

science news

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THE
HEAVILY
CRATERED
FACE OF
MERCURY



Dr. Tony Fisher wants to make water conservation smooth sailing.

Summer weekends for Tony Fisher are best spent enjoying the waters of Lake St. Clair on his 24' Raven, a racing class day sailer.

Actually he never gets too far from the water, even in his career with the Environmental Activities Staff at the GM Technical Center in Warren, Michigan. As an involved member of the Plant and Environmental Engineering Department, he is developing computer applications for the GM Total Water Conservation System.

The Total Water Conservation System involves cleaning plant process water for reuse by using mechanical processes rather than chemical treatment techniques. Suspended solids can be removed by filtration; dissolved solids by a process of electro dialysis or reverse osmosis. In the latter process, water is forced through



a semipermeable membrane until the dissolved solids are removed.

The Total Water Conservation System is a process with many critical variables such as flow rate, pressure, pH, level, temperature, and conductivity. Dr. Fisher is improving the operation and development of this system by scanning these variables with a computer, notifying the engineer of an out-of-limit condition, and preparing generated reports from the information captured within the computer.

We at GM hope that the knowledge accumulated in developing this pilot system will be useful to all of our plants. And we think you'll agree that Dr. Tony Fisher is playing a vital part in making life better for all of us.



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