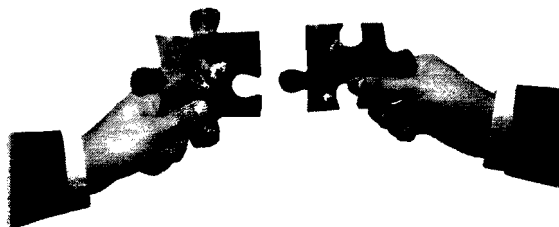
The founder of **LÓPEZ-VEGA, CPA, PSC** is the CPA Angel Alfredo López Vega:

**CPA Angel Alfredo López Vega**  
**President**  
**LÓPEZ-VEGA, CPA, PSC**  
**CPA License No. 3907**

The **CPA Angel Alfredo López Vega** was admitted in the Certified Public Accountants’ practice in Puerto Rico, according to the provisions of law that regulates the profession (issued by the Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants on February 22, 1996).

The CPA López has over nineteen (19) years of experience in auditing and consulting services, both in public and private sectors. In the government area, he worked in the second audit of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, in the State Insurance Fund audit, as a consultant in the Department of Labor, and in several municipalities and consortiums. In the commercial area, he has worked as an auditor in several industries, such as manufacturing, hotels and construction.

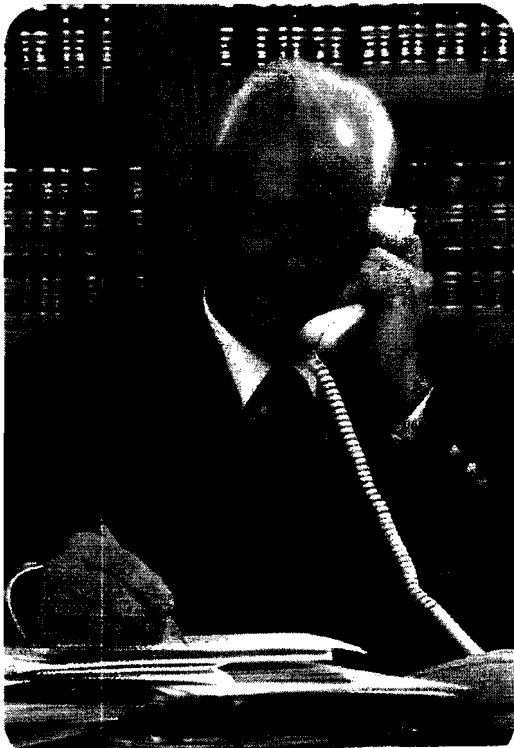
During the past two (2) years, the CPA López took eighty (80) hours of continuing education (forty (40) in each year), therefore, is up to date on continuing education courses required by the profession and which are offered by the Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants and by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).



## **FIRM PROFILE (CONTINUED)**

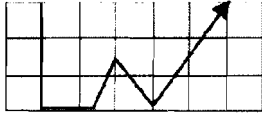
### **REQUIREMENTS OF LAW**

Our Firm would like to inform you that Law 273 from 2003, states that when any agency or instrumentality of the government is required (by law or regulation) to perform an external audit, the contract signing for such services has to be made ninety (90) days before fiscal year end (March 31 for fiscal years ending on June 30 of the audited year).



Also, to comply with dispositions of the Single Audit Act and Circular A-133 issued by the United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB), it is required that any entity that has Federal program expenditures of \$500,000 or more in one year performs a Single audit report. This report should be submitted to the federal agencies on or before nine (9) months after the fiscal year end (March 31).

The Municipality or Agency has to comply with this dates, or take the chance of possible penalties by the federal agencies that could include retaining program funding until full compliance with laws and regulations are made.



# ***López-Vega, CPA, PSC***

Certified Public Accountants / Management Advisors

## **FIRM PROFILE (CONTINUED)**

### **OUR CLIENTS**

After **LOPEZ-VEGA, CPA, PSC** was established, the Firm provided the following services:

<b><u>Services Provided</u></b>	<b><u>Governmental Entities</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Single Audit;</li> <li>▪ Special report on compliance with the recommendations of the Comptroller and the correction of the findings identified in its audit reports;</li> <li>▪ Compliance audits of such programs as Head Start, Child Care, Food Program, Section 8 Housing Vouchers, Community Development Block Grant, Title III, and other similar federal programs</li> <li>▪ Agreed upon procedures;</li> <li>▪ Risk assessments;</li> <li>▪ Submission of the information required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), related to Section 8 housing programs;</li> <li>▪ Continuing education programs;</li> <li>▪ Trainings and managements supports;</li> <li>▪ Other special assessments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Municipality of Guayama</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Cidra</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Cayey</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Peñuelas</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Coamo</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Juncos</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Las Piedras</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Salinas</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Arroyo</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Luquillo</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Dorado</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Arecibo</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Juana Diaz</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Trujillo Alto</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Naguabo</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Río Grande</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Caguas</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Guayanilla</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Santa Isabel</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Ponce</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Yauco</li> <li>▪ Municipality of Toa Alta</li> <li>▪ Consorcio de la Montaña</li> <li>▪ Public Service Commission</li> <li>▪ Department of Natural and Environmental Resources</li> <li>▪ Department of Labor</li> <li>▪ State Historic Preservation Office</li> <li>▪ Traffic Safety Commission</li> <li>▪ OCAM</li> <li>▪ P.R. National Guard</li> <li>▪ Department of Education</li> <li>▪ Vocational Rehabilitation Administration</li> </ul>