IN-HOUSE TESTING
SPHAG SORB POWER

COMPARISON OF *SPHAG SORB* PADS TO POLYPROPYLENE PADS

Polypropylene is a man-made synthetic polymer. When used as an absorbent, it acts exactly like a thin sponge: its primary disadvantage is that it is incapable of holding on to the liquid it absorbs, therefore it leaches. This inability to encapsulate liquid results in polypropylene leaching at very low pressures, limiting cleanup and disposal options with such products. Because of its chemical makeup, polypropylene faces additional limitations for disposal, particularly in some types of incineration.

Since polypropylene leaches readily, some manufacturers recommend wringing out the pads and reusing them. But with each reuse, polypropylene's absorption efficiency decreases dramatically - by as much as 35 percent on its first reuse. Such 'recycling ' also involves significant additional costs in labor and equipment. This process poses potential problems of contamination in recovered liquids as well. All these factors reduce the value and efficiency of this approach.

On the other hand ***Sphag Sorb*** is a 100 percent all natural organic absorbent. The loose ***Sphag Sorb*** is contained in an unbleached cotton sock, making it durable, easy to handle and eliminating the possibilities of synthetic components complicating disposal or incineration.

Unlike polypropylene, ***Sphag Sorb*** acts as 'a one way sponge' safely locking in the liquid it absorbs, thus making it ideal for landfill disposal. When put through a filter press test simulating landfill pressure conditions, ***Sphag Sorb*** (at a ratio of 1.5 to 2 parts ***Sphag Sorb*** to 1 part waste oil) safely contains the oil at a pressure exceeding 150 psi for 80 minutes. At the same ratios, polypropylene leaches out the liquid immediately at only 10 psi, the first stage of the test. Thus, ***Sphag Sorb*** can exceed TCLP maximum pressures with a lower volume of absorbent, saving money on disposal costs while meeting landfill regulations for proper solidification of waste. ***Sphag Sorb*** passes the Abalone Larval Development Short Term Toxicity Test for oil spill cleanup agents.

In a direct comparison of absorption abilities, one ***Sphag Sorb*** pad will absorb a quantity of liquid waste which would require approximately eight to ten polypropylene pads, negating polypropylene's lower cost on a pad-for-pad basis.