Company History

Oricol, originally formed under the name of Onyx Waste Management Services, has been operating successfully in South Africa since 2002. Onyx Waste Management Services was incorporated on 1 January 2002, with the objective of providing the South African market with a comprehensive approach to managing waste that aimed to offer a more sustainable and viable alternative to the waste to landfill based strategy that was prevalent in the market.

The company was founded upon the vision of treating waste as a secondary resource and offering a full range of environmental services that addressed the need for the sustainable management of our finite resources. The range of services includes the collection, transfer, processing, beneficiation and disposal of commercial and industrial wastes.

In April 2006, Onyx underwent a name change to become Veolia Environmental Services in order to more accurately illustrate its position within the Veolia Group. Veolia Environmental Services S.A. was a wholly owned subsidiary of Veolia Propreté (Veolia Environmental Services (VES) - France). On a global basis, VES International is the leader in waste management and by revenue measured in US Dollars the largest waste management company in the world.

In November 2010, a consortium comprising Lereko Investments (Pty) Ltd, Metier Investment and Advisory Services (Pty) Ltd and Management acquired the entire shareholding from Veolia Propreté. This transaction resulted in the change of name to ORICOL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (PTY) LTD (Oricol), with the new owners of the company boosting the Black shareholding to 55%.

The name “ORICOL” originates from the combination of two words in order to communicate an all-encompassing understanding of the business and its core offerings. “ORI” refers to the ‘origins’ of the earth and “COL” alludes to ‘collaboration’ and the fact that we work hand in hand with our clients to provide the most innovative environmental services solutions for their business.
Oricol Environmental Services

Oricol has a range of international clients that have operations in South Africa, and is well placed to offer advanced technical solutions that have been thoroughly researched elsewhere in the world. We are thus better placed to benefit from the growing tendency of industrial companies all over the world to outsource their non-core activities. Many large industrial companies (some of which have international connections) are discovering the importance of being proactive in managing their environmental footprint. This, together with the pending carbon emission tax, has put us in a very strong position to add value to the services that we provide to our clients.

Innovation

The development of waste recycling and energy recovery processes is in line with an increasingly stringent regulatory framework that aims to limit the quantity of waste stored in landfills. It is also a means of forestalling depletion of non-renewable resources. The quantity of waste treated by our recycling and energy recovery processes is on the rise, driven by source separation programs and enhanced development of this line of business. The main priority in this segment is to increase the recycling of designated materials by developing specialised reclamation and recycling options.

Organic liquid wastes are treated at our own treatment plants, the hydrocarbon portion being used as an energy source, while the resultant liquids are treated for discharge to sewer.

Oricol has pioneered the collection and spreading of digested sewage sludge and organic wastes from industry onto agricultural lands. This has resulted in savings to the generators as well as reducing the organic fertilizer requirements.

Human Resources

Our people are the business. Our key strategy is to develop and train our staff to enable them to elevate their skills and grow with the company.
Quality, Health, Safety and Environment

Oricol undertook the certification of its Environmental Management System to the ISO 14001 Standard, and official certification was first received in April 2007 from the SABS (EM140426). By running such a programme, we can be sure that our clients will benefit both directly and indirectly as the risk of environmental liability is greatly reduced.

We take our responsibility to the health and safety of all employees very seriously. The diverse nature of Oricol’s activities and the locations in which they are carried out make human and material risk prevention one of the company’s central concerns.

Oricol’s intentions, as far as risk prevention is concerned, are backed up by an effective, ongoing policy and shop floor-based action plans aimed at:

- Anticipating problems by identifying potential risks and possible responses,
- Making sure our employees have the skills to understand and manage occupational risks,
- Making risk prevention part of company management.

Oricol has certified its Health and Safety Management System to the OHSAS18001 standard (OHS180123) to clearly demonstrate the commitment to the Health and Safety of its employees, contractors and members of the public.

ISO 9001 Quality certification was achieved on 22 July 2009. We are the only environmental services company in South Africa that has attained all three of these prestigious awards on all of the sites on which we operate.

In 2010, Oricol was awarded 2nd place in the SABS Presidents award, which is a national competition which recognises the improvements in the company’s financial performance due to the ISO systems implemented in the operations of the company.
SERVICES OFFERED

Collections

We are one of the fastest growing environmental services organizations in South Africa, providing a full range of waste collection services to commercial and industrial customers in the Gauteng, KwaZulu Natal and Eastern Cape regions. All vehicles are tracked live by satellite for maximum efficiency and traceability. Specialist vehicles allow for cost effective collection of compactable waste (FEL & REL), dense wastes (skips), bulk wastes (hook lift) and liquids.

Industrial Services

Oricol offers proven experience in environmental, industrial cleaning and maintenance solutions. We are committed to safety excellence and our certification to the OHSAS18001 standard for all aspects of the business is proof of this. For highly specialised projects such as dam dredging Oricol is able to draw on global experience and best available technology to provide a service of international standards.

Our range of Industrial services includes:
- High Pressure Cleaning
- Asbestos Removal
- Vacuum Work
- Sludge Dewatering
- Pit Desludging
- Confined Space Entry

Resource Recovery

Resource Recovery provides a complete range of services for the separation, storage and recycling of wastes generated from industrial and commercial customers. By working in partnership with our clients, we aim to preserve valuable resources and extend landfill capacity by focusing on waste reduction and the sorting, processing and marketing of recyclables. Services provided include paper, cardboard, plastic, rubber, scrap metals (ferrous and non-ferrous) and electronic equipment recycling, composting, hydrocarbon and solvent recovery.

Organic Waste Management-Composting, Agricultural Land Application & Bio-remediation

Oricol has perfected the operational and regulatory requirements to divert organic wastes (digested sewage sludge, lime filter cake, organic sludges from food manufacturing, etc.) to compost or agricultural land application, to replace organic fertilisers. This has become a valuable nutrient source for recycling to land applications. Oricol owns and operates compost sites for the recycling of organic materials as well as bio-remediation of contaminated soils.
SERVICES OFFERED

Integrated Contracts

This service includes the supply of on-site staff and equipment to provide integrated services for waste reduction, sorting, recycling, cleaning, sweeping and specialist equipment rental. Services are tailor-made to meet specific client requirements and comprehensive feedback and reports enable monitoring of contract performance against Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s).

Integrated Contracts for Educational Institutions

Oricol has proven experience in providing fully integrated waste management contracts to university campuses and other large scale institutions. We have been able to provide comprehensive yet specialist services to meet the unique requirements of each university and educational institution.

Detailed below are the range of services that we provide to the following educational institutions:

University of the Witswaterand (Wits):

Provided fully integrated general and hazardous waste services since 2007.
Twenty-five staff members and three vehicles dedicated to working on site at Wits campus.
Capital investment of equipment and development of Wits Material Recycling Facility (MRF) including provision of compactor, baler, automated conveyor belt recyclate sorting system.
Introduction of colour-coded recycling bin stations located around campus.
Waste and recycling education and communications support to university staff and students.
Introduction of Bokashi food waste system and composting of canteen and kitchen waste.
Improvement of recycling rate from 5% in 2007 to over 50% in 2015 and diversion from landfill X% Clean-ups and safe disposal of laboratory waste chemicals
Assistance and support for student research and projects.
Sponsorship of R40000 towards Wits Eco-breakfast.

University of South Africa (UNISA):

Integrated general waste and recycling collection service since 2013.
Hazardous waste collection and disposal service since 2014.
Fifteen dedicated on site staff at UNISA.
Waste and recycling training awareness for Unisa Green Ambassadors.

Tswana University of Technology (TUT):

Integrated general waste and recycling collection service since April 2014.
Capital investment of over R400000 into development of new TUT MRF including sorting conveyor system.
Ten dedicated staff members and one vehicle working on site at TUT campuses.
Introduction of colour-coded recycling stations on campus to encourage separation at source.
Recycling communications support including signage and awareness materials.

University of the North-West (NWU):

Hazardous waste collection and disposal service since 2012
SERVICES OFFERED

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR):

Integrated general and hazardous waste services since 2013.
One vehicle and five dedicated on-site staff for recycling and waste collection.
Specialised laboratory and chemical waste clean-ups and safe disposals.
Removal and safe disposal service of contaminated furniture

Solid & Liquid Waste Treatment

Treatment includes the physical or chemical treatment of liquid and solid wastes to render them suitable for recovery or safe disposal. This may include organic or inorganic wastes. Thermal treatment of high hazardous wastes is a service also available.

The practice of co-disposing solid and liquid wastes on appropriately classified and constructed landfill sites has been in place in South Africa for the past 25 years. This assumes a suitable ratio of dry solid waste is mixed with hazardous liquids so that the liquids are in effect absorbed by the solid waste. Past practices have made it difficult for the landfill operator to get this ratio right, especially where rainfall can saturate a landfill site.

The co-disposal of solid and liquid wastes has been largely ceased in Europe, North America, Australia, etc. due to the difficulty in managing the landfill site and preventing pollution of the environment as well as site stability problems.
The authority of the licensing and monitoring of landfill sites has been placed with Department of Environmental Affairs & Tourism (DEAT). They have indicated that they will stop the practise of Co-disposal of solid and liquid wastes on landfill, within the next 5 years. However, they are not in a position to enforce this until such time as a suitable alternative for the treatment of hazardous and liquid wastes is in place.

We have researched our international database, and have perfected the plant design which is operational in Australia. This is the basis of the implementation of the liquid waste treatment strategy which we have been promoting since inception. We now have Liquid Waste Treatment plants operational in Port Elizabeth, Durban and Johannesburg

Sensitive Goods Destruction

Included in total facilities contracts is the destruction of sensitive goods that have the potential to get back into the market if their disposal is not managed correctly. Typical products include foodstuffs (e.g. packaged goods and beverages which have exceeded their sell-by-date), electronic equipment such as pirated CD’s or hard drives containing sensitive information as well packaging overruns that can be shredded and then recycled instead of guaranteed disposal at landfill.

Richard Sanders
May 2015