

#### **Sustainable Decision Making:** Distinguishing Between Hype and Reality

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The Dow Chemical Company 14 November 2013



Global Innovation for Sustainability Symposium

Dow.com/innovation































#### I Save Time by Using Fossil Fuels





















#### **Return Shareholder Value**

## I can't waste money and time at work



#### Sustainability is Unsustainable?



http://imgs.xkcd.com/comics/sustainable.png



#### Metaphor for Sustainability

























#### Is this Cup Sustainable?



Sustainable is not an intrinsic property of a material! You can't know by just looking.





How about this one?







#### Signs of Hope





Which is more sustainable?

## plastic







Which is more sustainable?

#### 8 hours





1 mile



Which is more sustainable?

# A meat-eater in a Prius



A vegan in a Hummer



#### Life Cycle Analysis





#### Financial Way of Looking At Benefit





Why Not Sustainability?







#### **Misconceptions Demean Advances**





**Fresh Water Production** 

Simple Distillation ~600 kWh/m<sup>3</sup> Power Consumption (kWh/m<sup>3</sup>) 0 \_\_\_\_\_<mark>\_\_\_</mark>\_\_\_\_ +\_\_\_ 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 Elimelech et al., Science 333, Aug 2011





#### Energy-efficient DOW FILMTEC<sup>™</sup> Water Treatment Membranes yield savings on water purification



Process	Operating Energy Consumption (Kwh/m <sup>3</sup> )	Customer Energy Savings 2005-2015 (Barrels of Oil-eq)
Multi Stage Flash (MSF)	13.5 - 25.5	242 million
Multi Effect Distillation (MED)	6.5 – 11	82 million
Reverse Osmosis	3 - 3.5	









#### **Chemical Industry Snapshot**





#### **Chemicals and Energy**





#### What Unhealthy Looks Like



### Unhealthy








## Chemical Industry Health



IHS Global Insight, "The Economic and Employment Contributions of Shale Gas in the US", prepared for America's Natural Gas Alliance, December 2011.









#### **Ethane Price Now Tracks Gas**



#### **Impact of Low Gas Prices** 1.0 Westem Europe Other Ethylene Production Costs (\$/pound) Northeast China Asia 0.8 Other United Western Northeast States 0.6 Europe Asia China 2005 Middle 0.4 East 2012 United 0.2 Middle States East American<sup>°</sup> Chemistry Council 0.0 50 100 150 250 200 300 Global Supply (cumulative in billions of pounds)







#### Economic Impact of Shale Gas





-Unapologetically Polyethylene

- · improving our production methods
- · making improved materials
- replacing materials with larger footprints
- · creating advantages in use

### The Evolution of Polyethylene



- Radical mechanism (1933)
- Ethylene only polymerization
- Very high temperature & pressure
- Complicated kinetics



#### Highly Branched:

- Excellent flow properties
- Fast extrusion rates
- Poor mechanical properties



#### Coordination catalysis (1950's)

- Ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin polymerization
- Low Temperature & Pressure
- Ti, Cr catalysts
- Multiple catalytic sites



#### Linear Backbone:

- PE homopolymer: crystalline
- Copolymers: flexible and tough
- Blend of polymers produced



#### "Single Site" catalysts (1990's)

- Ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin polymerization
- Molecular catalysts
- Kinetics the same for each catalytic site



#### Homogeneous Polymers:

- Narrow molecular weight distribution
- Narrow comonomer distribution
- New monomer combinations
- Long chain branching



mPE

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**Counter-intuitive Catalysis Improves Process** 

Polyethylene: Higher Efficiency and Plant Throughput Through Improved Catalyst Design



#### Increasing Thermal Stability and Efficiency



#### Stand-up pouch packaging reduces waste and brings energy savings





	Contents	Impact per 100 oz Cereal		
Package Type		Landfill Discard s* (g)	Process GHG** (kg CO <sup>2</sup> Eq)	Total Energy** (MJ)
Paperboard and HDPE Liner	11 oz	380.0	.861	12.1
Stand-Up Pouch	12 oz	117.5	.265	9.25

Reduction vs Box		
Landfill Discards	68%	
GHG	69%	
Energy	23%	



#### Flexible Packaging Examples







# Flexible packaging helps increase shelf life

Using only a few grams of flexible plastic packaging extends the shelf life of a cucumber by more than three times.









Modern agriculture is the use of land to convert petroleum into food.

Al Bartlett

Pimentel and Pimentel. 2003

# 40 kWh/kg ~22% wasted



FAO, 2012







1 January 2012



#### **Green Chemistry Principles**

#### Twelve Principles of Green Chemistry

- Prevention: It is better to prevent waste than to treat or clean up waste after it has been created.
- Atom Economy: Synthetic methods should be designed to maximize the incorporation of all materials used in the process into the final product.
- Less Hazardous Chemical Syntheses: Wherever practicable, synthetic methods should be designed to use and generate substances that possess little or no toxicity to human health and the environment.
- Designing Safer Chemicals: Chemical products should be designed to effect their desired function while minimizing their toxicity.
- Safer Solvents and Auxiliaries: The use of auxiliary substances (e.g., solvents, separation agents, etc.) should be made unnecessary wherever possible and innocuous when used.
- 6. Design for Energy Efficiency: Energy requirements of chemical processes should be recognized for their environmental and economic impacts and should be minimized. If possible, synthetic methods should be conducted at ambient temperature and pressure.

- Use of Renewable Feedstocks: A raw material or feedstock should be renewable rather than depleting whenever technically and economically practicable.
- Reduce Derivatives: Unnecessary derivatization (use of blocking groups, protection/ deprotection, temporary modification of physical/chemical processes) should be minimized or avoided if possible, because such steps require additional reagents and can generate waste.
- Catalysis: Catalytic reagents (as selective as possible) are superior to stoichiometric reagents.
- Design for Degradation: Chemical products should be designed so that at the end of their function they break down into innocuous degradation products and do not persist in the environment.
- Real-time analysis for Pollution Prevention: Analytical methodologies need to be further developed to allow for realtime, in-process monitoring and control prior to the formation of hazardous substances.
- Inherently Safer Chemistry for Accident Prevention: Substances and the form of a substance used in a chemical process should be chosen to minimize the potential for chemical accidents, including releases, explosions, and fires.



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#### Twelve Principles of Green Chemistry

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and pressure.

2. A+

#### **Cane to Polyethylene**



Fully-integrated facility in Brazil Utilizes state-of-the-art Dow polymerization catalysis



















#### Per Capita Energy Use





material	per capita consumption (lb/yr)
PET packaging	17
petroleum	6619
natural gas	8037
coal	6439
gasoline	2495
sand and gravel	13923
cement	512
iron ore	340
salt	403
beef	54.3
chicken data from HIS, 2012 ERS	<b>55.7</b> USDA, 2011 National Mining Assoc., World Bank







#### Go After the 21,000 lbs



THE LIGHTER SIDE OF WIND POWER.

Bow solutions are making turbines signer and stronger. Our AIRSTONE" and COMPAXX" materials are beiping to create lighter, more durable wind blocks. Making sustainable energy wore more sustainable. Together, the elements of science and the human element can solve anything. Solutionism. The new optimism?











