

SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE CERAMICS & REFRACTORIES

# NUCLEAR ENERGY SOLUTIONS

FOR REACTOR SENSING,  
COOLING AND RODS



  
SAINT-GOBAIN





Innovative Ceramic and Refractory Technologies  
**SUPPORTING SAFE &  
EFFICIENT NUCLEAR APPLICATIONS**



# REACTOR COOLANT PUMP SEAL FACES



**Safe reactor operation depends on efficient cooling.**

Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics and Refractories offer precision-engineered seal faces made from advanced ceramic materials Hexoloy® SA SiC and Noralide® Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> for Reactor Coolant Pumps (RCP).

**These solutions deliver exceptional durability and thermal stability in the most demanding nuclear environments.**



Engineered for  
**SAFETY AND RELIABILITY**  
IN NUCLEAR REACTOR  
COOLING SYSTEMS



Manufactured from  
advanced ceramics:  
**HEXOLOY® SA SiC AND**  
**NORALIDE® Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>**



Exceptional  
**WEAR, CORROSION,**  
**AND THERMAL SHOCK**  
**RESISTANCE**

## BENEFITS



**Superior chemical and thermal stability**

**Extended service life, reducing downtime**



**Trusted by leading Seal & Pump  
OEMs and nuclear reactor  
manufacturers**



# CRUSHABLE INSULATORS FOR REACTOR TEMPERATURE SENSOR



Precise temperature control is critical in nuclear reactors.

Saint-Gobain's Alundum® crushable insulators—crafted from high-purity alumina—are designed for use in Mineral Insulated Metal Sheathed (MIMS) thermocouples and Mineral Insulated (MI) cables, delivering reliable insulation performance in demanding environments.



Precision insulation for  
**REACTOR TEMPERATURE  
SENSORS**



Made from  
**HIGH-PURITY  
ALUNDUM® ALUMINA**



ENSURES  
**ACCURATE, RELIABLE  
TEMPERATURE  
MEASUREMENT**

## BENEFITS



**Maintains sensor accuracy under extreme conditions**



**High dielectric strength and thermal stability**



**Customizable for various thermocouple and cable designs**



# REFRACTORIES FOR NUCLEAR FUEL SINTERING FURNACES

Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics and Refractories offers a range of high-purity alumina refractories (Alundum® AH199, AL100, AH199B, Alfrax® 101, AN599B) for lining nuclear fuel sintering furnaces. To ensure optimal performance in atmosphere-controlled sintering furnaces, high-purity, high-alumina refractories are the preferred choice for lining.

**These advanced materials withstand extreme temperatures and reducing environments, making them ideal to produce nuclear fuel pellets.**

## BENEFITS



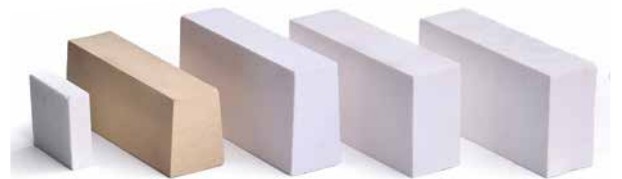
**Minimizes contamination and degradation**



**Reduces maintenance and downtime**



**Supports stable, efficient furnace operation**



High-purity alumina  
refractories for  
**DEMANDING FURNACE  
ENVIRONMENTS**



Exceptional  
**CHEMICAL PURITY AND  
THERMAL STABILITY**



DESIGNED FOR  
**LONGEVITY AND  
CONSISTENT  
PERFORMANCE**

# BORON CARBIDE PRODUCTS FOR NEUTRON ABSORPTION



Norbide® boron carbide solutions from Saint-Gobain Performance Ceramics and Refractories are expertly engineered for advanced neutron absorption in nuclear reactors.

As fuel is consumed and excess neutrons are generated, Norbide® B<sub>4</sub>C helps maintain safe operating temperatures by effectively controlling neutron levels - ensuring reliable performance and enhanced reactor safety.



Effective  
**NEUTRON ABSORPTION  
FOR REACTOR SAFETY  
AND CONTROL**



**NORBIDE® BORON  
CARBIDE IN PELLETS,  
PLATES, AND CUSTOM  
SHAPES**



Solution for  
**CONTROL RODS AND  
REACTOR SHIELDING**

## BENEFITS



**High neutron absorption cross-section**



**Customizable geometries for various reactor designs**



**Proven performance in demanding nuclear environments**





## ALUMINA BASED REFRACTORIES for nuclear fuel sintering furnaces

| Properties                  | Unit   | ALUNDUM®        |                  | AL100           | Alfrax®<br>101HF |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|                             |        | AH199B          | AN599B           |                 |                  |
| Alumina                     | %      | 99.55           | 99.8             | 99.50           | 98.7             |
| Silica                      | %      | 0.07            | 0.05             | 0.1             | 0.1              |
| Max. Service Temperature    | °C     | 1870            | 1760             | 1800            | 1800             |
| Bulk Density                | g/cc   | 3.25            | 1.6              | 3.32            | 3.00             |
| Apparent Porosity           | Vol. % | 18              | 56               | 16              | 22               |
| Cold Crushing Strength      | MPa    | 113             | 1,4              | 95              | 85               |
| Modulus of Rupture @ RT     | MPa    | 24              | 4                | 20              | 20               |
| Modulus of Rupture @ 1250°C | MPa    | 17,9            | 0.31             | 10<br>@ 1200°C  | 3<br>@ 1350°C    |
| Modulus of Elasticity @ RT  | GPa    | 117             | 22               | 75              | –                |
| Thermal Conductivity        | W/(mK) | 4.3<br>@ 1200°C | 1.45<br>@ 1200°C | 3.8<br>@ 1000°C | 2.7<br>@ 1000°C  |
| Thermal Expansion           | 10-6/K | 8.4             | 8.7              | 8.3             | 0.7              |

## ADVANCED CERAMICS SOLUTIONS for reactor pump seals / neutron absorption

| Properties                        | Unit   | Hexoloy®   |                   | Norbide®              | Noralide®                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------|------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                   |        | SA         | SG                | HOT PRESSED**         | NBD-200                            |
| Composition                       |        | <b>SiC</b> | <b>SiC</b>        | <b>B<sub>4</sub>C</b> | <b>Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub></b> |
| Key Component                     | %      | >99        | 95                | 98                    | 95                                 |
| Max. Service Temperature (inert)* | °C     | 1950       | 1950              | 2000                  | 1600                               |
| Bulk Density (typical)            | g/cc   | 3.15       | 3.0               | 2.46                  | 3.16                               |
| Porosity                          | Vol. % | 2          | 2                 | <2                    | 1                                  |
| Flexural Strength @ RT            | MPa    | 380        | 311               | 425                   | 800                                |
| Modulus of Elasticity             | GPa    | 430        | 376               | 440                   | 320                                |
| Thermal Expansion RT to 1000°C    | 10-6/K | 4.02       | 4.6<br>@ RT-700°C | 5                     | 2.9                                |

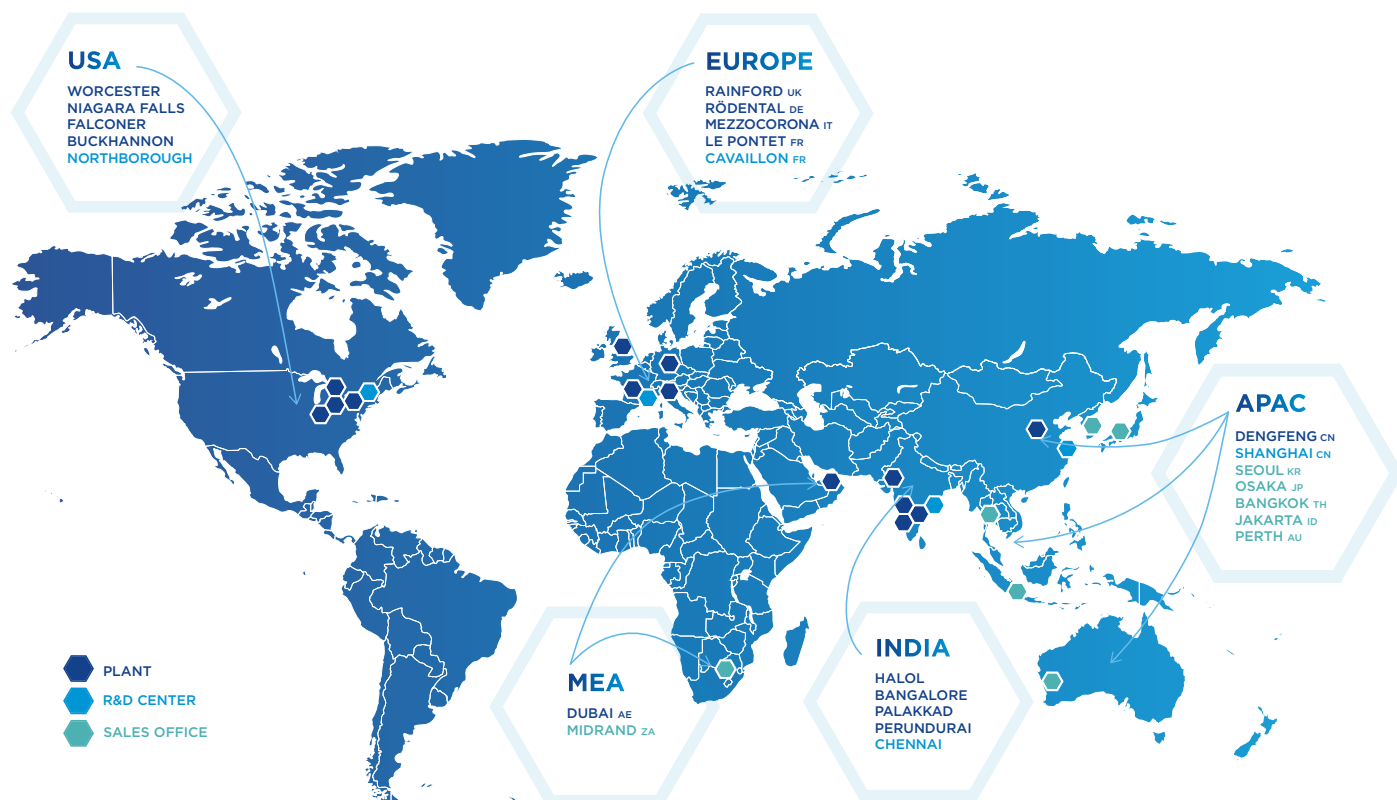
\* In air, max service temperature is lower. \*\* Sintered B<sub>4</sub>C option is also available.

## OXIDE BASED SOLUTIONS for crushable insulators

| Properties                     | Unit | ALUNDUM®   | MAGNORITE® |
|--------------------------------|------|------------|------------|
|                                |      | AN900      | MN399A     |
| Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | %    | 99.85      | 0.08       |
| Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | %    | 0.06       | 0.10       |
| SiO <sub>2</sub>               | %    | 0.02       | 0.10       |
| CaO                            | %    | 0.02       | 0.24       |
| MgO                            | %    | 0.02       | 99.47      |
| ZrO <sub>2</sub>               | %    | 0.0001     | –          |
| Na <sub>2</sub> O              | %    | 0.004-0.01 | –          |
| C                              | %    | 0.003      | 0.01       |
| S                              | %    | 75         | 0.001      |

# SAINT-GOBAIN PERFORMANCE CERAMICS & REFRACTORIES

## OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE



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