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CE&CR: How do you envision the future of construction and how will it be a game changer for your company? Also, what new segments in the construction chemicals can the industry foresee in the coming years?

Rajesh Joshi: Construction Chemicals are bound to play a significant role in the times to come. For construction to become sustainable, it is inevitable that incorporation of innovative materials and methods are adopted. This gives an opportunity and challenge for STP to mark its footprints in a similar fashion.

This apart, a whole lot of infrastructure and building which were developed in the last century will show feasibility towards further extension of useful life and/ or to be retrofitted for enhancement of its prevailing capacity, will require a plethora of material and systems that a construction chemicals company can offer. STP is geared to take up and cater as a one-stop solution provider to the rehabilitation industry with economical and dependable solutions, benchmarked with international standards.

In terms of new segment areas, just as in a new construction or repairing process, chemicals can contribute significantly while recycling C&D wastes. The global construction and demolition waste recycling market was valued at \$127 Billion in 2019 and estimated to reach \$149 Billion by 2027, with a CAGR of 2.7% in these 7 years. It is important for global construction chemical researchers to work in the direction of evolving materials which can play a significant role in the recycling market as well.

CE&CR: With respect to transformational industry dynamics, what are your views about adaptive and innovative Next-Gen tools, integrated new Workforce typology and new normal EPC models?

Rajesh Joshi: Dynamicity of the market poses challenge for any progressive industry, especially in the post-Covid era. From availability of work to availability of raw materials from multiple global sources is a day-to-day uphill climb which organizations are confronting. While, keeping in mind the unprecedented happenings, it is important for an organized sector to streamline routine decision making into a systematic logical format requiring least human intervention. This is possible through meticulous understanding of existing system and prudent choice towards modernizing and digitalizing every possible process. STP, in a phase wise manner, has initiated this and is transiting to become a more digitalized organization. Such interventional transformation will not only make the system more efficient but will also take off major stress from the workforce.

Growing economies, including India, has acted prudently in last decades to design EPC systems that are more reliant and efficient. The land connectivity network has come up with practical BOT models for fast and efficient execution of work. However, at any given point of time there is always scope for upgradation of quality standards in the prevailing EPC model, which should be constantly expanded to have a tighter control over the work produced.

CE&CR: The global trend is to achieve sustainable goals in all the sectors contributing to the economy; with respect to that; will green construction takeover traditional methods in the future? If so, how will it happen and how does your company take strides in the process?

Rajesh Joshi: We must accept that a complete definition of a green construction is still vague in our industry. Various aspects are highlighted through a variety of concepts under the green umbrella. Scientifically, it can be considered as a combination of these concepts incorporated during the conception of a project contributing in varied proportions, like,

- a. Recycled Products (Construction materials)
- b. HSE Standards (Materials & Methods)
- c. Energy Consumption (Water, Electricity, etc. during and after construction)
- d. Durability (Estimated total service life)
- e. Recyclability (Ability to be reused, once redundant)

STP has taken special initiative to develop and promote such products that presents safer working conditions for the labour force while being less aggressive to the environment. In addition, every technology that adds durability to the concrete structure with minimal environmental footprints, contributes largely to the broader cause of creating a sustainable system.