



Metal porch implementation improved pipes and strengthened stream security in Barcarena (PA)

Security investments surpass R\$ 6 million

During the last three years, Imerys has reinforced the security of the company operations in Pará. By focusing on risk mitigation, the mining company has already invested R\$ 6.3 million in equipment, process automation and systematization, pipe protection, team restructuration and training.

The work itself is permanent and it involves preventive measures planned to mitigate and avoid any kind of accident. At the factory located in Barbacena, for example, all the area has been protected by a wall which is monitored via surveillance cameras.

Since February this year, HDPE (High-density polyethylene) pipes, which pumped recovered water (with kaolin) from the impound 5 to the factory, have been replaced by a single pipe made of stainless steel. This new and robust mate-

rial strengthens the local security. Furthermore, pipes have crossed Curuperê stream through a metal porch.

Besides it, the company has also invested in technology. All the kaolin passage in ore pipeline, from mines located in Ipixuna do Pará, is tracked by equipment which detects and warns the presence of problems during the course. "We aim to mitigate any risks that may exist within the structure and reduce any possibility of material leakage", states Paulo Wanderley, Ore Pipeline and System of Rejects Manager.

Security investments are not only restricted to resources acquiring equipment. The team commitment is focus to the improvement programs. Employees attend regular courses and training in order to get upgraded.

"Everybody is committed to reviewing processes, pointing non-conformities, improving security and operating conditions; and we will keep doing it."

Marcos Moreira, Imerys CEO





Environmental commitment drives Imerys' projects

The ground that supplies with raw material for prosperity also provides sources and alternatives for the balance between development and environmental care. By following this principle, Imerys carries out several activities to mitigate the impact of the company operations in Pará. One of the former actions is reforestation.

Since 1997, the issue covers the company planning of environmental responsibility. Through partnerships with communities in Aparecida, Cajueiro and Santa Maria do Bacuri, which are located around RCC mine, in Ipixuna do Pará, the reforestation project forecasts the recovery of areas affected by mining.

The 12 families involved in this project have been trained and supplied with raw materials for the production of ipe and acai seedlings that are sold to Imerys. This initiative provides income for the families and empowers the community & forest relationship. "We learn about how to collect seeds and which trees can have their seeds collected. Nowadays people are happy because they are part of this project instead of just planting," states the

5 thousand
is the average number of seedlings produced by each family involved in the reforestation project.

farmer Armando Paraense de Cristo, 48 years old and resident of the community located in Aparecida.

Furthermore, Imerys monitors the fauna and flora which surrounds the mines. It is made four times a year, according to the Environment Protection Agency resolution (Sema). The process aims to analyze how the mining activity affects the local ecosystem. No negative indicators have been found until today.

The PPSA mine, located in Ipixuna, has an orchid house within the local arboretum. "Maintaining this orchid house is important to preserve species of forest areas that are allowed to be removed", states Claudio Cyrino, Environmental Coordinator.

Providing Income

Through the Family Subsistence Supporting Program, carried at RCC and PPSA mines, Imerys promotes initiatives for providing food and income in the communities. The company develops community gardens – which supply more than 700 children – with rural schools in Canaã and Aparecida. In Vila Oliveira,

the fish farming project transformed the community river in a source of water resources by farming tambaqui and araipama. This production makes artisan fishing a model of family production. Thirty one people – of the five families enrolled in the project – receive supplies, fish farming technical advice and training.

Where you least expect it

It seems like a joke, however, kaolin can be found even in cosmetics for skin care. When it is combined with the right ingredients, this mineral can offer several benefits, such as cell renewal and reduction of free radicals – compounds responsible for premature aging.

The partnership between Imerys and Chamma da Amazônia, local cosmetic company – which is annually renewed –, has invested in the production of a cosmetic line containing kaolin in its composition.

There is a total of five products. "It is a well-accepted line. Those who use it don't regret it.", states Ana Sanches, Chamma Sales Manager. Women prefer body lotions and facial scrub. In addition to providing compounds as acai and buriti, the cosmetics are made of white clay – originated from kaolin – and they operate mainly in skin moisturizing and renewal. There is also after wax lotion that helps the skin to recover and avoids inflammation.



Masthead

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