The Impact of Mega Economic Trends on the Chemical Industry and Chemical Engineering Profession



How Chemical Engineering Fundamentals Can Change the World

William F. Banholzer, PhD Executive Vice President & Chief Technology Officer The Dow Chemical Company





🗿 Dow Sustainability - Microsoft Internet Explorer						1 di X
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Commitment to the Planet Corporate Citizenship Product Responsibility Public Safety & Security Issues & Challenges Contact Us Business Contribution						



Technology Evaluation – A Case Study

- In April 2008, Dow announced plans to build a 600 MW coal and gas fired power plant at its location in Stade, Germany. The 20 year old plant that is currently there can only meet 25% of the need for power.
- Dow's commitment to sustainability includes a pledge to reduce GHG emissions.

We will leverage the strength of the human element in our laboratories around the world and make unprecedented financial investments in R&D to achieve breakthrough solutions that will slow, stop and reverse global warming.

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES INVEST	OR RELATIONS OUR COMPANY NEWS CENTER	SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATION CAREE			
Our Commitments Sustainability requires making every decision with the future in mind. It is our relationship with the world around us - creating economic prosperity and social value while contributing to the preservation of our planet	Hu				
Sustainability at Dow	Our Commitments				
Sustainability Reporting	At Dow, we have always believed that	Recent Headlines			
Imagining Solutions, Delivering Today	the role of chemistry is to do more good in the world.	Dow Recognized As a Leader in Sustainability Reporting Dow Reports Progress Against 2015 Sustainability Goals for 4Q 2008			
Commitment to the Planet	Seen this way, the work of chemistry suddenly moves from focusing on the basics of business – products and bottom				
(lines – to life itself. In short, we are committed - through chemistry - to the betterment of global humanity. And it is	Two Dow Projects "Highly Commended" by IChemE			
Corporate Citizenship	b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b	Dow Chemical Announces Energy Partnership with the EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program			
Corporate Citizenship Product Responsibility	this commitment that drives all of our strategy for growth and profitability.	Partnership with the EPA's Landfill Methan			
Corporate Citizenship Product Responsibility Public Safety & Security	this commitment that drives all of our strategy for growth and profitability. We look outward and see challenges, opportunities and a future full of promise.	Partnership with the EPA's Landfill Methan Outreach Program Dow Reports 3Q08 2015 Sustainability			
Corporate Citizenship Product Responsibility Public Safety & Security Issues & Challenges	this commitment that drives all of our strategy for growth and profitability. We look outward and see challenges, opportunities and a future full of promise. We invite you to explore our commitments to sustainability and track our progress.	Partnership with the EPA's Landfill Methan Outreach Program Dow Reports 3Q08 2015 Sustainability Goals Progress			

In 2008, a company by the name of <u>Skyonic</u> contacted us with a proposal to completely eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from our proposed power plant in Stade.







• WHO WE ARE:

Skyonic is a for-profit Intellectual Property corporation dedicated to the proliferation of the internationally patented SkyMine[™] process. SkyMine[™] was developed with the intent to reduce global CO2 emissions and halt the advancement of global climate change without impacting development. Skyonic is based in Austin, Texas, with laboratory and field operations throughout the state.

Power Plant Waste Used to Make Cookies!



Cookies from Coal?





Technology Evaluation – Skyonic Process



Founded in 2005. Has raised \$4.5MM from 15 investors including TXU Corp (NYSE: TXU).



This technology appears to be a natural fit for Dow, the world's leading manufacturer of caustic soda.

Should Dow:

- 1. Collaborate with Skyonic to implement this technology at the Stade plant?
- 2. Ignore the offer?

What questions would you ask?



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Technology Evaluation – Skyonic Process

How is **caustic** made?



How much NaOH is needed to capture the CO2 from our power plant?7 billion lb/yrThis is 5% of the world market.

Capital required to build this NaOH capacity?

\$4 billion This is 4 times the capital required to build our power plant.

How much electricity is required to make this NaOH?

1000 MW plant *This is 400 MW more than our plant will produce.*

How much chlorine byproduct is made?

7 billion lb/yr This is 50% of Dow's annual production.

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The Fundamentals are...FUNDAMENTAL

You can **NEVER** lose sight of these considerations:



There isn't a useful process in the world that is exempt from these **fundamentals**

Breakthrough Capture Research





Dow is a global gas treating and technology leader

-World's largest producer of amines

ALST<mark>O</mark>M

Alstom is at the forefront of carbon capture technology development

- Leadership and experience in power plant technologies



"A joint development (JDA) and commercialization agreement for advanced amine scrubbing technology for the removal of CO_2 from low pressure flue gases particular to fossil fuel fired power plants and other major industries."

February 13, 2008

Potential CO₂ Capture Technologies



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The CANiCAP Program: Planning Options for Technology and Knowledge Base Development for the Implementation of Carbon Capture and Transportation Research, Development and Deployment in Canada, W.D. Gunter, Bob Mitchell, I. Potter, Brent Lakeman and Sam Wong, 122 pages, (2005)

Technology Challenge – Concentration



Capture Technology	CO ₂ Conc (%)	Feed Gas Pressure (MPa)	Operating Temperature (*C)
Adsorption	>30	Moderate	Low to Moderate
Cryogenic	>90	Moderate	Low
Membrane	>15	>0.7	Feed temperature
Physical Absorption	>20	>2	Low (-10)
Amine Absorption	>3	>0.1	50

Wong et.al 2002)

Why Amine Absorption?

•Easily multistaged and operated as a continuous process

•Does not require compression of flue gas prior to treatment

•Best compromise of operating and capital cost with proven robustness in industry.

The Process









Corn Ethanol Debate







Energy Cost









Ethanol to **Polyethylene** in Brazil









	DuPont Bio-PDO (Serona®)	NatureWorks™ PLA	Dow			
Plant Scale	45 kTA	140 kTA	350 kTA			
Fermented Product	1,3-Propanediol	Lactic Acid	Ethanol			
Key Processes	Fermentation, Condensation Polymerization	Fermentation, Oligomerization, Ring-Closing, & Ring-Opening Polymerization	Fermentation, Dehydration, Polymerization	Ethylene	PE EO	
Initial Product	PDO/TPA Copolymer	Polylactic acid	Ethylene, Polyethylene, Copolymers		VCM Styrene	
Flexibility	Moderate	Low	High		VAM	
	PDO	PLA	Dow	,		

Limits to Photosynthesis





Capital v. Variable Cost



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Fall of 2007
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Capital v. Variable Cost





Ethylene Cost Curve



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To <u>replace</u> a \$1.5B plant producing 1 MM tons per year with a cash cost of \$650/ton (NA average) with a new \$1.5B plant requires a cash cost of \$375/ton or less* *13% discount factor



Homogeneous Catalysis



efficient process many chains per catalyst

Living Coordination Catalysis



- enable block copolymers
- one chain per catalyst
- very inefficient processes

State of the art in living olefin polymerization



For a review of living polymerization systems, see: Coates, Hustad, & Reinartz, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2002**, 41, 2236











RESEARCH ARTICLE

Catalytic Production of Olefin Block Copolymers via Chain Shuttling Polymerization

Daniel J. Arriola, ^{1*} Edmund M. Carnahan,^{2*} Phillip D. Hustad,^{2*} Roger L. Kuhlman,^{2*} Timothy T. Wenzel^{1*}

We report a catalytic system that produces olefin block copolymers with alternating semicrystalline and amorphous segments, achieved by varying the ratio of α -olefin to ethylene in the two types of blocks. The system uses a chain shutting agent to transfer growing chains between two distinct catalysts with different monomer selectivities in a single polymerization reactor. The block copolymers simultaneously have high mething temperatures and low glass transition temperatures, and therefore they maintain excellent elastomeric properties at high temperatures. Furthermore, the materials are effectively produced in economically favorable, continuous polymerization processes.

From lead article in <u>Science</u> to commercial launch in the same calendar year!





Material Properties by Design



- Many reactor variables exist in OBC process
- Products can be tailored to meet specific customer needs
 - ■Catalyst ratio → modulus
 - [CSA]/[monomer] → blockiness



High Hard Segment







High Soft Segment

 Morphology control might also be possible if we can further tailor OBC microstructure to give phase separated materials



increasing composition difference in soft and hard blocks

Typical OBC morphology





Phase-separated OBC morphology

Manipulating Light with Self-Assembled Polyolefins









Thank you!

World Challenge – Water





Water Desalination Plants – Massive Scale



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Osmotic Pressure

Simple Osmotic Pressure

$$\Phi = \frac{-m_A \ln(a_A)}{m_B}$$

Applied Pressure

 Activity (a) is dependent on concentration, temperature other ions
Reverse Osmosis



Pure Water

Semipermeable Membrane



Control of Solute (Salts) Passage



Solution Diffusion (Londsdale, 1965)

Water Flux $J_w=A(\Delta Pressure-\Delta Osmotic Pressure)$

Solute Flux $J_s=B(\Delta[Solute Feed]-\Delta[Solute Permeate])$

Coupled Solute Water Fluxes Irreversible Thermodynamics (Kedum, 1968)

Water Flux

 $J_w = A (\Delta Pressure - \sigma \Delta Osmotic Pressure)$

Solute Flux $J_s = (c_m)_{avg} (1-\sigma) J_w + B(\Delta[Solute Feed] - \Delta[Solute Permeate])$

Passage is very NON-Linear!





Where are the Losses?

Quantity	RO	
Exergy input, kW/cubic m	76.95	
Min work of separation	1.224	
Total exergy destruction, kW	70.82	
Mechanical energy of product water, kW	4.91	
2 nd -law efficiency	8.0%	
Exergy destruction in various components:		
-Discharged raw water	0.93 (1.3%)	
-Bag filters	1.66 (2.4%)	
-Static mixer	0.60 (0.8%)	
-Separation unit (RO)	25.62 (36.2%)	
-Throttling of bypass water	7.49 (10.6%)	
-Blending with bypass water	0.43 (0.6%)	
-Mech. exergy of discharge brine	5.97 (8.4%)	
-Pumps and piping system	28.11 (39.7%)	

DO

Source: Kahraman et. al. Desalination 171 (2004) 217-232

FILMTEC™ Reverse Osmosis Membranes





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Film formation stops mixing of monomers & stops reaction. Allows formation of ultrathin pinhole-free films.

®™Trademark of The Dow Chemical Company ("Dow") or an affiliated company of Dow.

RO Was Used to Clean up Salt From Water

Now it is used to remove **Toxic Contaminants**

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- **Boron**: The World Health Organization requires lower than 1 ppm boric acid. Seawater RO often can't meet that.
- **Ag Chem**: Contaminated ground water often contains high nitrate, silica, As, and organics. RO often can't remove these to the requested level.

Modifying FT-30 can allow us to produce pure water from these contaminated streams.



Improving the State-of-the-Art



Dual Work Exchanger Energy Recovery

Cylindrical vessel alternately filled with hp brine and lp feed Brine and feed separated by a piston DWEER has two cylinders so there is constant flow of hp feed to membranes Flow is controlled via valves at both ends of cylinders



Fig. 3. The DWEERTM work exchange.

Improvements in RO Operating Pressure



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