



• Reducing the fuel consumption by adapting the boilers capacity Qbeiter & Abo Khater for salt refining (SALTICO), food sector, Syria

In brief

SALTICO, located south of Homs, is a medium-sized enterprise with 40 employees. The company produces high quality refined salt for cooking use. The management was aware of some environmental problems it was facing because it was subject to a number of complaints from neighbours due to the dark smoke and the smell coming from the boiler unit. Also, salt refining requires a high quantity of water. Although the workers endured a lot of noise, the owners of the company decided, as a first step towards a better management of environment, to apply the Ecomapping Guide in two units of the company: the boiler and water treatment.

Application

It was noticed that the wastewater released by the softeners was directed in an outdoor basin (salt water basin) and was often overflowing. As a result, a lot of water was lost and penetrated the soil. Moreover, the company did not know how to evacuate this wastewater (20m³/day) safely. After the analysis of the wastewater confirmed that it is suitable to be reused it was sent to the cooling tower. In the boiler unit, the burning of the fuel caused important air pollution and high energy consumption. The management realised they did not need to run the boiler all the time. Thus, they replaced the big boiler with two smaller ones, so they could run only one at a time when necessary.

• Ecomaps



• Action plan

Environmental aspect	Corrective measures	Investment	Annual savings
Water	Reusing the wastewater from the softeners	40 US\$	1'000 US\$
Energy	Replacing the big boiler by two smaller ones	2'500 US\$	1'400 US\$

• Mini audit *

Obviously, the employees are very concerned about their safety. Noise, health and safety in the workplace, and the fear of environmental accidents are among the first aspects they mention. This may be an important figure that the management should take account of in the future.

Health and safety

Noise

Prevention of environmental accidents

Water

• Lessons learned

The Ecomapping Guide is an easy-to-use method. It helped the owners of the company to solve environmental problems facing the production and the follow-up. In the same time, it benefited the environmental image of the factory.

"I am so pleased to start solving environmental problems in the factory. The Ecomapping Guide helped initiating the movement."

Eng. **Nizar Al-Sibai**
production manager, SALTICO

• For further information

• WHO IS SBA?

SBA, Sustainable Business Associates is an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) 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.

• WHERE ARE THE DELTA NETWORKS?

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

• SUPPORT TO DELTA



• 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 11 countries of the Mashrek & Maghreb. These Networks are composed of key industrialists interested in taking a proactive role and leadership 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.

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The **Ecomapping Guide**, elaborated by the Association Belge des Eco-Conseillers (ABECE, Belgium), is a visual tool that enables managers and their staff to assess the environmental performance of a micro-company or workshop. By drawing a set of maps (water, soil, risk, air, etc.) of the plant, the main environmental risks and sensitive areas of the factory can be identified. See <http://www.ecomapping.org>

*The mini audit is a 120-second audit done by the workers to assess the company's environmental performance. The results of all staff are then consolidated in a table that is analysed and graphically interpreted.