GE Power & Water
Water & Process Technologies

Capability Profile

DusTreat* Road Dust Control Treatment Programs

Used in mining, power and steel industries, GE's DusTreat* Road Dust Control Treatment Programs are specifically formulated to control fugitive dust from unpaved plant and mine ramps and haul roads.

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DusTreat* Road Dust Control Treatment Programs

The Environmental Challenge

Unpaved industrial roads and mine ramp and haul roads produce excessive dust causing many health and safety hazards for employees and residents using the roads. GE sought to treat unpaved roads with an environmentally responsible dust suppressant.

GE's innovative solution

GE created the DusTreat Road Dust Control Treatment Programs featuring DusTreat DC9112 series and DusTreat DC9138E. DusTreat DC9112 is GE's biodegradable organic binder, which has been used successfully for five years in minimizing fugitive dust. DusTreat DC9138E is GE's blend of wetting materials specially formulated to enhance the dust suppression capabilities of water. GE's DusTreat Road Dust Control Treatment Programs effectively suppress dust while reducing the water requirement needed in alternate systems.

Environmental Impact

GE's DusTreat Road Dust Control Treatment Programs can reduce water needed for dust suppression at mines and decrease fuel consumption by operating water trucks less frequently. At one gold mine in Nevada, switching to DusTreat DC9112 Program from a water and magnesium chloride treatment on 7 miles of haul roads reduced water use for dust suppression by 90% or 110 million gallons of water over a 7 month period, equivalent to the water consumption of over 1300 average U.S. households during that period.

This also reduced CO_2 emissions from fuel consumption by 490 metric tons – equivalent to the CO_2 emissions of over 165 average cars on U.S. roads during that period.

Cutting costs

GE's DusTreat Road Dust Control Treatment Programs can lower customers' overall operating costs by reducing water, truck, and road maintenance expenses, such as grading frequency. In an open pit coal mine in Wyoming, switching to the DusTreat DC9138E Wetting Agent Program from a water and magnesium chloride treatment on an area of over 70 acres decreased water use for dust suppression by 38% and reduced water truck operating costs, resulting in a total savings of approximately $250,000 over a 9 month period.

At one gold mine in Nevada, switching to the DusTreat DC9112 Program from a water and magnesium chloride treatment on 7 miles of haul roads decreased water use for dust suppression by 90% and reduced water truck and grading operating costs, resulting in a total savings of over $375,000 over a 7 month period.