Center for Solid Waste Recycling

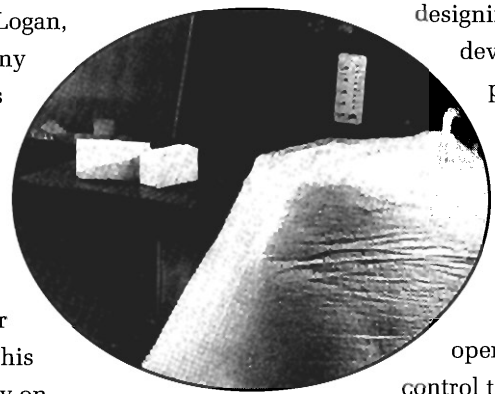
Mission

To pursue realistic and comprehensive solutions designed to overcome the social and economic problems our environment faces in the elimination of solid waste

The Center

Utah State University, in cooperation with Huntsman Chemical Corporation have placed themselves in the forefront of the plastics industry in dealing with the challenge of plastic waste. This challenge is both a fact of life and a social issue that must be addressed.

On May 23, 1989, Jon M. Huntsman, Chairman of Huntsman Chemical Corporation, announced the creation and funding of the Huntsman Environmental Research Center/Center for Solid Waste Recycling at Utah State University in Logan, Utah. This is one of the many state research centers that is partially funded by the Utah Centers of Excellence Program. The center is designed to pursue realistic and comprehensive solutions for environmental problems. This research will focus primarily on four areas: recycling, improving air quality, degradability, and conservation of trees.



Densified foam.

One of the projects that is funded by the State Centers of Excellence is the Polymax 5000 Polystyrene Foam Densifier. It was designed to develop a means of densifying polystyrene so that it will become economical for users and suppliers to ship polystyrene to facilities where it can be recycled. This process increases the use of recycled polystyrene in various products and prevents it from being sent to landfills in an undensified form or disposed of in other environmentally hazardous methods.

Polymax 5000

POLYSTYRENE FOAM DENSIFIER

The Polymax 5000 is a low density polystyrene foam densifier, designed by the Huntsman Environmental Research Center at Utah State University. The purpose for designing the Polymax 5000 was to develop a process of densifying polystyrene to densities that will permit polystyrene to be more economically recycled.

The Polymax 5000 offers the following benefits:

- Automatic or manual operation and automatic load control to provide low cost operation.
- High output capacity, up to 300 lbs. per hour.
- Automatic output density control.

Polymax 5000 – polystyrene foam densifier.

- No heat is required in the process which eliminates polymer degradation.
- Polystyrene is densified to 30 lbs. per cubic foot in 4 1/2 by 4 1/2 inch blocks which allows for easy handling.

For more information, please contact:

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