

On the banks of the Parana River in Argentina lies Vireo, founded in 2100. Vireo means “green” or “verdant” in Latin. Now, in 2909, with a population of 62,500, Vireo lives up to that name as a leader in advanced technologies that reduce environmental impact and provide a high quality of life.

With a booming economy, an effective government, and an excellent environment, Vireo contributes some of its resources to emergency shelters containing eucalyptus, bamboo, and other certified woods. One shelter, designed with a park on its roof, sinks conveniently into the ground when not in use. Under non-emergency circumstances, residents use the facility as an indoor recreation area. This shelter serves citizens recovering from natural and financial disasters.

Every Vireon enjoys a short commute due to the use of flying cars that park on the sides of buildings. City engineers have covered roads with solar panels to charge the only vehicles that use them, buses and trucks. Since its founding, the government of Vireo has maintained a superb police force with the latest in transportation technology. Police can get anywhere in the city quickly to stop a crime before a getaway is possible. To help prevent crime, the police department gives talks at schools and on TV.

In the year 2312, Vireo’s engineers developed Arpathite[®], biuninium ions implanted into silica and sap from native trees. Arpathite[®] has the amazing ability to change its color and design when electrical currents of different frequencies are applied to it. This allows its appearance to match the surrounding buildings. The Arpathite[®] industry brought clean, healthy prosperity to Vireo. To mark the city’s 500th anniversary, Vireo erected the Arpathite[®] Obelisk, a 120 ft tall monument made entirely of Arpathite[®].

A typical Vireon’s job might be monitoring the water turbines which help power the city. These turbines are manufactured in Vireo and shipped around the world. They receive frequent check-ups to ensure that all systems are functioning properly and that the river remains completely clean. Other citizens of Vireo work at the city’s geothermal and wind power plants.

Tourists know Vireo as a place with grasslands, forests, and water courses. Visitors enjoy tranquil lagoons, marsh deer, and especially capybaras. The city’s recreation department also sponsors organized sports ranging from ancient golf to modern-day quadracket.

The permanent residents of Vireo have used the city’s economic success to establish a Holo Education Program[™] which uses Spinal Patch Simulators[™] for all education. Simulators send each K-12 class into a virtual reality with a virtual teacher, who provides equally excellent education to every Vireon. In higher education, human professors help students understand more complex subjects.

The citizens of Vireo deem good health imperative. At birth, each child receives an injection which carries antibodies for all known diseases. Flying ambulances, equipped with powerful and efficient engines, can speed to any accident scene quickly. Vireo’s hospitals hire only doctors who pass an intensive program.

Thus, Vireo is the model of a flourishing, environmentally-friendly city. (494 words)