

SHOWCASE PLANTS

Rohm & Haas Texas Inc. Deer Park Plant



Rohm and Haas Company is one of the world's largest manufacturers of specialty materials, including adhesives, sealants, coatings, monomers, electronic materials, inorganic and specialty solutions, and ion exchange resins. Founded in 1909 by two German entrepreneurs, Rohm and Haas has grown to approximately \$6 billion in annual revenues.

Rohm and Haas Texas Inc. occupies 900 acres along the Houston Ship Channel in Deer Park, Texas, approximately 22 miles east of downtown Houston. Constructed in 1947, the facility is Rohm and Haas' largest plant globally, employing nearly 800 workers. The plant consists of eight production areas that operate as separate facilities or "plants within a plant." The myriad of specialty chemicals manufactured at the site include methyl methacrylate, acrylic acid, amines, and various acrylates. Though seldom seen by consumers, these chemicals enable other industries to produce better-performing, higher-quality end products and finished goods for consumers worldwide. Some of the markets using specialty chemicals from Rohm and Haas Texas include paints, detergents, floor care, adhesives and sealants, automotive coatings, acrylic plastics, personal care products, and water purification.

The Deer Park facility accounts for about a third of Rohm and Haas' global energy requirement. In 1997, the plant created a formal Energy Management Program to reduce energy consumption. In just five years, the program has reduced energy intensity by 23.3% per pound of production. The program uses internal and external audits and assessments to identify opportunities for energy efficiency improvements. Of the 150 opportunities identified to date, over 50 have been implemented. A real-time, plant-wide energy management optimization system known as Visual MESA[®] was also installed to better understand, control, and optimize the entire facility's energy use.



A variety of organizations have recognized the plant's energy, environmental, and safety efforts:

- U.S. Department of Energy Plant-of-the-Year Runner-up (2001).
- Industrial Energy Technology Conference Energy Conference Award (2001).
- Texas Governor's Environmental Excellence Award for Large Industrial Facilities (2001, finalist in 1997).
- American Chemistry Council's Region 1 Responsible Care Gold Award (2002).
- Texas Chemical Council's Caring for Texas Award (2002).
- Office of Safety and Health (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Merit (1997).
- OSHA VPP Star (2000) and OSHA VPP Star Among Stars (2000).
- National Petroleum Refiners Association Award for Meritorious Safety Performance (1999).
- Texas Chemical Council's Distinguished Service Award for Safety Performance (2002).