

## MODERN OIL SHALE PROCESSING FLEXIBILITY Improved Technology for Difficult Ores

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International Oil Shale Symposium, Jordan 2014 Daniel Melo, P.Eng.





## Oil shale:

- No specific chemical formula
- No definite geological definition
- Broad term for fine-grained sedimentary rocks that yield "oil" upon pyrolysis







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### **Ore Properties**



## **Physical Properties**

- Static angle of repose
- Dynamic angle of repose
- Loose bulk density
- Tapped bulk density
- Friability
- Attrition tests
- Heat capacity
- Thermal conductivity
- PSD
- Particle density
- Abrasion

#### **Chemical Properties**

- Soluble oil
- Water saturation
- Free moisture
- HC grade
- Gas make & composition
- Carbonate content
- C, H, N, O, S
- Calorific value
- Fixed Carbon
- Sulfur forms
- Mineralogy







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### **Impact of Properties on Design**



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#### **Design Implication**

Dynamics of solid bed transport

Flow through Retort

Solids elutriation / heat transfer

Energy balance/ Heat transfer properties

Resource evaluation / solids elutriation

PH Zone exit temperature / PH HC handling system

Design of PH zone / Thermal load variation

Resource evaluation / Mass balance / ROI Gas compression / Light ends recovery / Fuel gas system CO<sub>2</sub> emissions Burner chemistry / Mineral balance Elemental balance Heat balance Coke formation Emissions / Upgrading



UMATAC Industrial Processes

### **Impact of Properties on Design**



#### Properties

- Atm / Vacuum Distillations
- Bottoms solids and water
- SimDist 50-735°C and Residue
- Density
- Viscosity
- Reid Vapour Pressure
- Flash Point
- Pour Point
- Cetane Number
- Octane Number
- Calorific Value
- Ash Content
- Metals in oil
- Inorganic Salt
- Total Acid Number
- Total Naphthenic Acids
- Sulphur Distribution
- Nitrogen Distribution
- Total Sulphur
- Organic Chlorine
- Micro Carbon Residue
- Bromine Number
- PIONA Analysis IBP-204°C
- SARA

#### **Design Implication**

Boiling point distribution / Oil recovery plant design Design of separation equipment

Bottoms oil recycle system

Fluid dynamics

Properties of final upgraded products

Energy balance

Impurities in oil

Oil recovery plant metallurgy

Heteroatom removal during upgrading

Coking tendency of oil Saturation H<sub>2</sub> demand

Upgrading



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### **Choose the Right Partners**



## UMATAC has worldwide experience in testing oil shale





## **UMATAC R&D Centre in Calgary**

A company of ThyssenKrupp Industrial Solutions



## **TKRS Minerals and Upgrading R&D Facilities in Germany**



![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **ThyssenKrupp Industrial Solutions**

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

## TKIS offers complete & integrated solutions for oil shale industry

![](_page_16_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_4.jpeg)

### **Tailor your Design to the Ore**

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

KIO project ATP – Specifically designed for the AI Lajjun shale

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### **Some Project Specific Examples**

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

### KIO project – Meeting the needs of Jordan

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_5.jpeg)

## **JEML/KIO Project Specific Issues**

## **High Carbonate Content**

- 32 57 wt% Mainly Calcite and Dolomite
- Decomposes at temperatures >250°C
- Study on CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration by CaO on ash
- Study done to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> formation from Carbonates by temperature adjustment

![](_page_19_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_7.jpeg)

## UMATAC Industrial Processes

![](_page_19_Picture_10.jpeg)

## **JEML/KIO Project Specific Issues**

## Low free moisture & Local Water Availability Issues

- ATP Processor preheat zone sized for AI Lajjun ore water content
- PH system equipment sized accordingly
- Water from ore is recovered and re-utilized
- Minimized water usage
- Air-cooled heat exchangers + Central cooling
- Looked for means to maximize water treatment and re-use / recycling
- Studies on waterless dust suppression

![](_page_20_Picture_9.jpeg)

Ash handling water target: 100% recycled water

![](_page_20_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_12.jpeg)

## **JEML/KIO Project Specific Issues**

## **High Sulphur Content**

- Organic/Inorganic: S<sub>(s)</sub>, SO<sub>2(g)</sub>, Sulfites<sub>(aq)</sub>, Sulfates<sub>(aq)</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>(g)</sub>
- Selected metallurgy for oil recovery plant and flue gas system
- Studied Sulphur (and Ammonia) salts build-up in gas compression system
- Wet scrubbing for Sulphur oxides in flue gas
- Oil upgrading H<sub>2</sub> uptake

![](_page_21_Picture_7.jpeg)

## ATP designed to handle high sulphur

![](_page_21_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_10.jpeg)

## **Choose Technology with Built-in Flexibility**

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

ATP Processor can handle wide variations in ore grade, moisture content, and process conditions

![](_page_22_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_4.jpeg)

### **Example: Retort Temperature**

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Retort Temperature** 

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Concluding Remarks**

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Know your ore

- Ore impacts the whole project
- Comprehensive (staged) analytical campaign required for shale ore and products

#### **Choose the right partners**

- UMATAC has extensive expertise
- ThyssenKrupp Industrial Solutions capable of complete project delivery

# Design for specific ore BUT choose a technology with build-in flexibility

• ATP Systems are designed for specific oil shale, but are fully capable of handling a range of grade and moisture contents, and process conditions.

![](_page_28_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_12.jpeg)

### **Questions?**

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

谢谢 Thank You شکرا Kiitos Vielen Dank Merci Aitäh Obrigado Спасибо

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **Contact Information**

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![](_page_30_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_6.jpeg)

## **Definitions / Legend**

- OFM Zero Free Moisture Basis
- Arb As Received Basis
- ATP Alberta Taciuk Process
- bbl Barrel of Oil (~159 Litres)
  - °C Degrees Celsius
- FEED Front-End Engineering Design
  - HC Hydrocarbons
- LTOM Litres of Oil Per Tonne Of Zero Moisture Ore
  - PH Preheat
  - t/h Metric Tonnes per Hour
- Temp. Temperature
  - TKIS ThyssenKrupp Industrial Solutions
  - TKRT ThyssenKrupp Resources Technologies
  - wt% Weight Percent
  - ZRM Zero Moisture

![](_page_31_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_17.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_18.jpeg)