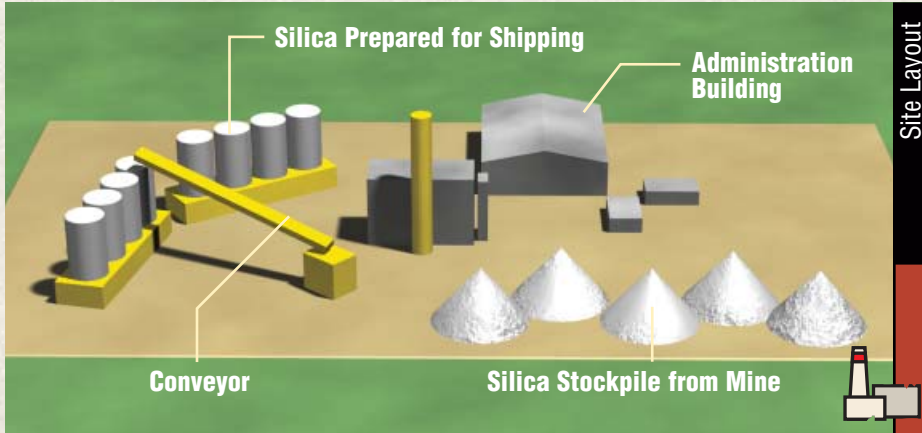


Overton

Silica Production Facility



through a dryer, and stored in silos for shipment by truck or rail.

Products

The Overton Silica Production Facility produces four grades of silica sand: AFS 55, 60, 70, and 100. The grades are based upon coarseness, a factor determined by measuring the average silica sand grain size. AFS 70 (used in glass making) is the predominant product.

Safety and Environmental Record

The safety of the Overton Mine's workforce is a top priority that is demonstrated by strict adherence to safety standards and regulations. In June 2002, the Overton facility reported operating over three years without loss of work due to employee injury.

History

In 1928, W.R. "Tex" Cozart discovered a silica deposit of remarkable purity near Overton, Nevada. The deposit was mined by the Nunn Company until 1955, when the operation was acquired by the J.R. Simplot Company.

Located at the north end of Lake Mead, the Overton deposit is renowned for its clean white color and chemical purity of 99.5% silica. The deposit was once an ancient sea beach, where centuries of wave washing removed most of the iron oxides from the outer surface of the silica grains, producing the brilliant white sand.

Consumer Benefits

Silica sand's greatest application (80%) is to glass making, where high purity provides the clarity required for windows and food packaging. Foundries use silica for casting various components, such as plumbing fixtures or auto and aerospace parts. Silica is widely used in recreational applications, such as golf courses and volleyball courts. It is also used in the production of household laundry detergent.

Local Economic Benefits

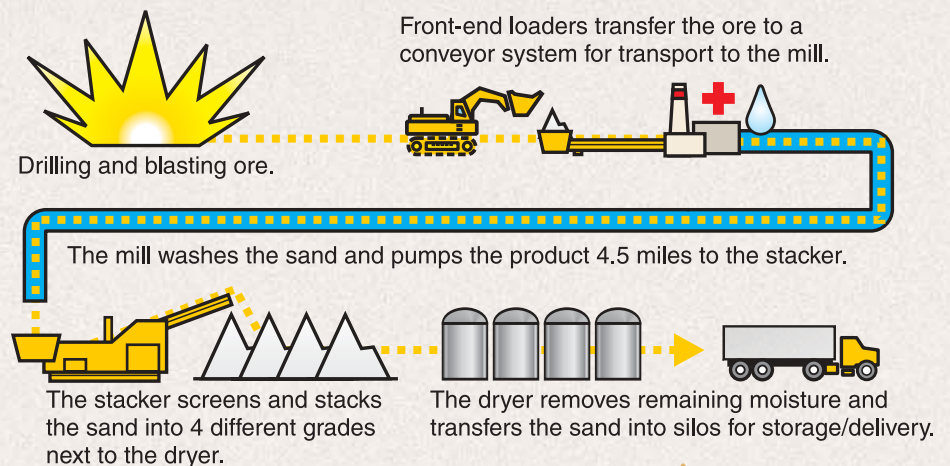
Annually, the J.R. Simplot Company spends \$4.3 million in the Overton area for a variety of goods and services – for such things as industrial supplies,

lodging, heavy equipment, and electricity. In addition, \$3.1 million is channeled annually into the Overton economy through salaries, wages, and benefits paid to the facility's 43 employees.

Raw Materials Used

The Overton facility uses only sand and water to produce its final product. Mined sand is washed to remove fine materials and clays—a process called "hydrosizing." The sand is then screened, passed

How We Produce Silica Sand



Bringing Earth's Resources to Life



Overton



Simplot Mining & Manufacturing
SYSTEM OVERVIEW

The Overton Operation

Located an hour's drive northeast of Las Vegas, Nevada, the Overton Silica Mine produces 650,000 to 700,000 tons per year of the highest-quality silica sand. The facility operates five days a week, 24 hours a day, and employs 43 people in a diverse range of operations, maintenance and management positions.

Other facilities in the Mining & Manufacturing Group and the principal products they produce include:

Don Plant – Pocatello, Idaho

- Dry and Liquid Phosphate and Nitrogen Fertilizers
- Feed Phosphates
- Purified Phosphoric Acid

Lathrop, California

- Ammonium Phosphates
- Feed Phosphates
- Ammonium Sulfate
- Ammonium Hydroxide
- Sulfuric Acid

FACTOID



Artifacts show that silica sand has been used in glass making since the craft first began with Egyptian jewelry makers around 3000 BC.

Helm, California

- Liquid Ammonium Nitrates
- Nitric Acids
- Calcium Ammonium Nitrate
- Urea Ammonium Nitrate
- Liquid Ammonium Phosphate

SF Phosphates – Vernal, Utah and Rock Springs, Wyoming

- Phosphoric Acid (54%)
- Super Phosphoric Acid (68%)
- MAP (Monoammonium Phosphate), a dry, granulated fertilizer

Brandon, Manitoba, Canada

- Nitrogen Fertilizers
- Ammonium Thiosulphate
- Phosphate Solution Fertilizers

Smoky Canyon – Idaho-Wyoming Border

- Phosphate Ore

Corporate Information

The Mining & Manufacturing Group is part of the J.R. Simplot Company, a privately held agribusiness company. With facilities throughout the western United States and Canada, the Mining & Manufacturing Group is focused on meeting the needs of its customers through the environmentally conscious extraction of natural resources, the manufacture of fertilizers that help make modern agriculture a miracle of productivity, and the distribution of the highest-quality agricultural products. Along with the rest of the J.R. Simplot Company, the employees of the Mining & Manufacturing Group recognize and embrace the responsibilities that fall to a company dedicated to *Bringing Earth's Resources to Life*.

J.R. Simplot Company

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