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# SPECIAL PURPOSE PRODUCTS FOR MINING INDUSTRY ENTERPRISES

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#### Abstract

The issues, related to production of special purpose agents, intended for dust control in pits and on temporary highways, were considered and solved in this work. The agents are developed on the basis of high-aromatic distillate fractions and black oil fuel. In order to achieve qualitative and optimum compositions of finished preventive agents, the physical and chemical properties and hydrocarbon composition of source raw material - gas oils of thermodestructive and thermocatalytic processes and black oil fuel, as well as a depressing ability of the last, were examined in detail in the work. The prepared compositions will allow us to increase a crude oil upgrading index in the oil-processing plant and to increase profit of the enterprise. Along with economic benefit of a manufacturer, an application of preventive agents is also beneficial for a consumer. Application of these products will allow improving the general ecological situation both in pits and on temporary highways.

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Keywords: Dust control; depressor effect; thermodestructive processes; gas oils of delayed coking; gas oils of catalytic cracking.

## 1. Introduction

According to the energy strategy of Russia by 2020, the issue of increasing of crude oil upgrading indices in oil-processing plants remains relevant. Production of new products in the manufacturer's product line will allow us to significantly increase the enterprise's profit and will give a competitive advantage in the consumer market.

It is important to note that production of special-purpose agents has positive effect on improvement of an ecological situation. On the one hand, an inclusion of hazardous black oil fuel as a depressant in the mix composition of the finished preventive agent leads to their recovery. On the other hand, an

application of preventive agents by a consumer will improve the sanitary and hygiene environment of the mining and transport industry.

### 2. Problem statement

An expansion of surface mining operations and increase of productive capacities of the ore-dressing and transport industries predetermine improvement of transportation technologies for unconsolidated overburden rocks, minerals and fine goods. Several billion cubic meters of rocks are processed by surface mining in our country every year. It is the most cost-effective and high-efficiency method.

A share of the open-cast mining method of minerals and ore fields in the overall output is about 70%. However, drilling and blasting in pits and also active transportation of raw materials on temporary highways promotes intensive dust formation in open pits. The main dangerous sources of a technical dust are blasting (34%) and transportation (29%) works of the mining and processing complex.

Dusting leads to reduction in road traffic speed, severe wear of combustion engines and occupational lung diseases of employees of the mining industry (Oleschenko 2001; Soltani 2015; Lee 2010).

#### 3. Research questions

A lot of dust suppression methods were suggested in our country and abroad. For example, a use of expensive equipment for open drilling, blasting and transportation is proposed in the work (Luo, 2016), the use of which reduces a dust formation. The listed methods are practically not applied in view of their processing complexity and costliness.

With relation to the resource-saving technology, an application of preventive agents will solve the problem of freezing of wet fine goods. Freezing of minerals and soft overburden rocks with high humidity to a metal surface of dump cars, cars and dump trucks, as well as their ad freezing in a load weight, are observed during their transportation by rail and road transport in autumn and winter. This leads to significant losses of transported materials. Application of preventive agents (PA) is the most effective among many methods of prevention and protection from freezing and dust formation. The PA forms a strong hydrocarbon film on surfaces of metal cars, dump cars and dump trucks, and also on pieces of bulk material. The hydrocarbon film allows 5-7 time reduction of strength of freezing of rocks to surfaces of transport equipment and promotes effective dust suppression, by preventing the separation of dust particles.

#### 4. Purpose of the study

For successful introduction of the preventive agent at the place of production, in addition to high rates of wetting, adhesive characteristics, determined, first of all, by a viscosity, low-temperature and fireprevention characteristics, it should be rather "pure" and should be developed on the basis of an available raw materials base. However, the raw materials for production of the PA are limited due to dipping of oil refining and their aiming at increase in production of motor fuels and commercial light oil products. Production of current lubricants and fixants is also complicated by the fact that components of these products are produced with the use of different installations of oil-processing plants (OPP) that requires additional capital and operating costs (Khosrosereshki, 2014; Entin 1998). That is why, the purpose of

this study is a development of new compositions of current lubricants and fixants from by-products of oil refining and petrochemistry. For rational and complex use of heavy oil products and oil residues, the technology of PA production on the basis of thermal cracking and delayed coking products is considered in this research. Heavy gas oils and heavy cracking residue, which are released as a fuel oil, will allow us to significantly increase net profit of the plant and to achieve the required physical and chemical properties of the finished composition.

### 5. Research methods

Physical and chemical researches were conducted with use of modern equipment and in strict accordance with the state standards. Viscosity determination was carried out with use of the HVM 472 automatic capillary viscometer on the basis of the HLIS32 software. The flash-point test for samples was conducted in an open crucible in accordance with GOST 4333-2014 with use of the HFP 386 flash-point analyzer and HFP 380 flash-point analyzer with a closed crucible in accordance with GOST 6356-75.Freezing point measurement was conducted in accordance with GOST 20287-91. Determination of a mass fraction of sulfur in oil products was carried out with the use of the Spectroscan S X-ray fluorescent analyzer. Hydrocarbon composition was analyzed using the Agilent 5973 gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer with the DB-Petro non-polar column 100 m long.

#### 6. Findings

The PA's composition was developed based on the need to provide the required viscosity, low-temperature and fire-fighting properties of the PA.

The PA's freezing point for protection against freezing of wet fine materials should not exceed minus  $35 \,^{\circ}$ C in accordance with the current technical regulations (TR 381 055). The PA's freezing point for dust suppression is up to minus  $15 \,^{\circ}$ C. The flashpoint (FT) is also strictly regulated by TR and sanitary standards: for PAs, preventing freezing, isn't less than  $75 \,^{\circ}$ C, and for dust suppressants - not less than  $150 \,^{\circ}$ C. Such characteristics as viscosity, content of mechanical impurities and content of water, are also strictly regulated by TR for PAs. The indicator of relative viscosity at 50  $\,^{\circ}$ C for the PA, preventing freezing, is within  $1,0 - 1,5^{\circ}$  E, and for dust suppression compositions -  $15 - 25 \,^{\circ}$  E. Viscosity is an important indicator, having an impact on consumption of the agent, its quality of application and speed of spraying of a preventive composition. Mechanical impurities affect the service life of nozzles, used for applying of PAs, so the smaller their quantity, the higher a quality of the finished PA. This value ranges from 0.2 to 0.35% wt. for both products. The water content promotes liquid compound stratification, mix deterioration, composition freezing, so the presence of water traces is possible according to TR. Dust suppression agents may be composed of up to 0.5% water.

Light and heavy gas oils of catalytic cracking (CCLGO and CCHGO) and delayed coking (DCLGO and DCHGO), and also a cracked residue of the viscosity breaking (VB) process wereanalyzed. Results of the physico-chemical studies are given in Table 1.

Indicator	CCLGO	DCLGO	CCHGO	DCHGO	VB
Flash point,°C	88	61	110	115	140
Freezing point,°C	-60	-23	-13	-10	-2
Density (20 °C), kg/m <sup>3</sup>	954,3	847,6	1036,0	947,0	992,5
Viscosity (50 °C), mm <sup>2</sup> /s	1,75	1,34	44,67	36,28	3,08 (100 °C)
Water content, mass %	No water				

Table 1. Physical and chemical properties of the feedstock

The VB's action, as a depressing additive, was tested on PA samples on the basis of light and heavy gas oils of the delayed coking and catalytic cracking. Freezing point change dependences for gas oil mixes on VB's content are presented in Figure 1.

At decrease in the system temperature, resinous-asphaltenic compounds of the VB, which is characterized by their high content (% wt.: asfalten -4,8 and resins - up to 12,1; 0,87% wt. of sulfur), are adsorbed on a surface of growing crystals of normal paraffin hydrocarbons, which are present in a solvent, resulting in shift of the freezing point towards lower values.



Fig 1. Dependence of the gas oils' freezing point change on VB's content in mixes

Application of different additives as depressants is considered in many works. Application of silicate additives to reduce a freezing point is described in the article (Zhang, 2010). The effect of depressant additives on diesel fuels is examined in the work (Smirnova, 2003). Inorganic additives are studied in the work (Figueroa-villar, 2011).

However, all works confirm dependence of low-temperature characteristics both from hydrocarbon composition of gas oil, used as a solvent, and from a depressor. Influence of the hydrocarbon composition of gas oil fractions on quality of the produced product is showed in detail in the works (Gorelova 2015; Ronze et al., 2002). For determining of qualitative and quantitative compositions of gas oil fractions, used as solvents in mixes of finished PAs, their hydrocarbon compositions (Table 2) were determined.

Hydrocarbons	Gas oil fractions	Gas oil fractions		
	CCLGO	CCHGO		
N-paraffin	1,14	1,42		
Isoparaffin	1,71	-		
Naphtene	7,42	8,52		
Aromatic				
Polycyclic	15,07	45,96		
Bicyclic	48,63	32,92		
Monocyclic	26,03	11,18		

Table 2. Hydrocarbon composition of catalytic cracking gas oil fractions

Results of an interpretation of CCLGO and CCHGO chromatographs, given in Table 2, and results of the physicochemical analysis of primary components (Table 1), have confirmed that catalytic cracking and delayed coking distillates are high-quality raw materials for production of PAs.

Comparison of the hydrocarbon composition of gas oil fractions (Table 2) shows that light gas oil has a high content of mono - and bicyclic aromatic compounds – 26,03 and 48,63 % wt., respectively, in comparison with heavy gas oil – 11,18 and 32,92%, and less high content of polycyclic aromatic compounds – 15,07 against 45,96% that leads to improvement of its viscosity and temperature properties and increases the lubricating efficiency. It is obvious that CCLGO and CCHGO in the pure state can't be used as solvents, because they don't meet current requirements to PAs. However, it became clear in the course of the work that the cheaper components - heavy distillates of coking and catalytic cracking - can be used for production of substances with almost similar characteristics. For this reason, mixes of DCLGO:DCHGO and CCLGO:CCHGO were prepared in the ratio 1:1. The prime cost of the finished product is greatly reduced by the maximum involvement of catalytic cracking heavy fraction into the PA's composition. The analysis of laboratory samples of special oil products (Table 3) showed that they fully comply with requirements of the applicable technical specifications for indicators of viscosity, flash point, freezing point, content of water and mechanical impurities; and also have a good preventive effect.

The economic analysis was made for confirmation of practicability of the PA's introduction for protection against freezing of transported freights. It showed that the payback period for a consumer's invested funds is 4 years. Reduction of a value of operating costs will allow the enterprise-consumer to increase freight turn-over volumes, and also to increase the specific heat of thermal coals for 1.5% -2%. Application of the PA for dust removal on highways in opencast coal mines will allow not only to reduce dust content of air, but also to gain economic benefit - 1, 8 million rubles respectively with the annual production volume of 10 thousand tons. The manufacturer is Universin who gains 650 million rubles for Niogrin, with respect to the selling price of fuel oil with the annual PA's production volume of 10 thousand tons.

	Indicator name							
	RelativeFreezing point,viscosity at°C50°C, °E		Flash point, °C	Content of mechanical impurities, % wt.	Contentofwater , %wt.			
Niogrin TR381055	1,0 - 1,5	Not higher than minus 35	Not lower than 75	up to 0,2	traces			
Sample 1	1,11	<-55	87	0,0452	no			
Sample2	1,12	<-55	86	0,1125	no			
Sample 3	1,19	<-55	85	0,2247	no			
Universin -S TR381011142	1,2-3,0	not higher than minus 40	not lower than 85	up to 0,3	up to 0,4			
Sample 4	1,68	-48	87	0,6735	no			

Table 3. Quality of the PA's test samples in accordance with the specification requirements

## 7. Conclusions

It is fair to say that the proposed scientific developments will be useful for the enterprise, because they will allow increasing efficiency of transportation of wet fine freights and starting production of a new,

demanded product type without significant changes in the existing flowsheet of the plant. Production of new products will allow using oil residues and heavy distillates more efficiently. And a viscosity breaking installation, which stands idle during the spring and autumn period (because of insufficient demand for fuel oil), will be used for production of a cracking residue for the new type of products. The proposed compounds have a simple composition, simple way of preparation and available components, which fit to the existing OPP's regimes and balances of technological processes. The release of such products will be demanded, in particular, in the Siberian Federal District due to severe climatic conditions of the region, concentration of a large number of open-type deposits and availability of railway communication with them.

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