

Member Profile

Summit Research Labs

Year Founded: 1962

Location: Huguenot, NY

Number of Employees: 110

Principle Product: Antiperspirant active chemicals

Council Member Since: 1972

Thomas Edison once said, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." Summit Research Labs puts their genius to good use in finding ways of reducing perspiration. At Summit, they manufacture the active ingredient in antiperspirants, Aluminum Chlorohydrate (ACH) and Aluminum Zirconium Chlorohydrate Glycine (AZG).

Helping people smell good has been one of the constants in the evolution of the company since it started back in Wisconsin as Wickhen back in the 1950's. Wickhen began in Milwaukee as a division of Kolmar Labs to supply chemicals to Kolmar.

As Kolmar moved to the east coast, so did Wickhen, where they opened the current plant in Huguenot, NY, in 1962.

The original product line consisted of esters and emollients for soap production, but in the late 1960's Wickhen delved into the antiperspirant actives industry.

Through the years the company has undergone numerous changes and incarnations. Wickhen was sold to an employee management group, which in turn sold the company to Dow Corning, who eventually sold it to Summit Research Labs in 1992. Throughout the 1970's and 1980's, the company focused on their line of polymers and



esters in addition to their antiperspirant actives. Then in 1988, the company divested itself of its polymer and ester lines. Summit has also recently changed ownership and divested its water treatment chemical and pulp/paper chemical divisions, concentrating its focus on the antiperspirant actives.

Antiperspirant actives are the ingredients in your deodorant and antiperspirant that stop sweat from forming. Aluminum Chlorohydrate is used in aerosol and non-aerosol products and can provide 25-35% sweat inhibition; its enhanced efficacy formula provides a 35-45% reduction in

perspiration. The other antiperspirant active, Aluminum Zirconium Chlorohydrate Glycine, is used only in non-aerosols and typically provides 45-55% sweat inhibition, with the enhanced efficacy formula providing a 55-80% reduction in perspiration.

These actives are available as impalpable powders, superfines, microspherical beads, controlled particle size powders and solutions of

various concentrations. The company's actives can be found in many of the leading brands of antiperspirant.

Recently Summit Research Labs has expanded by purchasing the former Westwood Chemical plant in Walkkill, NY. They are currently in the process of hiring, training people and scaling up this new facility.

Summit Research Labs has achieved their success by evolving with the times. Through their sweat and hard work they have reduced our sweat when we work hard.



The Summit Research Labs facilities in Huguenot, NY.