

people at Omya

Living the Dream



Combining diverse abilities with a can-do attitude barely scratches the surface of this one-of-a-kind Omya employee, Adam Smiechowski. Adam brings a wealth of experience, cultural diversity and a quick witted sense of humor to his work at Omya as a Process Technician, Process Improvement and Product Development.

Adam, born in Poland, received a degree in Structural Economics from the University of Nikolay Copernicus in Torun in 1981. He worked as a manager in a furniture manufacturing plant and later enrolled at the Physical Academy in

Gdansk where he studied martial arts-judo and planned to become a sport coach. Adam's ability to understand the complexities of a country in the midst of economic hardship and political change fueled him with drive and determination and in 1984 he moved to the United States. Growing accustom to the American culture provided him with many challenges, or as Adam believes "opportunities". Always resourceful by nature and a skilled craftsman, he travelled to Chicago and worked in tool manufacturing by day and at night attended Truman College to learn English. It was at Truman that Adam met Jadwiga, his wife of 25 years. With relatives and family friends in Vermont, Adam and his wife moved East where he worked as a builder and then briefly with a local plumber before starting with Omya in 1988.

At Omya, Adam works closely with our chemists and engineers in developing the best processes to make new products or to improve current ones. Because of his skills, aptitude and flexibility, Adam wears many hats working as a mechanic, millwright, mill operator and process and lab technician. His adaptability and solid work ethic serves him well. During his time at Omya, Adam successfully completed the Rutland Precision Machining Program, and the Applied Principles of Technology Program sponsored by Vermont Technical College. He also earned his a degree in Computer Science from the Community College of Vermont. He is proud to have become a United States Citizen in 1992. Adam has "great appreciation to Omya" and his "coworkers for both the opportunities and patience extended him over the past 25 years".

Not known to sit still long, Adam, along with his wife, built their own home and they share a love of the outdoors while tending to gardens, bees, chickens and rabbits with their two children Anna 16 and Artur 13. Adam attributes his fabulous children to Jadwiga's upbringing...not his (!) and shares that he had a hand in teaching his children sailing, surfing and skiing. Together they are "living the dream".

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A History of Performance –

In 1976, Plüss-Staufer purchased the Vermont Marble Company in Proctor, Vermont. The acquisition included property in Florence, Vermont upon which the Verpol plant is now located. Construction of the Verpol facility began in 1977 and the first product was shipped in 1979. Since that time significant capital investments have been made to the facilities and processing technology. The Vermont facility, the third largest Omya facility world-wide, produces products specifically for the paper, plastics and coatings markets in both slurry and dry form.

Today, Omya continues to be a leading global producer of industrial minerals, mainly fillers and pigments derived from calcium carbonate and dolomite, and a worldwide distributor of chemical

In 2000, Plüss-Staufer was renamed Omya. The name Omya was inspired by the loyal relationships with "Les Omyats", the residents of Omey, France; many of whom worked in the Plüss-Staufer plant and quarry.

products. The company's major markets are paper, polymers, building materials (paints, coatings, sealants, adhesives and construction) as well as life sciences (food, feed, pharmaceutical, cosmetics, environment and agriculture). Omya has a global presence extending to more than 100 locations in over 50 countries and 7,000 employees. For more information visit www.Omya.com.

The Only Thing That Is Constant Is Change." – Heraclitus

This fall 2013, our regional technical laboratories located in Proctor will relocate to Ohio.

The technical laboratories provide a variety of analytical, microbiology, and segment applications services to support our customers and plants. Our current business, coupled with our future expectations, require closer collaboration between our laboratories and our sales, operations and engineering groups. As such, approximately 17 positions, including Scientists and Technicians along with certain lab equipment will relocate to Blue Ash. We are fortunate that six of our Vermont employees will be relocating to Ohio. Once the transition of the lab is complete, the total number of employees at Omya in Florence and Proctor combined will total approximately 160.

In 2008 Omya's regional headquarters relocated from Proctor, Vermont to Blue Ash, Ohio.

The relocation of the lab to Cincinnati will not affect the operation of our Florence facility.

A History of Performance – 129 Years and Counting

Calcium carbonate is a natural product that comes in its greatest forms from chalk, limestone and marble deposits around the world. There is no mineral that is as diverse in its uses as calcium carbonate. It is a white solid, non-toxic, odorless and virtually insoluble in water. You may not realize it but natural ground calcium carbonate impacts your daily life in more ways than you could ever imagine and it has made significant contributions to people and societies around the world throughout history.

While mining dates back thousands of years, Omya (originally named Plüss-Staufer) began its commitment to delivering the highest quality ground calcium carbonate in 1884. The Swiss based company began its business producing glazier's putty (finely ground chalk and linseed oil). The business prospered and the company's scope grew from chalk mining and processing, through company operated oil-pressing and linseed oil trading, to factories making all grades of putty, commerce in chalk products and the logistics of getting the products to the customers with its own international shipping company.

In the 1950s the company's prime source of calcium carbonate was derived from chalk. Though raw chalk is brilliantly white, chalk powder is not. The acquisition of a limestone quarry and plant in Orgon, France, and a marble quarry in Salses, France offered alternative calcium carbonate sources and set the future course for the company. Omya became a comprehensive producer of calcium carbonate fillers and created great expansion in the paper industries in the 1970s. Today the alkali method of paper making developed by Omya

is used world-wide. Intensive research, development and innovative engineering created further pivotal patents for treated calcium carbonate allowing its use in plastics, paints and other industrial applications. < continued on page 4 >

Calcium Carbonate - Endless Applications, Countless Benefits

High-purity calcium carbonate is a utilized in thousands of consumer and industrial products:

Antacids • Aquarium Stone • Auto Parts • Cables • Carpet & Carpet Backing • Caulking Compounds • Ceiling Tiles • Cement • Ceramics • Cereal • Chewing Gum • Cleansers • Conduits • Cosmetics • Crackers • Crayons • Crop Nutrients • Cutlery • Cultured Marble Fixtures • Diapers • Dietary Supplements • Duct Tape • Dyes • Fiberglass • Fire Retardant Coatings • Flooring • Food Trays • Glass Manufacturing • Glue • Golf Sand Traps • Hoses • Joint Compound • Landscape Rock • Linoleum • Liners

• Livestock Feed • Milk Carton Stock • Mulch • Outlet Boxes • Paint • Pancake Mix • Paper • Pharmaceuticals • Plasters • Plastics • Pools • Pottery • Putty • PVC Pipe • Roofing Shingles • Rubber Products • Sealants • Slides • Soap • Soil Neutralization • Spackle • Stucco • Sugar Refining • Tile • Toothpaste • Trash Bags and Barrels • Vinyl Siding • Water

Treatment • Window Casings and more!

Fuel Conversion Project Update



The Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) issued Omya Inc. a Certificate of Public Good on November 9, 2012 approving the installation of the onsite Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility in Florence, Vermont. The natural gas will be transported in its liquid form to onsite storage tanks where it will be converted to a vapor for use in the mineral processing operations. Specifically natural gas will replace Omya's current

fuel source (No. 2 fuel oil) for drying and heating processes. Because our Florence operation currently uses a large amount of fuel oil, moving to natural gas is important for our energy future providing benefits to the environment while helping Omya remain competitive.

Detailed engineering and equipment procurement occurred in parallel with the final permitting process. With all the necessary permits in place, initial site work including excavation/earthwork, stormwater management infrastructure and utility installation (power and water) commenced mid April. The LNG facility is expected to come online in the fourth quarter of 2013.

Construction of the facility is under the direction of R.H. White Construction headquartered in Auburn, Massachusetts. The company has eight decades of success in design, construction and management services for a broad range of public and private sector projects.

This project has received a great deal of positive attention within the State. Omya appreciates the support of the community and the timely administration of the permitting process by the regulatory agencies. In addition to this project, we have discussed the possibility of converting the fuel systems in the trucks used to haul our feed stone to liquefied natural gas as well.

While the economic benefits of this fuel conversion are important, the project will result in tangible environmental benefits. When compared to No. 2 fuel oil, the use of natural gas will reduce overall EPA criteria pollutants by approximately 38% and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions by approximately 26%.

what's

Energy and motion describe the environment that exists daily in our workplace at Verpol. Since my return to Omya Vermont in August of 2012, time has moved swiftly and many projects under development in 2012 will be realized in 2013. Our business is strong and we remain committed to providing solutions and high quality products to our customers.



We are excited to announce that we began construction of our fully-permitted Liquefied Natural Gas facility in April 2013. This project is an important part of our long-term energy future and will enable us to substantially reduce our energy costs at our plant in Verpol. We anticipate the project to be complete in the later part of this year (article on this page).

Another project which recently received state permitting is the installation of a rail extension at our Hogback Quarry in Florence. The extension of the existing rail line provides economic and environmental benefits (article on page 2). We are currently conducting a permitted trial transporting stone used for municipal road construction to a town in southern Vermont. This trial project demonstrates the on-going need for cost effective delivery of quality aggregates and it allows Omya to evaluate the effectiveness of the methods being utilized for loading and then moving the rail cars.

Omya will host an Open House at our Middlebury Quarry on Saturday, October 19, 2013. You are invited to come see what we do and meet the employees that make it happen!

Once again this year, Omya Vermont is pleased to have offered thirteen, paid, summer job opportunities to local students. We look forward to the valuable insights, skills and energy these students bring to their work as they assist us in all facets of our operation.

Your comments, concerns and suggestions about Omya are important to us. Please contact me directly at 770-7617 or use our automated 24 Hour Community Feedback Line at 802-770-7644. We will do our best to assist you. Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful summer!

Best Regards,

Jim Stewart jim.stewart@omya.com

Tours - Come See What We Do

In Vermont, the production of ground calcium carbonate begins when marble ore is quarried through controlled blasting, then crushed and transported to Omya's Verpol facility for processing. Using the most innovative and efficient technology and equipment, the facility further crushes the marble into the exact particle sizes required for use in diverse applications. We invite you to contact us to arrange a tour of our facility in Florence, Vermont. Come and see what we do. View the milling, washing and packaging process and meet the workforce behind this state-of-the-art process. School groups, 4th Grade and up, are 770-7500 for more information.

Comments received from a recent tour by the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Southern Vermont:

"I was completely amazed at the entire natural process in which your facility breaks down calcium carbonate to the proper size needed for your clients. There were several comments within my particular tour group about how clean the entire plant was, and how professional and courteous everyone we met along the tour was." Scott A. Moore, General Manager, Johnson Energy Inc.

"Members were taken in small groups throughout the plant. Plant Manager, Jim Stewart

and his staff provided the tours along with a short educational program about the white marble and its transformation at the plant. The members were very excited about the plant and the wonderful tour.



Everyone agreed it was a great tour." **Joseph A. Giancola, President, Giancola Real**

Estate & Construction.

recent & upcoming events

American Red Cross Blood Drive – Lothrop Elementary*

Site work began on the Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

Omya Employees Green Up Day

Town of Pittsford & Omya Green Up Day*

Biannual Water Monitoring Event (includes Quarterly Surface Water Monitoring)

Community Issue Team Meeting

July 17

Pittsford Summer Music Series Pittsford Recreation Area - Aaron Audet Band - 6:00 p.m.*

Pittsford Fire Department 65th Anniversary Celebration Pittsford Fire Station - Satin and Steel Band - 6:00 p.m.*

October 19

Omya Middlebury Quarry Open House 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

October 21-25

Biannual Water Monitoring Event (includes Quarterly Surface Water Monitoring)

*Omya is a sponsor of this event

Omya Gives Back

At Omya we feel it's our civic responsibility to support local efforts that benefit our community and neighbors. In the past six months we have made donations to the following organizations and community groups:

Civic Fundraisers

Brandon Toy Project

Camp Thorpe

Community Cupboard

Friends of Brandon Town Hall John Graham Shelter

Lakes Region Independent Ryders

Memorial Sports Center

Pittsford Historical Society

Rutland City Rescue Mission

Rutland County Humane Society Rutland County Women's Network & Shelter

Salisbury Historical Society

Sunshine Fund

The Brandon Free Public Library

Vergennes Opera House

Vermont Farm Food Center Wallingford Food Shelf

Warmth

Woofstock - Addison County Humane Society

Youth Events

Benson Village School

Black Ice Hockey

Boys and Girls Club of Brandon

Boys and Girls Club – Rutland Brandon/Pittsford Youth Wrestling

Care-A-Lot Preschool

Eastern States Exposition

Fair Haven Cheerleaders

Fair Haven Project Graduation Four Winds Science Program

Girl Scouts of the Green & White Mountains

Youth Events

Lakes Region Youth Orchestra

Leicester Central School Lothrop Elementary School

Lothrop Enrichment Afterschool Program

Marble Valley Sports Guide

Modern Woodsmen of American Jr. Service Club Mount Saint Joseph Academy

MSJ Shoestring Theatre Neshobe Sportsman Club - Youth Hunting Weekend

Otter Valley Football Club

Otter Valley Raft Race Otter Valley Theatre

Otter Valley - Project Graduation

Pittsford Recreational Department

Proctor High School Soccer

Proctor Youth League

Proctor Youth Spring Soccer Program

Ripton School

Rutland Ishidoriya Student Exchange Rutland High School - Project Graduation

Rutland Recreation Department

Rutland Rugby Club

Rutland Town School Rutland Youth Theatre

SOAR After School Program - Brandon

The Mentor Connection

Vermont 4-H Horse Show Committee

Vermont Department for Children and Families

Vermont State Fair – Bike Give Away Vermont State Science & Mathematics Fair

Wonderfeet Kids Museum

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Hogback Quarry Rail Extension

Omya is currently in the process of submitting permitting applications to the State for a project at its Hogback Quarry in Florence, Vermont. This extension, which is entirely on Omya property, will lengthen the existing rail line by 1,225 feet into the south end of our site.

The rail extension provides a means to economically ship aggregate throughout the state of Vermont where it is greatly needed, reduce the number of trucks hauling aggregate on Vermont Highways and allow for greater utilization of the material that is not suitable for feedstone at our Verpol facility.

Omya anticipates construction to begin in late summer, with a targeted completion date in the fall 2013.

Omya has received temporary Act 250 authorization for delivery of up to 1,000 tons of aggregate per week to the Town of Chester, Vermont for use in municipal road construction projects. The temporary authorization is good until November 1st.

This project will not increase the permitted annual production limit or the hours of operation of Hogback Quarry.

Up Close and Personal with the Vermont State Legislature

On March 21, 2013 Jim Stewart, Plant Manager, Brian Narkewicz, Safety Manager and Dennis Carroll, Environmental Manager went on the Omya sponsored Rutland Chamber of Commerce Annual Legislative Bus Trip to Montpelier. Thirty one people representing seventeen businesses from the Rutland Region were introduced throughout the State House.

Meetings with John Campbell, Senate Pro Tempore, Butch Shaw, Rutland County Delegation Chair and Shap Smith, Speaker of the House provided insights on the current legislation and other pressing issues from the proposed gas/diesel tax and the complexities of revenue generation. Lunch with invited Legislators featured speaker Lawrence Miller, Vermont Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and former CEO of Otter Creek Brewing. He discussed the challenges of being in business in Vermont and the concern for qualified workers in the upcoming decades. After attending various committee hearings, the group headed back to Rutland. The day provided a unique and tremendous, up close and personal opportunity to meet and discuss items of interest and/or concern with many elected officials.

Water Monitoring Results Remain Within Regulatory Standards

Consistent with Omya's Solid Waste Facility Certification requirements, groundwater and surface water quality in and around the Verpol facility is monitored regularly using a series of groundwater monitoring wells and surface water monitoring locations. Currently there are two primary monitoring events that occur in May and October each year for both groundwater and surface water, and two additional quarterly events in August and January that focus just on surface water.

The recent monitoring results are in conformance with all regulatory requirements including the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards, Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories.

The groundwater monitoring locations currently include 16 on-site monitoring wells and three off-site monitoring wells. Surface water samples include two on-site locations, two off-site locations, and three locations from Omya's Hogback Quarry north of the Site.

All water samples are analyzed for compounds associated with Omya operations, as well as various other organic compounds, and/or metal elements that may be present naturally in the tailings, native soil and bedrock underlying the Verpol site. Copies of all monitoring reports are furnished to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Town of Pittsford. The reports are quite detailed and contain current and historic water quality results, statistical evaluations, narrative assessments, and comparisons to the various regulatory standards.

More information about our water monitoring efforts and results, including the complete "Spring 2013 Monitoring Report" and previous monitoring events can be obtained by visiting www.OmyalnVermont.net and clicking on "Environment".

End Uses for Tailings Become Reality



Last year Omya was awarded a certificate of registration to use Agrocarb-FL as a commercial lime in the state of Vermont. Agrocarb-FL is a mineral mixture byproduct of Omva's calcium carbonate products. Due to its smaller particle

size Agrocarb-FL reacts significantly faster than traditional agricultural liming materials to achieve the desired pH level in the farm soil.

This spring, the use of Agrocarb-FL has expanded beyond the borders of Vermont. Agrocarb-FL is now registered as a liming material in New Hampshire. Connecticut, and Massachusetts and licensed as a commercial fertilizer in New York. Omya has seen an increase of its use by the agricultural community due to its beneficial attributes and cost competitiveness.

Omya is equally excited to report that our tailings byproduct, Omya® SPS-FL, was also approved by the State of Vermont for use as final cover material at the former Construction and Demolition Waste Landfill closure project in Bennington, Vermont. Omya material has been accepted as an alternative to the traditional silt/clay final soil cover due to it compaction characteristics and ability to create an impermeable surface as required by the project's Final Cover Placement Specifications. Approximately 7,000 cubic yards of Omya material is being transported to the Bennington Landfill to serve as a medium for vegetative growth and to prevent erosion. Omya® SPS-FL offers landfills a cost-effective alternative to other materials.

Employee Wellness Committee



Pictured with Governor Peter Shumlin are Omya employees: Maureen Ketchman, Jill Blanchard, Ann Lurvey-Scholtz, Heather Fowler, Tammy Cenate. Missing are employees: Liz Gregorek, Jerilynn Valente and Fred Ray.

Vermont is routinely rated the nation's healthiest state and Omya is one worksite that promotes employee wellness through its Health & Wellness Committee. With the goal to improve overall health, a series of information sessions covering exercise and fitness essentials, healthy eating /cooking, dealing with stress and better sleep among other topics is offered throughout the year. The committee began its mission with a very successful employee walking program. With pedometers firmly in place 51 employees clocked in over 67,471,865 steps equaling 33,736 miles over a six month time period.

Omya Vermont received the Worksite Wellness Bronze Level Award for its health and wellness program. Omya was acknowledged by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports and Vermont Department of Health on March 27, 2013 at the Worksite Wellness Conference held at the Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center in South Burlington. The program recognizes employee wellness programs that decrease absenteeism and employee turnover, and lower healthcare costs. The committee is developing a "Get Moving" program modeled after the statewide initiative to encourage people of all ages to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity most days of the week.

Service to Others



Colby McKay, son of long-time Omya employee Nate McKay and wife Dawn of Pittsford, achieved Eagle Scout rank, the highest advancement rank in the Boy Scouting program of Boy Scouts of America. Colby, a 14-year-old eighth grade student at Otter Valley Union High School, is one of the youngest to receive this scout distinction. To earn the Eagle Rank, a scout must progress through the six scout ranks, earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, serve in a troop leadership position and develop a community service project among other requirements. Colby is one well organized scout. For his community service

project, Colby organized and hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, April 16th at the Lothrop Elementary School in Pittsford. Colby pulled together a large support staff including family members, his fellow Boy Scouts from Troop 110, RAVE Members, teachers and staff from Lothrop School, and others. Omya was the Corporate Sponsor for this event. The goal was to collect 50 pints of blood, but with months of diligent planning and marketing, 85 pints of blood were collected! The event was a huge success and the benefits will be felt by many people. Congratulations Colby on your determination and hard work!

Omya recognizes its responsibility to respond to the needs of the communities in which it operates. This responsibility is demonstrated through financial, in-kind



and volunteer contributions. In March, Omya presented the Brandon Boys & Girls Club with a donation. After a tour of the facility, Bill Bonsignore, Unit Director, presented Omya employees with a plaque to express his gratitude on behalf of the club.

Pictured are: Omya employees Ray Bradish, Mark Quenneville, Jill Blanchard, Liz Gregorek, Jim Stewart, and Club staff members Bill Bonsignore, Ben Wimett, Justin Arzberger, Freddie Cannon, Kristyn Trujillo. Photo by Albert J. Marro.

Jim Morale Goes West

The Omya Vermont Team extends their congratulations and best wishes to Jim Morale. Jim was recently promoted to Plant Manager

at Omya's Superior, Arizona facility where we process calcium carbonate for use in food and pharmaceutical products. Jim joined Omya as a Mechanical Engineer in 1995. Over the course of his tenure, Jim has served as Process Engineer, Production Manager and Production Superintendent and PX Area Manager at the Verpol facility in Florence, Vermont. Jim was also an instrumental member of the Omya Community Issue Team since its inception in 2007. Thank you Jim for your dedicated service

of 18 years with us here in Vermont!



contact ave a comment

Do you have a comment or suggestion?
We want to know.

802-770-7644

The Omya Community Feedback Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also reach us through our website at www.OmyalnVermont.net. Simply click on "Contact" and select any one of the contacts listed or fill out the on-line comment form at the bottom of the page.

All calls and website inquiries will be returned by 5:00 p.m. on the next regular business day.

Geology Rocks!

Mark Your Calendars - Omya Middlebury Quarry Open House is Saturday, October 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For a rockin' good time and a great day of education, join us for this free family event. Take a guided bus tour of the quarry, collect a marble souvenir and talk with mineral experts. Large trucks and equipment will be on display and the ever popular "marble sand" pile will be ready for the little ones. Learn how the marble is processed at the Omya Facility in Florence, Vermont for use in thousands of consumer products and applications. There is something for everyone – rain or shine. A courtesy lunch will be provided.

Please wear appropriate footwear to traverse the gravel



covered quarry ground that can rival mud-season like conditions depending on the weather. There will be a handicapped accessible tour bus. For more information contact Mary-Kaye Zambon at 776-8615.

The Omya Middlebury Quarry is located just east of Route 7, two miles south of Middlebury Village and one mile north of the Route 125 and Route 7 intersection to East Middlebury. Look for signs and balloons at the turn onto road marked "1975 Private Road" (near Foster Motors) the day of the event.

Omya Gives Back < continued from page 2 >

Parent Teacher Organization-Association (PTO-PTA) Neshobe PTO Quarry Hill School

Fundraiser Walks & Runs

Evelyn's Fund
Hannah's Hope
Make-A-Wish – Barrel Racing for a Cause
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer
March for Babies – March of Dimes
Otter Valley Common Connections
Rutland County Relay for Life – ACS
Susan G. Komen – Race for the Cure

Community Events

Addison County Field Days
Brandon Senior Center
Castleton Community Seniors
Middlebury Area Land Trust
Middlebury Rotary Auction
Paramount Theatre
Rutland Area Vehicle Enthusiasts
Tom Fiske Memorial Golf Tournament
Vergennes Opera House
Veterans of Foreign Wars – Loyalty Day Parade

Summer Concerts

Brandon Chamber – Concert Series Castleton Concerts on the Green Henry Sheldon Pops Concert Town of Pittsford – Summer Concert Town of West Rutland – Concert Series

Donation requests can be submitted through the Omya website at www.omyainvermont.net\community\donations, or mailed to the Omya Verpol Facility at P.O. Box 10, Whipple Hollow Road, Florence, VT 05744. The Donation Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month to review requests.



For more information about Omya's North American and International Operations visit www.omya-na.com and www.omya.com.