

SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE CERAMICS & REFRACTORIES

# HEAT TREATMENT

REFRACTORIES FOR  
ATMOSPHERE FURNACES



  
SAINT-GOBAIN

**TAILOR-MADE MATERIALS & SOLUTIONS**

**HIGH PERFORMANCE REFRACTORIES**

Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics & Refractories (PCR) has been designing and manufacturing high performance refractories for demanding atmosphere furnaces for over 70 years. Our team of application engineers, material scientists and design engineers understand the conditions in atmosphere furnaces and can help you choose the correct material for your application.

**BENEFIT FROM THESE ADVANTAGES:**

- Tailor-made engineering to customer specifications
- Robust export compliance
- Consistently high-quality manufacturing
- Manufacturing locations on multiple continents
- Extensive worldwide capacity
- Global R&D resources

**OUR SERVICES**

**INNOVATION**  
Research & development team stationed at our leading-edge R&D centers in Europe, North America and Asia; specialize in ceramic & refractory technology and constantly interact with customers & industry experts while using the most progressive and multidisciplinary technologies.

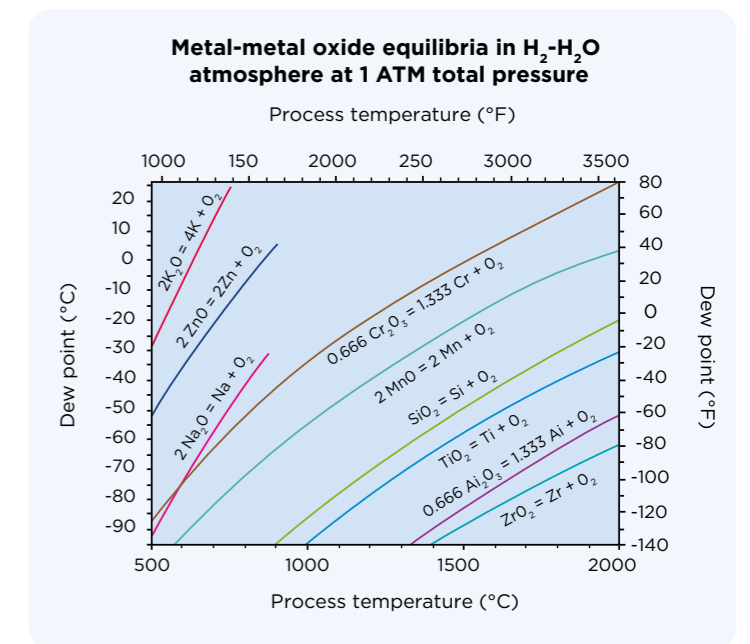
**DESIGN & ENGINEERING**  
Customized solutions including refractory drawings, adjusted design and modeling capabilities to help minimize maintenance/relining frequency.

**PARTNERSHIP**  
Experienced application teams offer assessments, working in partnership with customers to explore material science and shape capability available from a world leading refractory manufacturer.

**CUSTOMER SUPPORT**  
Experienced, dedicated teams work closely with customers, either in person or remotely via the most advanced digital platforms.

**OUR MATERIALS DELIVER VALUE**

Many of the metal oxides found in traditional refractories will reduce and reoxidize in cooler areas of the hydrogen atmosphere furnaces. This reaction is especially volatile in furnaces operating with low dew points. As a result it is important to understand this reaction when specifying furnace refractory and kiln furniture\* (see oxide equilibria graph to the right). This reaction can lead to premature refractory repairs, inconsistent furnace operation and poor production yields. To avoid these costly and time consuming problems, it is important to select the correct refractories.



\*Kiln furniture is synonymous with the refractory plates, batts, boats, setters, saggars, fixtures and specialty shapes used to support/transport products during firing.

**OUR MATERIALS - YOUR BENEFITS**

With over 125 years of experience with alumina (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and silicon carbide (SiC), today we leverage production capability in North America, Europe and Asia to support customers globally.

**BENEFITS**

- Increased service-life
- Optimum efficiency
- Reduced maintenance costs
- Excellent creep resistance up to max. application of T = 1.870°C
- Lower energy consumption

**We provide ceramic materials designed to meet your needs:**

- QUALITY
- EFFICIENCY
- CUSTOM DESIGN

HIGH TEMPERATURE 1205°-1870°C

## HYDROGEN ATMOSPHERE

Alundum® 99 furnace refractory should be specified in hydrogen atmosphere furnaces that operate from 1205 - 1870°C (2200 - 3400°F). This ultra-low silica content refractory will minimize or eliminate the contamination and degradation that results from the reduction and re-oxidation of silica, soda and potassium found in many refractory shapes.

\*AN199 & A299: Less than 0.07% silica and 0.25% soda and potassium  
AN599: Less than 0.05% silica, and 0.05% soda and potassium

IMPROVE YOUR YIELD WITH  
**ALUNDUM®**

HIGH PURITY ALUMINA

### BENEFITS



High strength dense alumina mixes\*



Minimize contamination & degradation



Provide longlasting, durable, stable linings

HIGH TEMPERATURE 1205°-1870°C

## BRICKS

ALUNDUM® • ALFRAX® 101 • AL100 • RI34

Our oxide solution products can withstand operating temperatures up to 1800°C or even higher if zirconia is used (2200°C).



Brick shapes that support heavy loads

Industry standard and specialty shaped brick available

## MUFFLES

ALUNDUM® • ALFRAX® • AL100

High purity alumina muffles are used to control firing conditions and to provide a stable, wear resistant support medium for resistance heated atmosphere pusher furnaces at temperatures up to 1,870°C (3,400°F).



Designed to accommodate pusher plates

Customized dimensions available

## HEARTH PLATES

ALUNDUM® 199 • ALUNDUM® 299 • ALFRAX® 101 • AL100

Hearth plates provide a long lasting, wear resistant push surface at temperatures up to 1,870°C (3,400°F).

Excellent creep and slag resistance

To maximize their life it is important to ensure they are properly supported








## HYDROGEN-NITROGEN ATMOSPHERE

Most traditional kaolin-based, silica rich, refractory brick and fiber can be used to insulate low temperature (1,120°C, 2,050°F) atmosphere (hydrogen-nitrogen) belt furnaces because these furnaces generally operate in atmospheres and at temperatures and dew points where silica is stable. These furnaces, which are used to sinter, braze and normalize P/M parts, typically incorporate silicon carbide (SiC) based structural furnace refractory.

SILICON CARBIDE

### FEATURES & BENEFITS

-  Excellent creep resistance
-  Outstanding wear resistance
-  Superior thermal conductivity

## BEAMS

CRYSTAR® • HEXOLOY® • N-DURANCE® • SILIT® SK

SiC beams can be used as structural supports for ceramic and alloy muffles in belt furnaces.



### FEATURES & BENEFITS

-  Produced in wide range of cross-sections, wall thickness and lengths (up to 4000 mm)
-  Low mass
-  Very high strength



## MUFFLES/SKID RAILS

CARBOFRAX® • MULLFRAX® • REFRAFRAX® • ZIRCOFRAX® • AZS

Ceramic muffle sections can reduce the costs associated with the replacement of standard alloy muffles.

 Doubled Fired SiC with higher oxidation resistance



Produced to accommodate belts

Used in atmosphere belt furnaces that sinter traditional P/M parts

Excellent creep and wear resistance



## CERAMIC RADIANT TUBES

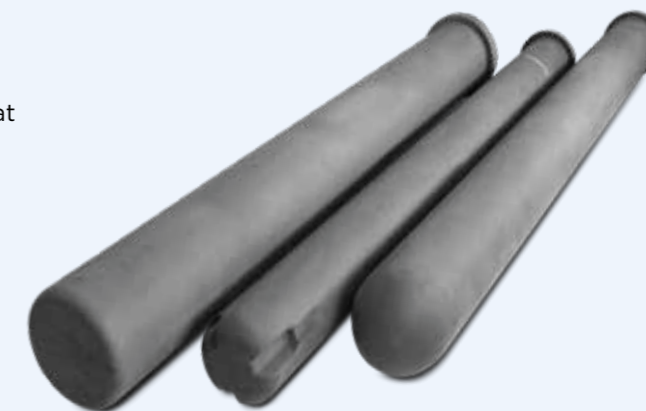
SILIT® SKD

The silicon carbide radiant tube offers higher productivity at lower energy consumption.

Withstands application temperatures up to 1,380°C / 2,500°F

Available for straight and single-ended applications

Up to 3500 mm length and 300 mm diameter



# DISCOVER OUR ENTIRE PRODUCT RANGE

Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics & Refractories' extensive portfolio of ceramic materials is available in many shapes and sizes.

## TYPICAL VALUES

Family	TRADITIONAL SILICON CARBIDE			ADVANCED SILICON CARBIDE			
	REFRAX® PLUS	REFRAX® TOP	CARBOFRAX® A/M	N-DURANCE®	SILIT® SKD	HEXOLOY® SA	CRYSTAR® 2000
SiC (%)	75.0	75.0	86.0	70.0	85.0	> 99.0	> 99.0
Composition (Phases)	Si <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> bonded	Si <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> bonded	SiO <sub>2</sub> bonded	Nitride bonded SiC	Silicon Infiltrated SiC	Sintered SiC	Recrystallized SiC
Max. Application Temperature, °C	1550	1550	1450	2642	1380	1900	1600
Density, g/cc	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.75	3.0	3.07	2.7
Apparent Porosity, (%)	14	12	18	<1	0	< 0.6	15

## TYPICAL VALUES

Family	HIGH PURITY ALUMINA						
	ALUNDUM® AN199	ALUNDUM® AN299	ALUNDUM® AN599	AL100	ALFRAX® 101	MULLFRAX® 201	ZIRCOFRAX® AZS
Alumina (%) SiO <sub>2</sub> (%) FeO <sub>3</sub> (%) Zirconia (%)	99.5 0.07 0.09 -	99.6 0.07 0.03 -	99.8 0.05 0.06 -	99.5 0.1 0.1 -	98.7 0.1 0.1 -	78 21 0.2 -	52 17 - 30
Composition (Phases)	Alumina	Alumina	Alumina	Fused Alumina	Fused Alumina	Fused Mullite	Zircon/Mullite
Max. Application Temperature, °C	1870	1870	1760	1800	1800	1750	1700
Density, g/cc	3.2	3.2	1.6	3.3	3.0	2.6	3.0
Apparent Porosity, (%)	20	20	56	16	22	18	18



# OUR COMMITMENT BEING CARBON FREE BY 2050

## OUR AMBITION

To provide solutions to our customers that contribute to de-carbonization and reduce environmental footprint.

## SUSTAINABILITY AT THE HEART OF OUR BUSINESS STRATEGY

Sustainability is a key tenet of modern environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG). At Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics and Refractories, our business model directly contributes to critical ESG outcomes with a dual approach to sustainable development goals: Minimizing our environmental footprint while maximizing our virtuous impact across the entire value chain.

## OUR 2030 OBJECTIVES



### WATER

- 50% Industrial water withdrawal
- o water discharge in area with extremely high water risk



### CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS

- 33% reduction in scope 1 and scope 2 emissions
- 16% reduction in scope 3 emissions



### CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- 80% non valorized production residue
- + 30% avoidance of virgin raw material
- 100% recyclable packaging with 30% recycled or bio-sourced content



### PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

- 100% Life Cycle Analysis for all of Group product ranges

PIONEERING CERAMIC SOLUTIONS FOR EXTREME INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS AND A GREENER WORLD.

# SAINT-GOBAIN 2023

Derwent  
Top 100  
Global Innovator  
2023

Clarivate  
Analytics

top  
EMPLOYER  
GLOBAL  
2024



1 IN 4

PRODUCTS  
did not exist 5 years ago



160,000

EMPLOYEES



47.9 BILLION

SALES IN 2023



REPRESENTED IN 76

COUNTRIES



-34%

CARBON EMISSIONS  
REDUCTION  
(vs. 2017 on scope 1+2)



3

MAIN R&D CENTRES

## OUR PURPOSE

# MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER HOME.

## OUR MISSION

Saint-Gobain designs, manufactures and distributes materials and solutions which are key ingredients in the well-being of each of us and the future of all.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO  
ACHIEVING NET ZERO  
CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2050

# SAINT-GOBAIN

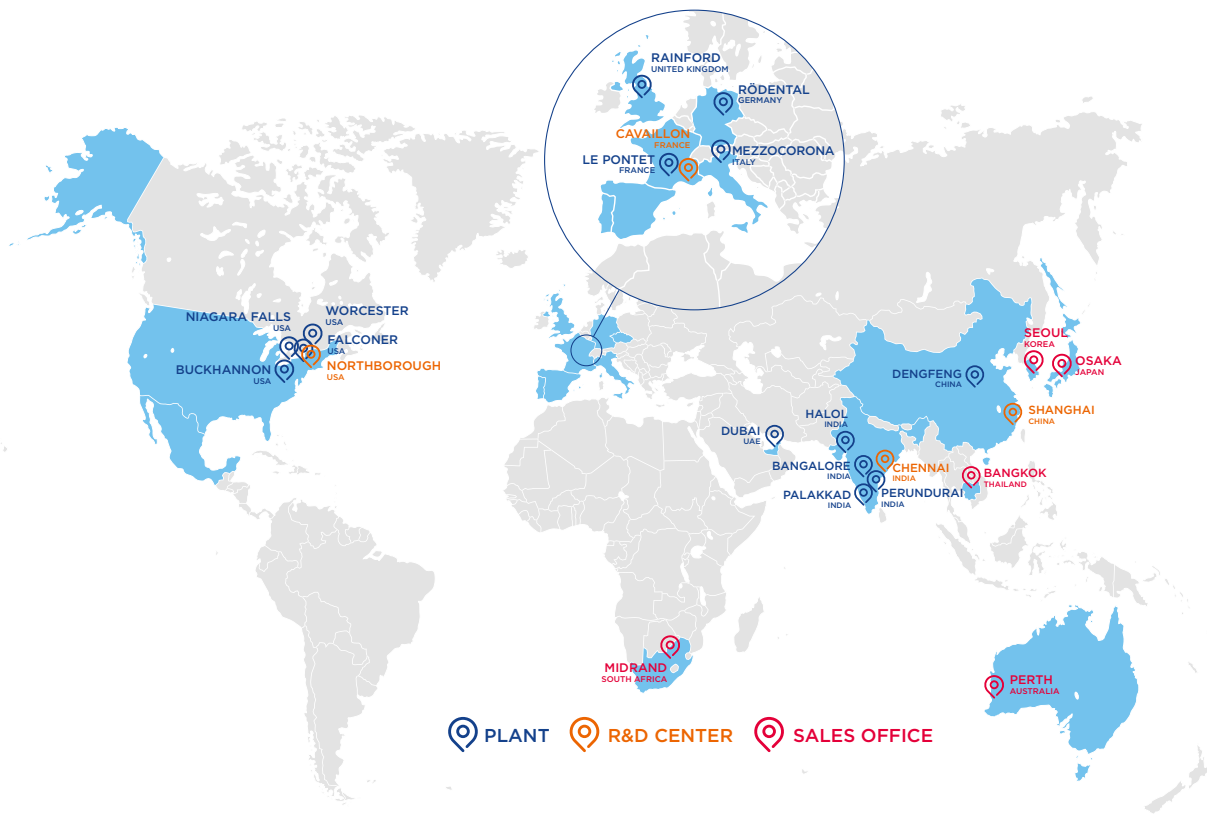
PERFORMANCE CERAMICS & REFRACTORIES

## OUR MISSION

To design, develop and supply solutions and services for extreme operating industrial conditions. Our engineered ceramics and refractory products are manufactured to the highest industrial standards and deliver enhanced performance while minimizing environmental impact.

PIONEERING CERAMIC SOLUTIONS FOR EXTREME INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS AND A GREENER WORLD.

# OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE



## CONTACT US

### USA

Niagara Falls  
+1 716 278 6233  
Worcester  
+1 508 795 5264  
Falconer  
+1 716 483 7222

### MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

Dubai (UAE)  
+971 4 8011800

### EUROPE

Rainford (United Kindom)  
+44 1744 882 941  
Rödental (Germany)  
+49 9563 724 201

### INDIA

Bangalore  
+ 91 7228 950 887  
Halol  
+ 91 7228 950 886

### PACIFIC

Perth (Australia)  
+61 394 745 940

### JAPAN

Osaka  
+81 6 4707 1700

### CHINA

Dengfeng  
+86 4008880198  
Shanghai  
+86 4008880198

### ASIA

Seoul (Korea)  
+82 2370 693 34  
Bangkok (Thailand)  
+66 61 415 9204

For more information:  
[www.ceramicsrefractories.saint-gobain.com](http://www.ceramicsrefractories.saint-gobain.com)  
[ceramics.refractories@saint-gobain.com](mailto:ceramics.refractories@saint-gobain.com)

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