



## GENERAL SECTION

### **Payne Firm Opens Office to Serve Cleveland Area**

The Payne Firm, Inc. has opened an office in northeast Ohio to build on the success of its Cincinnati-based environmental consulting practice. The firm chose northeast Ohio in order to serve the growing needs of their industrial, financial and legal clientele in the greater Cleveland and Akron area. The new office is part of an expansion strategy that calls for additional offices in the Midwest over the next few years.

The Payne Firm was founded by John Payne, P.E. in 1987 to assist clients in managing their environmental responsibilities. The firm specializes in providing innovative and cost-effective solutions to problems associated with regulatory compliance (air, waste, asbestos, wetlands and safety), soil and ground water investigation and cleanup, and property transactions. The Payne Firm is unique in its ability to convey environmental issues in time and money terms that aid business decision-making. Specialty services include industrial mergers/acquisitions, estimating financial accruals for impacted properties, Sarbanes-Oxley Act compliance, property portfolio reviews, and strategic divestiture planning.

The Cleveland office, located in Medina, will be managed by Donald Fay, C.P. He has been with the Payne Firm for 18 years and played an integral role in the development of company's customer-focused service model. He is a Certified Professional (CP) under Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program and has managed numerous due diligence assessments, enforcement actions, and remediation projects. The new office is currently staffed with an experienced team of professionals with versatile strengths including remediation, regulatory compliance, ecological services and revitalization of brownfields.

The Payne Firm's Cleveland area can be reached at 330-723-6371 or [www.paynefirm.com](http://www.paynefirm.com).