The black cylinder at right is an Aquaspace® industrial filter used by a pharmaceutical company to ensure the purity of the water it uses. It is one of a line of filtration products manufactured by Western Water International (WWI), Forestville, Maryland. Below, company founder and president Paul M. "Mike" Pedersen is shown in WWI’s laboratory sampling water filtered by a WWI system.

Aquaspace filters combine company technology with NASA technology developed to sterilize the drinking water of the Apollo spacecraft. The filters provide clear, good tasting water by removing toxic contaminants, organic chemical compounds, chlorine and other water processing agents, unpleasant taste, color and odor.

The key is Aquaspace Compound, a proprietary WWI formula that scientifically blends various types of glandular activated charcoal with other active and inert ingredients. The filtration material is shown at top center around the base of a typical filter system.

Aquaspace systems remove some substances—chlorine, for example—by atomic adsorption, other types of organic chemicals by mechanical filtration, and still other substances by catalytic reaction.

Seeking to find a more effective method of filtering potable water that was highly contaminated, Pedersen learned that NASA had conducted extensive research in methods of purifying water on board manned spacecraft. He obtained a number of NASA technical reports concerning that research. NASA information that contributed importantly to the development of Aquaspace Compound, Pedersen states, included technology related to the use of ions as filtering agents and methods dealing with the absorption and adsorption of organic compounds.

Aquaspace filters are finding wide acceptance in industrial, commercial, residential and recreational applications in the U.S. and abroad. WWI produces a wide range of systems to meet these various needs, from a simple Apollo Pocket Filter that works like a...
drinking straw to high capacity units for communities in developing nations where the water is highly contaminated.

Examples include the Voyager® filter for camping and traveling use (left); the Aquaspace Counter Top Filter (below); and the Aquarius Under-the-Sink Filter (right). At right below is a whole-house unit installed in a laundry room. A special advantage of whole-house filtration in contaminated water areas is protection from diseases that occur through topical absorption of contaminants through the skin and through inhalation.

*Aquaspace and Voyager are registered trademarks of Western Water International Inc.*