

**VISIONARY INNOVATION AND STUBBORN PERSISTENCE REALIZES MAJOR GAINS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT - RELATED TO THE MANUFACTURE AND USE OF SODIUM SILICATE**

**SUCCESS - VISION COUPLED WITH PERSISTENCE**

Visionary leadership and stubborn persistence in the manufacture of sodium silicate is a major achievement in the fight to preserve our fragile environment. Sodium silicate is a product that finds its way in every home in America every day with uses ranging from laundry detergents to asphalt shingles. Interestingly, it is also used in the processing of fast food French Fries. The uses for sodium silicate continue to grow, as it is environmentally friendly, being derived from one the earth's most abundant elements, silicon.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Unfortunately, the manufacture of sodium silicate has not been as kind to the environment - until now. The commonly used process for sodium silicate manufacture has been to roast sand at temperature exceeding 2000 degrees - not exactly a small carbon footprint! The environment then takes a second hit when this hot material is reacted with sodium carbonate releasing the greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide.

**CHANGE FOR THE BETTER**

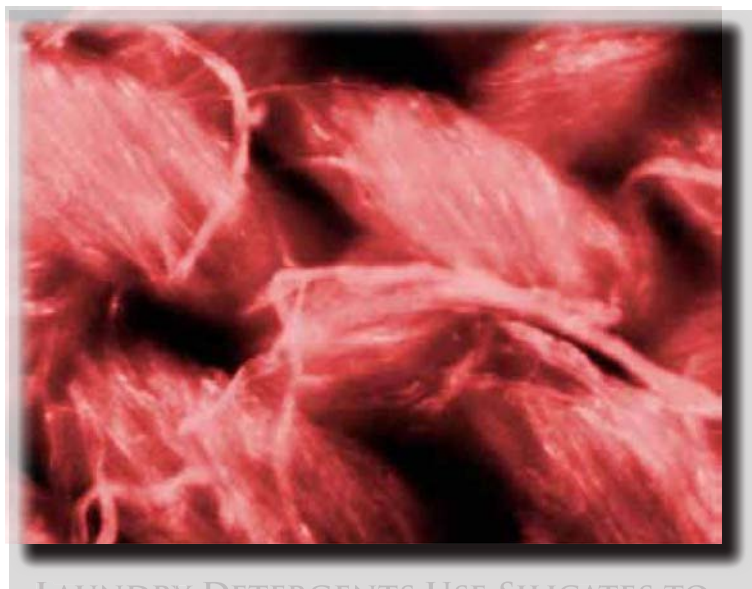
Fortunately, this situation is changing for the better, thanks to the leaders of Producer's Rice. Producer's Rice is one of the leading rice producers in North America. They recognized that the hulls they removed from the rice grains had high concentrations of silica. These

hulls were being placed in a landfill. There they saw the opportunity to take an initiative that would result in a positive contribution to saving our fragile environment.

- reduce landfill disposal
- lower the carbon footprint
- reduce carbon dioxide emission

**EXECUTE THE PLAN**

The road to success has not been easy. Producer's Rice formed a venture, Agritec Sorbents, to secure the technology and then build the manufacturing facility. As is often the case, bringing the vision to fruition has been difficult. Only through the steadfast support from the leaders and owners of Producer's Rice and the relentless persistence of the Agritec Sorbents Employees, did the process become a commercial reality.



**REMARKABLE STORY**

This achievement is truly a "Cinderella" story. Producer's Rice is a cooperative made up of hard working farmers- the core of America. These farmers press hard each and every

day to make a living from the soil. They decided to do the right thing - give something back, taking a chance with no guarantees that this hard earned money would bring success.

**CQuest ENTERS THE PICTURE**

The people at CQuest recognized what these individuals had accomplished and teamed up to provide the technical service and marketing. In addition to marketing CQuest is developing environmentally friendly sodium silicate based alternatives for oil drilling materials and highway building materials.

**ROOM FOR EVERYONE**

CQuest is marketing sodium silicate into a wide range of applications that reach industry and ultimately, the consumer. Today, consumers are aware of the fragility of the environment and want to do their part. When your blend uses our silicates you will be helping the cause and can add to the goal by making your customers aware of our joint effort to contribute to a better environment.

Big impacts can be made with this first step. Silicate products bring an "environmental leverage" to the picture. Silicates have many properties of synthetic products based upon fossil fuels. For example, the use of silicates as an additive in roofing products, roads and drilling products decreased the need for less environmentally friendly products and their eventual disposal.

**APPLICATIONS**

- laundry detergents
- asphalt shingles
- automobile tires
- brick manufacture
- drilling muds
- concrete coatings
- paper manufacture
- adhesives
- catalyst manufacture
- water treatment
- ceramics
- inhibitors



**SILICATE COATING SUBSTITUTE FOR ASPHALT SURFACE**

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