

Sixteen Years Of Production Experience With Synthetic Gypsum



Temple is no newcomer when it comes to producing environmentally responsible gypsum wallboard. It's a commitment and a process that began sixteen years ago in 1984.

Here are some of the highlights of our use of synthetic gypsum.

1984 Temple begins using a 10% blend of synthetic gypsum with natural rock at their West Memphis, Arkansas, wallboard facility.

1985–1993 Production continues successfully with a 10% blend as a reliable, cost-efficient resource for more synthetic gypsum is sought.

1994 Temple negotiates with the Tennessee Valley Authority to provide a consistent supply of synthetic gypsum.

1995 Temple increases the blend of synthetic gypsum in their wallboard to 30% and begins the reengineering of their handling and processing equipment to accommodate higher amounts of synthetic gypsum. By the time these upgrades are completed, over \$1 million will have been invested in process improvements to Temple's West Memphis facility.

1996 A gradual increase throughout the year raises the level of synthetic gypsum in the blend from 50% to 60%, and finally to 70% by the end of 1996.

1997 On December 17th of 1997, Temple's West Memphis wallboard plant began producing board using only synthetic gypsum in the core, and has continued to run that way since. As a result, a very high-quality board with higher purity levels and a smaller particle size than previously possible is now being manufactured in this facility.

1997 Plans for a new facility in Cumberland City, Tennessee, engineered from the ground up to produce wallboard with synthetic gypsum, began to take shape.

1999 Temple's Cumberland City wallboard facility started up in September with an annual production capacity of over 700 million square feet of board manufactured entirely with synthetic gypsum.

2000 Temple gypsum wallboard is certified to contain recycled material, setting a new standard for environmental

Today, of Temple's four gypsum wallboard facilities, both West Memphis and Cumberland City use synthetic gypsum – certified as being at least 95% recycled material. Our McQueeney facility is currently undergoing the conversion process and is now using a 30% synthetic blend.

Our goal is that 80% of our wallboard production capacity will come from synthetic gypsum.



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