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ness continues to grow. Currently, she has two above-ground pools and eventually would like to have four. "It's been difficult finding a therapy pool for a dog," she said.

Right now, she has had to modify existing above-ground pools for her use. In the process, she helped develop a hydro platform which raises and lowers, helping her get the dogs in and out of the water. During her research, she was only able to find a sling-type lift, which had to be imported from England.

Penick's ideal pool, she said, would be two feet deep on one end, so she could do some shallow water walking. It also would have very graduated short steps to get in, as well as the hydro lift.

ing on a pool for horses for the United Arab Emirates in the Middle East.

"There are a lot of special considerations when designing for a horse," DeFranco said. "The potential market for these pools is anywhere that raises and races horses. [For example] Kentucky, the Middle East and Malaysia." DeFranco went on to describe the plan and construction of this pool, which is designed to give a non-impact workout to horses, something which is important to trainers. Because horses are easily spooked, the pool must have a gradual entrance into the water. DeFranco suggested a non-skid ramp of 45 feet.

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ANITIZATION

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FILTRATION NEEDS ARE CRITICAL WHEN DEALING WITH POOLS FOR ANIMALS. SHOWN HERE IS THE PUMP AND FILTER SYSTEM USED FOR THE FERNO K-9 UNDERWATER TREADMILL. PHOTO COURTESY OF FERNO (WILMINGTON, OHIO).

clean. "The majority of pools built in the U.S. are over-pumped, under-filtered and under-piped," Van Bower said.

When dealing with an animal, that compounds filtration problems. "Dogs and horses have a lot more surface area that needs to be cleansed — they're hairier than we are. Because of that, they're going to hold a lot more beta load," remarked Keith Harbol, chemical engineer for Watkins Corporation, makers of filtration products for pools. Beta load, he explained, is the hair, sweat, debris and other materials a human or animal brings into a spa or pool.

For the pools he designs, Van Bower uses a minimum filtration system of 300 square feet and uses a device that converts salt to chlorine. "My wife and the dog's vet seem to think it's helping the dog's skin condition by swimming in the chlorinated pool," he added.

Some people working with animals feel that bromine is the better chemical to use. Dr. Robert Taylor, veterinary surgeon at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital in Denver, Colorado, where they have a therapy pool as well as Ferno's K-9 Underwater Treadmill system, said they prefer bromine. "Bromine is a product