

'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE APPLICATIONS IN COMPANIES

SBA
Sustainable Business Associates

DELTA PROGRAMME
DELTA Jordan

POTASH DUST AS RAW MATERIAL FOR FERTILISER PRODUCTION THE ARAB POTASH COMPANY (APC) AND THE NIPPON JORDAN FERTILIZER COMPANY (NJFC)

WHAT IS THE 'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE?

This Guide is a simple management tool developed by GTZ/P3U and SBA. It contains Checklists and describes common sense measures that companies can take related to 'good housekeeping'.

These measures can help companies to reduce their production costs, enhance product quality, and minimise the impact of industrial operations on the environment.

IN BRIEF

Aqaba Region Authority, the governmental authority responsible for planning and development in Aqaba, held in association with

SBA in December 1998 a seminar to promote Good Housekeeping. The Seminar allowed two companies to get into contact and to discuss an eco-efficient use of their waste.

THE CHALLENGE

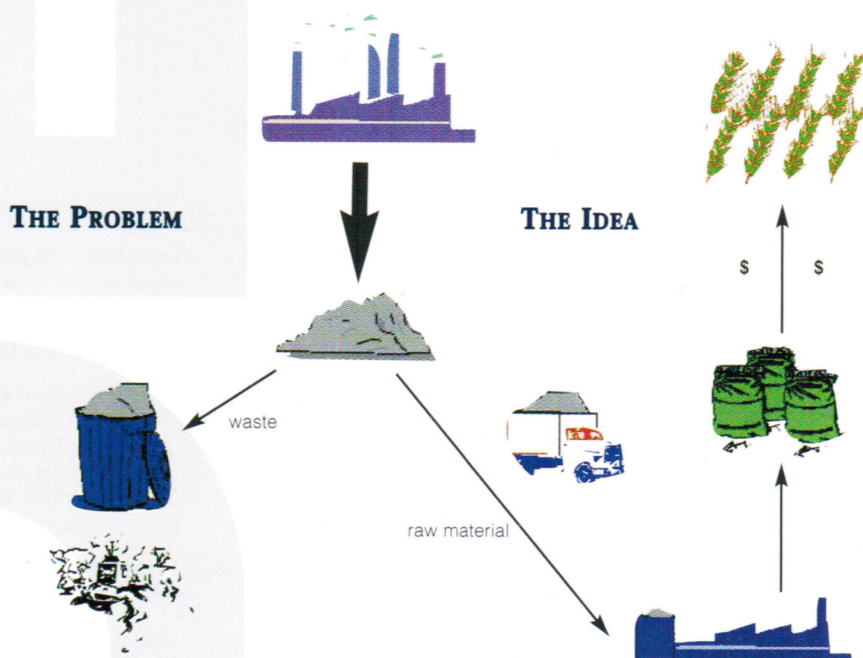
Arab Potash Company (APC) is the industrial enterprise responsible for exploiting Jordan's rich Dead Sea minerals, one of which is potash (K_2O_5). Potash is transported to Aqaba via tankers for exportation. The Aqaba facility is a storage site, where potash is unloaded and transported to ships via a conveyor belt. This process results in the escape of considerable amounts of potash dust waste that is collected and dumped away.

Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company (NJFC) is a fertiliser production company which exports its products to Japan. Potash is one of the raw materials used in their process.

APPLICATION OF THE 'GOOD HOUSEKEEPING' GUIDE

The potash dust waste of the APC is collected and transported to the NJFC to be used as a raw material in the production of some grades of fertilisers. The original potash percentage used in the NJFC process is 60% while the percentage in the dust is 55-58%. Thus a mixing process between dust potash and high concentration potash (about 1:10) is applied to reach a suitable process concentration.

ACTION TAKEN WITHIN THE COMPANY



ECONOMIC RESULTS

Investment cost	none
Annual savings	1400 tons of potash dust
Payback	immediate

ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

Environmental benefits are reached by both companies. On the one hand, APC is avoiding a polluting dumping, and on the other, NJFC is avoiding the use of a first quality raw material. Overall, this exchange reduces waste as well as raw material consumption. Potash dust is therefore considered as a by-product of an industrial process, and not anymore as a worthless waste.

LESSONS LEARNED

One of the basic rules for recycling waste has been applied: The waste of one source is reused as a raw material for another.

COMPANY

Arab Potash Company (APC), Aqaba, Jordan, mining sector, potash exploitation, 2500 employees.

and Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company (NJFC), Aqaba, Jordan chemical sector, fertiliser producer, 109 employees.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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WHO IS SBA ?

SBA, Sustainable Business Associates, is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that is working to engage industrialists in 'eco-efficiency' with the aim of minimising environmental impact and improving business productivity. To pursue this aim, SBA has initiated the DELTA Programme to sensitise industrialists to new business risks and opportunities, and to provide them with the management tools and training to move towards sustainable development.


WHAT IS DELTA?

DELTA stands for Developing Environmental Leadership Towards Action.

Chapter 30 of Agenda 21 (an outcome of the 1992 United Nations 'Earth Summit') indicates that business & industry have a critical role to play in achieving sustainable development goals. After an initial awareness-raising phase, the DELTA Programme focused on structuring industrialists in 'business & environment' networks (DELTA Networks) in 10 countries of the Mashrek & Maghreb. These Networks are composed of key industrialists interested in taking a proactive, leadership role on environmental issues. The DELTA Networks are practical, working structures for industrialists to obtain information & contacts, exchange experiences, develop environmental

know-how, and gain access to practical management tools that can offer 'win-win' options based on eco-efficiency.

SUPPORT TO DELTA

 The DELTA programme is supported by the European Commission (LIFE), the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation and other international organisations.

WHERE ARE THE DELTA NETWORKS?

DELTA Networks are operating in: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, and Tunisia.