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Graphilor[®] 3

The isostatic impregnated graphite

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1. Graphilor[®] 3 - impregnated isostatic graphite with ultra-fine grain structure

- Mersen produces an ultra-pure grade of graphite providing optimum resilience to extreme temperatures (up to 3,000° C).
- Graphilor[®] 3 is Mersen's trade mark for impregnated graphite, resulting from the combination between ultra-fine grain graphite and its proprietary resin impregnant

Key advantages of Graphilor [®] 3:

- High resistance to corrosion
- Resistance to temperature and thermal shock
- High mechanical resistance

Mersen is using 2 different processes:

- Isostatic pressing for blocks and tubesheets
- Extrusion for tubes

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2. Graphite manufacturing process: Ultra-fine grain graphite Manufacturing Process





MERSEN

Extrusion, the alternative process for graphite manufacture

- Most applications that use extruded graphite (block & cylinder manufacturing) do not require high mechanical properties and low porosity (see below picture), unlike isostatic graphite.
- Extruded graphite is generally used for producing electrodes for metallurgy.





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Most other suppliers (competitors) of graphite equipment used to make equipment in the chemical industry use extruded graphite as their raw materials

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Mersen Graphite extruded tubes

- Mersen graphite tubes are manufactured by an extrusion process, up to 6 meters without a splice (joint), thus making the longest, strongest tube on the market
- Mersen graphite tubes have the same properties as ultrafine grain isostatic rods
- To enhance higher performance material, Mersen has mastered in-house all the production stages specifically :
 - Baking
 - Graphitization



3. Graphite transformation into Graphilor®3:

Isostatic graphite



+ Specific resin impregnant

(Impregnation process)

= Graphilor[®] 3



Graphite Strengths -Excellent thermal conductivity -Excellent corrosion resistance -Good Mechanical resistance

Graphite Weaknesses -Porosity

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Graphilor[®] 3 Strengths - Excellent conductivity - Corrosion resistance depending on the selection of impregnant - Air tightness

- Reinforced mechanically







- End machining to the final dimensions
- Gasket Sealing area machining
- Graphite baffle cementing



- Bond together with AN cement if the required length of the tube is more than 6 meters
- Machining of tubes ends before cementing to the tube sheet

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New development : cleaning for tubes

- Mersen carried out tests early in 2009 on existing machinery to clean the tubes both internally and externally.
- Mersen has now a new fully automatic brushing machine and can now propose the cleaning step as a standard for all tubes.
- Features : better visual aspect & improvement to the thermal conductivity.

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Tests on impervious graphite

Tightness tests 100% control

- Blocks BS, XBS & XC and XBS Tubes are controlled 9barG air under water

 highest control level
- Blocks XTH are controlled 6barG air under water
 - Full tightness is guaranteed by Mersen
- Tubes XBS are controlled 20barG air under water (mechanical) and 9barG water (tightness)

Statistic tests

Blocks

- Mechanical control through graphite samples (tensile strength)
- Graphite properties control : density with and without impregnation
- Tubes : Resistivity and Flexural strength

Graphilor® 3 for tubes

- Tubes are made with Graphilor® 3 XBS
 - Graphite grade X ultra-fine grain
 - Resin Phenolic
- Temperature : 220° C
- High mechanical strength : all our tubes are homologated G30-00-220 which is the highest available in the market
- Single proprietary manufacturing center for tubes with tight QC

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Option - Graphilor [®] **ML** Graphilor® ML suitable for large diameters up to 82"

- High mechanical resistance
 - Much better than monolithic graphite in large diameter

Mechanical characteristics

Impregnated ML graphite ML graphite

Diameter

Similar to small diameter properties

Option – Rigilor[®] Rigilor® is used for large blocks and tubesheets

Main feature Abrasion resistance x 6

- Strengthening of graphite parts by means of a carbon fiber based layer
- Impregnation after applying the Rigilor[®] coating provides excellent homogeneity of the material with the same properties as graphite
- Mechanical resistance x 2
- Phosphoric acid evaporator : tubesheets are reinforced by Rigilor[®] fibers and amorphous carbon sleeves to increase the lifetime.

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Option : tubes reinforced with carbon fibres

- Mersen developed wrapped tubes to enlarge its portfolio
- External brushing before wrapping to improve adherence of fibre.
- Pre-impregnation of the carbon fibre Phenolic resin (same used for tube impregnation).
- Automatic polymerization by catalyst.
- Tubes available up to 6 meters without a splice

