Ceramic Manufacturing and Business Development Consulting

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ontheplantfloor.com
Boots on the Ground Lean Manufacturing and Ceramic Consulting

In-The-Trenches Perspective

With nearly 60 years of combined experience helping manufacturers develop their companies, the founders of OPF Enterprises earned plant management the best way possible – with hands-on experience “On the Plant Floor.”

From OPF you can expect practical consulting and an in-the-trenches perspective to guide your company to be the best it can be.

We specialize in assisting small to mid-size manufacturing facilities improve operations and grow the bottom line through Lean Principles, Continuous Improvement and giving your TEAM the tools they need to succeed.

Ceramic proppants, frac sand, ceramic tile, refractories, oil and gas products, powder coatings, and brick are industries in which we have extensive expertise. We have also worked with many companies outside of this realm. Lean Manufacturing & Six Sigma, streamlined plant design, equipment sourcing, plant leadership, and more. Keep reading for specifics.

Currently doing business on four continents OPF Enterprises routinely jumps on planes to join clients in the trenches, no matter where they are located. It’s just another example of our “boots on the ground” approach.

International Manufacturing & Ceramic Consulting Specialties

- Plant Start-up, Build-out, and Relocation
- Plant and Process Design
- Proppant & Frac Sand Testing
- Ceramic Proppant Formula Development
- Plant Leadership
- Lean Manufacturing & Six Sigma
- International Equipment Sourcing
- Raw Material Evaluation, Selection & Sourcing
- Ceramic Engineering
- Product Testing & Formulation
- Ceramic Proppant Plant Start-up and Expansion
Proppant Testing—Ceramic and Sand

Better proppants make well production more efficient and effective making proppant selection vital to optimal well productivity. Proppant testing performed by OPF Enterprises can provide you with the information you need to determine suitability of proppants. Our testing services include:

- Acid solubility
- Bulk density
- Crush testing (all proppant/sand classes)
- Sieve analysis
- Specific gravity
- Sphericity and roundness
- Decline rate preparation for conductivity testing
- Resin melt point and LOI

Ceramic Proppant Expertise and Know-How

OPF is the only ceramic consulting company we know of whose principals have direct experience from R&D to complete construction and start-up of a ceramic proppant plant. Our capabilities include:

- Proppant minerals search and procurement
- Evaluation and testing of your materials
- Formulations of all classes proppants – low, medium, high density
  - Kaolin and bauxite based formulations
  - Unique formulations with unconventional materials
- Resin coating capabilities
- Plant design, equipment selection, process flows
- Capital and operating expense calculations
- Construction management
- Start up support
- Business plans and marketing
Custom Blending and Milling

The partnership between OPF and Custom Milling and Consulting (CMC) offers the finest in contract materials processing. From batching to milling to mixing, we can effectively produce product to your specifications.

- Paints & Coatings
- Mulch & Agricultural Colorants
- Inks – All Types
- Herbicides & Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Adhesives & Sealants
- Minerals & Ceramics
- Cosmetics
- Wax Dispersions
- Epoxies & Urethane Coatings
- Paper & Thermal Coatings
- Silicon & Tungsten Carbides
- Concrete/Decorative Coatings
- Electronic/Precious Metal Pastes
- Many Others

Ultra-Fine Grinding Partnership with CMC

From inks to agricultural colorants, to ceramic to chocolate, OPF can handle your grinding requirement to sub-micron particle size. We are highly experienced in dry, wet, and ultra-fine grinding. For ultra-fine grinding to sub-micron size, we have partnered with Custom Milling and Consulting to supply one of America’s foremost attrition mills, the SUPERMILL-PLUS. OPF also provides global support for CMC in ceramic applications.

Additional CMC processing solutions include batch mills, planetary mixers, ram presses and Exakt roll mills. CMC’s extensive line of equipment assures superior mixing and milling for both low and high viscosity materials.

Contact us for CMC systems in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas

ontheplantfloor.com
Plant Process & Design, Site Selection, Start-Up, and Build-Out

‘Boots On The Ground’ Experience With Results

The OPF team has built factories from the ground up and renovated/streamlined numerous operations. We have experience getting operations up and running and have operated a good number of them. Real-world experience can bring you real-world action and results. Here’s how we can assist your operation:

- Visit locations in multiple states for site selection
- Negotiate financial incentives from state and local agencies
- Design entire process flow and production process
- Source and purchase production equipment and materials
- New employee training
- Qualify and hire all contracting personnel
- Hire local supervisory, management, and hourly personnel
- Oversee a successful factory start up
- Streamline and improve operations
- Instill a proven culture of effective leadership within the operation

Bulk Solids & Ceramics Expertise

Our journey in manufacturing has taken us to many places and to factories of many types. Due to extensive immersion in some industries, we are uniquely qualified to provide assistance related to ceramic tile, refractories, oil and gas products, powder coatings, and brick.

- Ceramic proppants
- Ceramic engineering
- Kilns, dryers, heat treatment
- Color science, matching, stain selection
- Raw material selection, batching, mixing
- Ultra-fine grinding
- Product formulation
- Digital inkjet
- Refractory design, selection, sourcing
- Bulk solids transport and storage