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The TecEco Times

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Keeping you informed about the eco-cement project. Issue 11 07 March 2001

TecEco

TecEco have applied for patents for the use of magnesia in hydraulic cements, the main advantage being the greatly increased quantity of pozzolanic and other wastes that can then be blended into the cement.

A proprietary accelerator has also been developed and the project is well advanced. The technology is exciting, potentially improving cements in ways that fit in with Portland cement research objectives by:

- Increasing the long term stability of concrete
- Reducing CO2 emmissions
- Increasing waste utilisation

At high concentrations of fly ash and with steam a pozzolanic reaction ensues making the production of fly ash bricks blocks and pavers very economical.

Researchers, magnesia producers and cement companies around the world interested in being involved in and benefiting from the research can apply for licences in exchange for negotiated participation. – Please contact us.

New Letterhead

We have added the words sustainable technologies to the new letterhead – we hope you like it!

Web Presence

TecEco are now on the net at tececo.com.au – please have a look and let us know what you think – any feedback is helpful.

Visit to Brisbane, Australia

The visit to Brisbane was highly successful with the following achievements:

DAY	COMPANY	ACHIEVEMENT
14th February	Qmag	Lunch with Phil Macoun, business development manager. Qmag. Qmag agreed to help the research project by working on making samples of highly reactive magnesia as soon as possible.
15th February	Ultimate Masonry Co.	Had discussions with the Durack brothers and Malcolm Badgery. Agreed to work with them with the objectives of reducing the cost of their new lightweight block and hopefully removing the need for autoclaving. Qmag agreed to supply the magnesia if they can make it reactive enough.
15th February	QCL	Phil Macoun (Qmag) and John Harrison (TecEco) visited QCL and had discussions followed by lunch with their product development people.

		QCL have agreed to do a number of standard tests to evaluate the cement, and this will be done when we see if Qmag can make a more reactive than currently available magnesia. Closing comment from QCL “sound science”

Block Making Tests in Tasmania Under Way

Bill Fawdry from Island Block and Paver has joined the team and he will be concentrating on various formulations to make blocks.

If we can make a block using conventional equipment that is acceptable then there is a huge market overseas for the technology.

Thanks to Pozzolanic Industries for donating the fly ash.

Shares Magazine March 2001 Issue

On the front page of this popular investment magazine in the March issue stand out the words “Move Over Biotechs --- Green Power Stocks are Surging”.

On page 52, James Walker, the author says “CLEAN TEAM Who says money doesn’t grow on trees? Investors in green stocks can help themselves as well as the environment”

“The green explosion is more intense and widespread than most investors may think.”

Float by 2002

If all goes well and according to plan – sometime by the end of 2002, hopefully earlier, TecEco Pty Ltd will be a public company. There is many a slip twixt cup and lip - any hints out there?

Austrian Interest

We have had an expression of interest from Styromagnesit Steirische Magnesitindustrie Gmbh in Austria to participate. We will be contacting them soon to arrange details. At the moment we are trying to find Richard Swallow whom we believe is flying around Europe to see if he will go and see them for us. Anybody know of his whereabouts?

Sustainable Technology Forum

Ken Farrell (szoka@our.net.au, Ph 04105242610) who is part of our team is working on getting up a forum of some sort on sustainable technology in Tasmania. If anybody has any ideas or would like to participate – please contact Ken.

Feedback on the Patent

The comment so far is favourable. If you are a scientist working in materials and in particular cement and would like to review our work with a view to making comments, please contact John Harrison john@tececo.com.au.

A Long Chat with Prof Fred Glasser

I recently had a long conversation with the esteemed professor who gave me some insight into why cement standards around the world limit the amount of magnesia that can be included in Portland Cement. Apparently shortly after the second world war in the rush to produce cement for reconstruction some limestone mines were opened that were rich in magnesium and a rash of “unsound” cements followed. Magnesia was banned without thought as to what form it was in.

The engineers of the time would have been correct if they had just banned dead burned magnesia. Reactive magnesia has very different properties and is beneficial – providing an almost totally insoluble protective role in neutral to alkaline media. Seawater and most ground waters are alkaline.