Commercialization of SulfCrete.:

An Alternative Low-Carbon Concrete

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Background

- Sulfur is a by-product material generated from the production of oil and gas and the cleanup of coal-fired power plant emission gases
- Millions of tons/year are produced throughout the world supply exceeds demand and large volumes of by-product sulfur are in storage (>21 M tons)



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By-products to Co-products

- Excess by-product sulfur can be recycled into beneficial concrete co-products (e.g., pipes, aggregate for road construction, paving stones, railroad ties) for improved sustainable development
- Potential for displacement of conventional hydraulic cement in many applications; large potential markets







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Sulfur Polymer Concrete Products

10000



Recycling industrial by-products to produce new commercial co-products

Sulfur: the Green Concrete

 Large amounts of CO₂ are generated in the production of conventional hydraulic cement as limestone is converted to calcium oxide using high temperature fossil fuel kilns:



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The cement industry accounts for 5 - 7% of all the anthropogenic production of CO₂ annually

CaO(s)

5



 $CaCO_3(s)$

Displacement of conventional hydraulic cement with sulfur-based thermoplastic binders (SPC) can reduce concrete industry carbon footprint

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Sulfur Polymer

- Elemental sulfur is a thermoplastic that undergoes a solid phase change on cooling which results in changes in density and mechanical instabilities
- Sulfur polymer was developed by researchers in U.S., Canada, and Europe to suppress solid phase change and improve performance for use as an alternative construction material
- Currently, production of conventional sulfur polymer is limited by the cost and availability of dicyclopentadiene (DCPD) and oligomer additives used for processing

SulfCrete_® Formulation

- Conventional SPC is not cost-competitive and has not gained a significant market share
- BNL and collaborators developed an innovative and cost-effective alternative stabilized sulfur binder known as SulfCrete.
- (5) U.S. and international patents issued
- Replaces expensive organic additives (DCPD) with inexpensive fossil energy byproducts and high surface area fillers (refinery distillates a



area fillers (refinery distillates and coal fired fly ash)

SulfCrete. Mechanical Strength (MPa)

SSBAF Mechanical Testing	20°C	50°C	14 day immersion
Average Compressive strength	62.3	59.6	56.7
Standard Deviation	3.8	4.5	1.6
Average Flexural Strength	8.1	8.0	10.1
Std Deviation	1.1	2.0	1.1
Typical conventional SPC: Compressive strength Flexural strength Sulfur Polymer Cement Handbook, The Sulphur Institute	27.6 5.2		
Typical hydraulic cement concrete Compressive strength Flexural strength http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/concrete-properties-d_1223.htt	20 – 40 3 – 5		

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SulfCrete Technology Status

- Limited lab-scale R&D and scale-up feasibility by BNL resulted in successful formulation with favorable mechanical properties
- Formulation optimization needed to identify lowest cost and best performance
- Engineering scale-up and demonstration
- Concrete product fabrication and testing







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SulfCrete Commercial Status

- Green SulfCrete, Inc. and BNL negotiated an exclusive license agreement
- Green SulfCrete is seeking business opportunities, capitalization and industrial partnerships
- Partnership with Roman Stone Construction, Inc.
- BNL and SulfCrete team won:
 - NSF Phase I grant for scale-up feasibility (complete)
 - DOE TCF grant for scale-up engineering and demonstration (awarded, pending contracts)
 - NYSERDA grant for scale-up product (awarded, pending contracts)

Green SulfCrete Business Plan





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<u>Goals:</u>

- Design, develop, and demonstrate a working pilot-scale SulfCrete_® production facility
- Fabricate real-world SulfCrete_® products and test (under leveraged support from NYSERDA)





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<u>Tasks:</u>

- Engineering scale-up; process equipment selection & preliminary testing
- 2) Characterization of materials
- 3) Optimization of formulations and process parameters
- 4) Short-term performance and QA/QC testing
- 5) Demonstration of integrated processing
- 6) Selection of SulfCrete_® pre-cast products for production
- 7) Fabrication/testing of SulfCrete_® pre-cast products
- 8) Determine marketing potential and outreach

Summary and Conclusions

- SPC results in lower greenhouse gas emissions: greener alternative than OPC
- Compared with conventional SPC, SulfCrete_® uses multiple FE by-products to produce cost-effective co-products for a more sustainable world
- DOE TCF and NYSERDA projects will demonstrate pilot-scale viability needed to establish commercial viability