# SLC celebrates 52 years in SA's chemical industry

The Synthetic Latex Company (SLC) in Bunsen Street, Sasolburg.

Sasolburg is home to the largest number of chemical industries in the country, which collectively contribute billions of rands annually to the national economy.

The Synthetic Latex Company (Pty) Limited (SLC) in Bunsen Street, Sasolburg, is one of these companies that has played a remarkable and consistent role in the Vaal and the country's chemical industry over the past 50 years.

**SLC's History:**

SLC is a chemical manufacturing company which was established in 1967 as a joint venture with Revertex South Africa and styrene butadiene latex manufacturing technology from Doverstrand, Reichold, Synthomer and Yule Catto.

The company was incorporated into Sentrachem which was bought by Dow Chemicals in 1997. The divestiture of Sentrachem from Dow Chemicals in 2003 resulted in a management buyout and the establishment of Karbochem Holdings, which wholly owned The Synthetic Latex Company (Pty) Ltd. and Karbochem (Pty) Ltd.

In January 2017, SLC celebrated 50 years of latex manufacture. In November that year, SLC was purchased from Karbochem Holdings by management and other business associates, positioning it as a totally independent company.

**Products:**

SLC specialises in the manufacture of synthetic latex, which is a polymer dispersed in water. The manufacturing process involves an anionic polymerisation reaction, often at high pressures.

SLC has historically produced carboxylated (hot) and non carboxylated (cold) latices for the carpet, textile, paper, construction, adhesive, automotive and road markets and more recently has developed styrene acrylate and pure acrylic emulsions for the carpet, textile and coating markets.

The manufacturing facility, located in Sasolburg, utilises base raw materials derived mostly from crude oil, primarily C4-C7 hydrocarbons, as raw materials for the manufacturing of synthetic latex.

**Manufacturing:**

Stringent automated process control technology ensures safe manufacturing of SLC's high quality, consistent products. The company places a high premium on environment, health and safety. The processes are unique in that each process includes a steam stripping stage, ensuring low VOC products, illustrating commitment to being responsible and environmentally friendly. In addition, global "best practices in process safety standards" ensure a safe working environment.

**Pothole Fix:**

SLC's Pothole Fix is manufactured from a polymer by-product and aggregates for the easy repair of medium size potholes.

Mr Quentin Van Den Heever, SLC's Managing Director, says the main purpose of the product is not only to uplift the community in and around the Vaal Triangle, but also to give back as the proceeds from each 25kg bag sold, goes to a charity identified by SLC and then chosen by the purchaser. SLC would like to encourage the public to purchase Pothole Fix from the SLC website: *www.slc.za.com*. Pothole Fix is also easily available from OK MiniMark at the Sasol garage in Vaalpark, as well as Sasolburg distribution points at the Sasol garage Fonteine and the Sasol garage One RCC.

*** For more information visit SLC's website at www.slc.za.com.**

# Selfs kinders kan slaggate nou doeltreffend herstel

"Ons paaie lyk soos 'n maanlandskap - vol kraters!" Só kla inwoners van die Vaaldriehoek byna daagliks by Vaalweekblad oor die toenemende slaggate.

Politieke partye, gemeenskapsdrukgroepe, sakelui en individue spring die afgelope jare gereeld in om slaggate self op te vul. 'n Probleem is egter dat die materiaal wat gebruik word, duur is of nie altyd geskik is vir die doel nie. Dit spoel óf weg met die eerste reëns, óf die vulsel word so hard dat dit 'n klipharde "rots" in die middel vorm terwyl die slaggat rondom dit net verder uitgekalwe word.

Danksy die kreatiwiteit van The Synthetic Latex Company (SLC) in Sasolburg is daar nou 'n hoëgehalte, doeltreffende produk, Pothole Fix, waarmee mediumgrootte slaggate vinnig en relatief goedkoop opgevul kan word. Die proses is boonop so maklik dat selfs 'n kind dit kan doen.

Pothole Fix is 'n grys, gereed-vir-gebruik, klammerige mengsel wat in plastieksakke van 25 kg gekoop kan word. Dit kos minder as R50 per sak en word donkerder van kleur as dit droog is.

**Volgens Johan Landsberg, bemarkingsbestuurder van SLC, is die proses baie maklik**: Maak die slaggat skoon deur alle grond en blare uit te vee. Gooi Pothole Fix in die slaggat. Stamp dit dan goed vas. Afhangend van die grootte van die gat, sal dit 'n dag of twee neem voordat die produk heeltemal geset het. Voertuie kan egter dadelik daaroor ry.

"Ek ry sommer 'n paar keer met my bakkie oor die herstelde gat om die vulsel goed vas te druk," sê Johan. "As die Pothole Fix klaar geset het en jy sien daar kort nog 'n bietjie, kan jy dit net 'optop' en weer goed vasstamp."

Pothole Fix is goed bestand teen hitte en is rubberagtig en waterdig. Reënwater gaan dit dus nie binnedering of laat wegspoel nie. Pothole Fix word vervaardig uit 'n polimeer-neweproduk en ander materiale wat ideaal is vir die maklike herstel van slaggate.

Quentin van den Heever, besturende direkteur van SLC, verduidelik dat die hoofdoel met Pothole Fix nie net is om die paaie in en om die Vaaldriehoek te herstel nie, maar ook om iets aan die gemeenskap terug te gee en behoeftiges op te hef. Die opbrengs uit elke 25 kg-sak wat verkoop word, gaan in geheel na een van verskeie liefdadigheidsorganisasies wat deur SLC geïdentifiseer word. Kliënte kan dan kies watter van dié organisasies deur hul aankoop bevoordeel moet word. Liefdadigheidsorganisasies soos Angel Wings in Vaalpark word reeds deur SLC ondersteun en meer liefdadigheidsorganisasies is in die proses om geïdentifiseer te word.

Só lyk dit nadat 'n slaggat met Pothole Fix opgevul is.

Selfs jong kinders kan slaggate maklik en doeltreffend herstel danksy Pothole Fix. Dié kleingoed is onlangs in Vaalpark afgeneem waar hulle besig was om slaggate in Langebergstraat en voor Vaalpark Articon te herstel.

Deur SLC se Pothole Fix te koop, verbeter jy dus nie net jou eie omgewing nie maar dra jy ook direk by om iemand in nood te ondersteun.

"Ons wil die publiek graag aanmoedig om die produk op SLC-se webwerf, www.slc.za.com, te bestel," sê Quentin.

Pothole Fix is ook beskikbaar by OK MiniMark by die Sasol-garage in Vaalpark, sowel as by die die verspredingspunte in Sasolburg: Sasol-garage Fonteine en Sasol-garage One RCC.