SPANISH TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS ON Hg STABILIZATION AND Hg CONTAINING WASTES

WORKSHOP ON MERCURY MANAGEMENT AND DECONTAMINATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGINAL PLAN ON MERCURY.

Almadén, Spain, 12th / 13th December 2012









MERSADE Project main tasks (2006-2010):

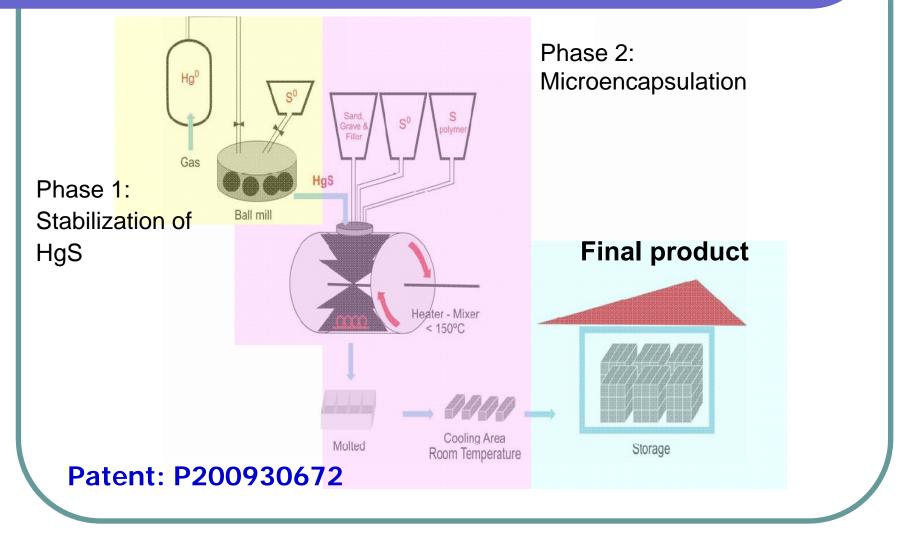
1. Container for the safe temporary storage of metallic mercury



2. Stabilization / Microencapsulation technique.

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Obtaining mercury sulphide:

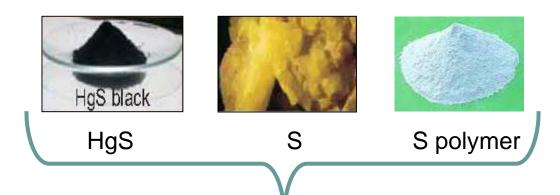


Metallic Hg + Elemental sulfur particles (< 60 µm) react in a ball mill to obtain HgS (Cinnabar)

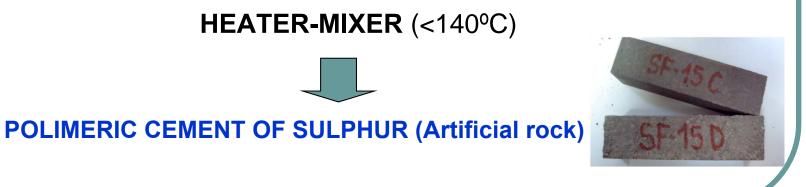
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Microencapsulation in a sulphur matrix:



HEATER-MIXER (<140°C)



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ADVANTAGES AND GUARANTEES :

- Inert solid, more resistant than concrete, with low porosity and impermeable.
- The MICROENCAPSULATION provides a second and additional barrier for avoiding mercury releases to the environment.
- Safer product and easier to be managed: physically and chemically much more stable and environmentally safer.
- During the process, 100% of Hg is transformed.
- Low energy consumption.
- No water consumption, and neither effluents nor wastes are generated.
- Ordinary, abundant and affordable reagents.



- The estimated cost of the stabilization process is around 2,000 €/t of metallic mercury
- The CTNDM has experts to carry out a safe and environmentally sound comprehensive management of mercury (including collection, transport, temporary storage and disposal).
- Facilities for the environmentally sound permanent storage with absolute environmental guarantees already exist in Almaden.
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¿ what 's next step ?

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RESEARCH WORKS DONE

Center

HAVE DEMONSTRATED THAT:

.OGY is fully effective to stabilize and microencapsulate metallic **hichever degree of purity, no needing previous distillation**.

.OGY is <u>directly applicable</u> to a wide range of mercury containing /erse industrial processes, <u>without previous treatment.</u>



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