Product Information Report Sorbents







Overview

Sorbents are materials used to recover liquids by absorption. A sorbent picks up and retains liquid, distributing it throughout its structure causing the solid to swell 50% or more. Sorbents can be used anywhere there is potential for a fluid leak or spill. They can be used on a wide range of liquids; clay can only be used on oil. These liquids fall into three categories:

- Oil Only
- Universal
- HazMat

NOTE: Sorbent materials used to recover oil must be disposed of in accordance with approved local, state and federal regulations

Why Use Sorbents?







OSHA, the EPA and the DOT all have regulations that can levy heavy fines if they are not followed. Sorbents can be used to meet these regulations.

- OSHA 29 CFR 1910: Floors in your workplace should be maintained in a clean and dry condition.
- EPA 40 CFR 112: Facilities should have appropriate containment to prevent discharge oil from reaching a navigable water course.
- EPA 40 CFR 263: Transporters must take appropriate action in the event of a spill.
- EPA 40 CFR 264: Owners must establish standards for hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal for their facilities.
- DOT 49 CFR 173: Concerns the proper transport of hazardous materials and waste. Workplace accidents resulting from wet floors or debris top the list of reasons for over 500,000 reported incidents each year. OSHA penalties can be up to \$70,000 depending upon how likely the violation is to result in serious harm to workers. EPA fines can be millions of dollars.

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Sorbents



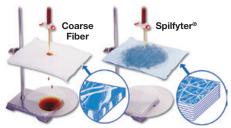


How Do Sorbents Work?

Each sorbent is comprised of up to eight layers of a fine fiber mesh which provides more surface area into which liquid can be absorbed. This is achieved with superior liquid retention, tensile strength, surface strength and wicking.

Fine fibers and state-of-the-art multi-layering technology combine to provide an unbeatable one-two punch for all Spilfyter® products. The result is superior capillary action which facilitates "branching out" of the liquid as it is absorbed into the fabric. Coarse fiber products simply allow liquids to pour through.

Superior Liquid Retention



Coarse fiber products contain only one layer of coarse fiber, which allows the liquid to pour through. Spilfyter® fine fibers utilize state-of-the-art layering technology. All Spilfyter® products contain up to eight layers of fine fibers.

Tensile Strength



Superior tensile strength results in a longer-lasting, more durable product. In the Tinius Olsen Strength Test, Spilfyter® proves to be six times stronger than coarse fiber products.

Surface Strength





Coarse Fiber

Spilfyter®

These premium sorbents have superior surface abrasion resistance when compared to coarse fiber products. The fine fiber structure keeps the surface texture strong and uniform, resulting in a superior low-lint fabric.

Superior Wicking



Coarse Spilfyter® Fiber

In an 8-hour vertical wicking test, Spilfyter® absorbed 133% more liquid than coarse fiber products.

Sorbents vs Clay

- **Sorbency** Sorbents can absorb up to 12 times their weight in liquid; clay can only absorb its own weight in liquid.
- **Versatility** Sorbents are multi-functional and can be used on a variety of liquids. Clay is limited to "oil only" applications.
- **Appearance** Sorbents are aesthetically pleasing and easy to use and dispose of. Clay is messy, dusty and difficult to remove and dispose of.
- Environmentally Friendly In some applications, sorbents can be wrung out and the liquid recycled; the sorbent can then be re-used. Sorbents can be incinerated with very low ash content, while clay requires additives prior to incineration and contains carcinogens.
- Safety Sorbents offer a skid-resistant, stable, cushioning surface around machinery or industrial applications. Loose clay can be slippery when wet, posing a hazard to workers.
- **Risk** When compared to clay, sorbents can significantly reduce the number of workplace accidents, saving companies millions of dollars each year.





Sorbent Styles



The style of the sorbent used is determined by the application.

- Pads can be used to wipe up small spills, to soak up large spills or to provide a skid-resistant surface around machinery.
- Socks can be used to contain large spills or to prevent leaks from migrating across a floor.
- Pillows can be used under valves and printing equipment to capture leaking fluids.
- Drum Tops are used on drums to collect liquids dripped on the top and to stop the liquid from spilling over the side of the drum.

Applications







- Environmental response centers and contamination areas
- Ports, harbors, river ways
- Sea vessels, rail stations, airports, trucking terminals
- Off-shore oil facilities, pipelines, tank yards, oil terminals
- Fuel stations
- Manufacturing facilities
- Oil/chemical processing facilities and transportation vehicles
- Gas and electric generating facilities
- Automotive repair centers
- Laboratories, research centers, hospitals
- Mining facilities, railroad yards
- Military installations
- Emergency response companies