

## Best Wishes to Bill

### After 17 years at the helm, Bill Woodward changes course and steps down as CEO and President of CLS America

By Lucy Howey



Bill Woodward's tenure at CLS America has coincided with much change and growth for the American subsidiary of CLS, a French-owned company. The 17 years Bill has been with CLS have been vital in constructing the Argos system enjoyed by thousands of users today. This system now includes: two-way communication (or, "Argos 3"), a real-time ground antenna network, and Argos modules that are currently on 6 satellites; all these advancements are essential to continued development in wildlife tracking. Upon hearing the news that Bill would be stepping down as CEO, we stopped to reminisce about our shared experiences over the years. After all, he has witnessed MTI's evolution into the company we are today, as we are located a mere 30 miles from CLS America headquarters. We have shared many dinners, holiday parties and, of course, meetings. When I sat down for lunch with Bill a couple weeks ago, I asked him of which of his accomplishments at CLS he was particularly proud. Two of his fondest undertakings also happen to be some of the most recent. Bill addressed Congress in 2014 to

campaign for federal funding for the Argos system and plans to do so again this year. Not new to government work, Bill worked for NOAA as an electrical engineer for 30 years before starting at a rapidly growing CLS and at the United States Naval Oceanographic Office's National Oceanographic Instrumentation Center before that. In a time when funding opportunities for science and technology are constantly shifting, Bill has been an ardent representative for Argos within the community and to the government. Additionally, he spearheaded the successful User Conference at the National Aquarium in Baltimore late last year. But perhaps his description of what he is taking away from his time at CLS is more overarching: "Being an active participant in this amazing global coalition that has contributed so much to environmental science on our planet has been the most rewarding part of my career." It is a sentiment that all who use the Argos system share and find reassurance in knowing that the manufacturers, users, and those who manage the system are working in tandem. When I asked Bill what he plans to do next, his answer was simple: he'd love to find time to play his 12-string guitar, a passion of his since his college days in Boston. But most importantly, and true to his tireless dedication to science, he's actively pursuing the next chapter of his career. We, at MTI, are glad to hear Bill is planning to stay in the satellite communication field because he is a key player we've come to know and respect over the years. Very best of luck, Bill!

## 2015 Christiane Howey Rising Scholar Award

In addition to granting many educational awards for transmitters over the years, Christiane Howey quietly found ways to help young researchers and start-up programs. To honor Chris, and to carry on in her spirit of generosity, we are proud to offer an annual award in Chris's name: the Christiane Howey Rising Scholar Award.

Proposals for the 2015 Christiane Howey Rising Scholar Award will be accepted before October 31, 2015 and reviewed prior to the publication of the Winter 2015 issue of *Tracker News*. The award recipient will be notified in late December to schedule a production slot. Proposals will be judged by an internal committee. Applicants are encouraged to include an educational component in their research, but this is not required. This award is intended to provide researchers who are starting out their careers with the means to get their projects off the ground. It will provide the recipient with five transmitters of his/her choice. Proposals should include an outline of the project indicating the scope and expected outcome. Please include a timeline and let us know what model of transmitter you are interested in using. We are looking for a maximum of 5 pages. The recipient will be responsible for any Argos (or GSM) data distribution costs and any duties/taxes. For more information, please email [support@microwavetelemetry.com](mailto:support@microwavetelemetry.com) or visit our website.

## Bits & Pieces

*Remember to proofread your production forms before submitting them.*

*Remember to take lots of photos during transmitter deployment.*

*Please send us your 2015 publications so that we can add them to our online reference library.*

*Keep an eye out for our new website. Coming soon!*