

DOW CORNING

Dow Corning Corporation

Media Kit

We help you invent the future.™

Dow Corning Fast Facts

Dow Corning (www.dowcorning.com) was established in 1943 specifically to explore the potential of silicones. It was created as a joint venture between Corning Glass Works (now Corning, Incorporated) and The Dow Chemical Company.

Today Dow Corning provides performance-enhancing solutions to serve the diverse needs of more than 20,000 customers worldwide. A global leader in silicon-based technology and innovation, offering more than 7,000 products and services, Dow Corning is equally owned by The Dow Chemical Company and Corning, Incorporated. More than half of Dow Corning's annual sales are outside the United States.

**We are innovative leaders
unleashing the power of silicon
to benefit everyone, everywhere.**

Headquarters

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Leadership

Stephanie A. Burns
Chairman, President and
Chief Executive Officer

Key Figures

(Approximate numbers as of December 31, 2007)

2007 Sales	\$4.94 billion	Number of Products and Services offered	7,000
2007 Net Income	\$690.1 million	Number of Customers	20,000
Employees worldwide	10,000	Active Patents in the United States	1,080
Manufacturing and Warehouses locations worldwide	45	Active Patents worldwide	4,400

Dow Corning Fast Facts *continued*

Industry Solutions

Automotive	Moldmaking
Aviation & Aerospace	Oil & Gas
Beauty & Personal Care	Paints & Inks
Chemical Manufacturing	Photonics
Compound Semiconductor	Plasma
Construction	Plastics
Electronics	Power & Utility
Food and Beverage	Pulp & Paper
Healthcare	Pressure Sensitive
Household & Cleaning	Rubber Fabrication
Imaging	Solar
Industrial Lubrication	Textile, Leather, Nonwoven

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The Evolution of Silicon Science

The beginning of silicon science starts in nature. Sand, or silica, is the fine residue of quartz rock and is made up of the two most abundant elements in Earth's crust – oxygen and silicon. Silicon-based materials have been of technological importance throughout recorded history. Initially, quartz and silica-based stones were fashioned into tools to enhance survival. Later, glass and ceramic technologies developed. The new silicon-based technologies of optics and electronics followed, in response to the changing demands of an evolving world. Today, silicon science continues to evolve in pace with the demanding needs of our society – and Dow Corning is there.

Dow Corning Corporation was formed in 1943 as a joint venture between Corning Glass Works (now Corning Incorporated) and The Dow Chemical Company, which continue to own equal shares today. The company was established specifically to explore the potential of silicon-based materials.

The First Commercial Era of Silicon-Based Materials (1943-1960)

This period was dominated by the classical siloxane, poly(dimethylsiloxane) fluids, elastomers, and simple methyl and phenyl resins. Poly(dimethylsiloxane) was the backbone of this growing industry and offered a myriad of commercial applications. Its uses included mechanical applications, surface treatments, and cosmetic and biomedical applications in which the unique properties of these materials could be utilized. These are some of Dow Corning's innovations during this era:

- Before Dow Corning was formed, high-altitude flight seemed impossible. Planes could only maintain high altitudes for a few minutes because of ignition loss and moisture in the engines. However, a simple silicone grease – DOW CORNING® 4 compound – was the solution that ushered in a new age of aviation.
- Dow Corning offered methyl fluids and insulating resins.
- SIGHT SAVERS eyeglass cleaners were introduced as Dow Corning's first consumer product.
- Dow Corning developed a new silicone for waterproofing. Dow Corning fluids were soon the standard water-repellant treatments for paper and textiles.
- In the early days, electrical devices were not known for their reliability. Silicone offered excellent electrical insulation capabilities, but the industry was slow to accept this. Dow Corning started distributing its own insulated wire. Within months, manufacturers started using silicone insulation on their wiring.
- Researchers at a major cosmetics company read about a silicone leather treatment and called Dow Corning. Could the unique properties of silicones help dry, damaged human skin? When the resulting hand lotion was introduced, it was the first personal care product with silicones.

- When one of Dow Corning's silicone coatings was used on the transfer surface of adhesive tape, the adhesive remained without losing its stickiness. This became Dow Corning's first modern silicone release coating and the foundation for a new generation of tape products.
- Dow Corning implemented technology to manufacture hyper-pure polycrystalline silicon to produce materials for computer chips. The Hemlock, Michigan, site was selected for the first fully integrated polycrystalline silicon plant.
- Dow Corning developed silicone sealants, caulks, and adhesives for architectural applications. This changed the face of architecture forever. Since then, seamless structures of glass, ceramic, and metal have reached for the skies.

The Second Era (1960-1980)

The explosive growth during this period was fueled by several advances, including the development of fluorosiloxanes, silicon-polyethers surfactants, and silanes with organic functional groups. These new materials – combined with advances in our ability to design specialty materials – gave rise to new sealants, rubbers, coatings and glazing compounds that gave architects and construction engineers new degrees of design freedom. However, these advances were not limited to the construction arenas. Silicon-based substances were used to create new coating and encapsulants for the electronics industry, medical-grade tubing for health care, and new products for aerospace. Some of this era's innovations include:

- A Dow Corning silicone rubber material was used for the heat shield in the first manned suborbital space flight.
- The first imprint that Neil Armstrong left on lunar soil was made with a silicone rubber boot sole. In addition, new silicone materials used in the lunar and command modules were critical to the Apollo crew's safety and support systems.
- A premature infant had digestive tract problems and could not receive adequate nutrition by venous drip methods. A tiny intravenous catheter from Dow Corning worked and has since been used around the world.

The Third Era: Materials (1980-2000)

Materials, components, and systems are often regarded as separate and sequential levels of integration. But this old paradigm is no longer valid for the development of advanced materials. The commercial opportunities and implications of this blurring distinction are immense for material science and those who practice the art. Dow Corning's advances include:

- As asbestos brake linings disappeared from automobiles, corrosion problems appeared. Dow Corning developed a friction-control additive that provided moisture protection and high heat stability – putting a “stop” to the problem.
- Dow Corning put 15 newly developed automotive products to the test at Le Mans and proved once again that there's no challenge that silicones cannot endure.

- Acoustic tests on a Jaguar XJ6 in development showed that interior noise was too loud for a luxury performance car. Dow Corning met the challenge by injecting foam-in-place, sound-absorbing silicone into select points on the auto's body.
- The world watched as Texas rescuers frantically worked to free 18-month-old Jessica McClure, trapped 20 feet down a narrow well shaft. Millions sighed with relief when she was rescued. But the episode only ended when doctors, using Dow Corning skin expanders, repaired her injuries, leaving just the faintest of scars.
- DOW CORNING® low VOC silicone conformal coating was developed to protect electronic components and printed wiring boards. This product combines abrasion resistance with the benefit of reduced volatile organic compounds (VOCs) use.
- Dow Corning's new liquid silicone rubber coatings made advanced automobile airbag technology possible and improved performance of the airbag.
- Dow Corning's SYL-OFF® high speed process aid was introduced to boost the output of pressure-sensitive release coating equipment. The product also eases clean-up and improves worker safety.
- Dow Corning's FOx® flowable oxide was developed to help prevent the misdirection of electrical signals on computer chips. To help the environment, the product uses an ozone-safe carrier solvent.

The Current Era of Silicon

In addition to the excitement that surrounds our new science is an excitement of vision for new commercial applications. For example, Dow Corning and Genencor International created a strategic alliance to combine their expertise in biotechnology and silicon chemistry to create a new, proprietary Silicon Biotechnology™ technology platform.

Dow Corning has also formed strategic alliances to develop the next generation of products, including photonic crystal technology for optical communications devices, silicone resin formulations for defense applications, and advances using nanotechnology.

The global leader in silicon-based materials, Dow Corning currently offers more than 7,000 products and services to customers around the world.



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Everyday Uses of Silicon-Based Products

Since 1943, Dow Corning Corporation has created a long list of innovations that have improved lives around the world. Here is a small sample of the ways silicon-based products impact our lives every day:

Computers and Electronics

Hyper-pure polycrystalline silicon is a fabricated raw material that is used in the semiconductor and photovoltaic industries as the base for computer chips and electronics. Delicate circuit boards in computers, VCRs, and cell phones are protected with silicon-based materials. Dow Corning products also help in the manufacture of computer chips by offering ozone-safe cleaning materials. In the age of electronics, silicon-based materials help us work faster and more efficiently.

Automobiles

Durable sealants, lubricants, protective coatings, and greases help keep automobiles running smoothly. Coatings for airbag fabrics, car polishes, automotive vinyl protectants, paints, oil pan gaskets, and spark plug boots and cables also benefit from silicon science.

Textiles

Silicon-based products can improve the feel (“hand”) of fabrics, as well as waterproofing them. Dow Corning products also help in the manufacture of textiles and leather goods and protect textiles from stains, wrinkles, and shrinking.

Household Products

Dow Corning silicon-based materials help improve the performance of laundry detergents, fabric softeners, cleaners and solvents, and other household products in your home.

Personal Care

Silicon-based materials are used in numerous personal care applications. They provide that silky-smooth feel in hair care products. They also enhance the performance of deodorants, antiperspirants, cosmetics, and skin moisturizers and lotions.

Healthcare

Silicon-based products provide tubing for dialysis, hydrocephalus shunts, pacemaker leads, and lubrication of syringe needles.

Construction and Architecture

Dow Corning products protect buildings against the ravages of nature. Historic lighthouse preservation, for example, benefits from a unique Dow Corning breathable coating, which waterproofs the exterior while allowing trapped moisture to escape. Other applications include glazing sealants for high-rise commercial buildings, roofing materials, pavement sealants, firestop materials, and bathtub caulks. This range allows silicon-based products to seal the deal.

Paper

Silicon-based products are found in release coatings for label-backing paper, pressure-sensitive adhesives, and paper coatings.

Aerospace

Dow Corning provides aerospace sealants, elastomers, fluids, and resins to keep the world flying and space missions on course.

Manufacturing

Silicon-based materials are used as process aids, coupling agents, defoamers, and antifoams for a variety of industries.

Food and Related Industries

Silicon-based materials are used as defoamers in flavor concentrates, beverages, edible oils, prepackaged foods, and confections – and as release agents for bread, bun, and cake pans.

The Advantage of Silicon-Based Materials

Beyond the ordinary to the extraordinary, silicon-based products provide an advantage in nearly every industry segment of today's economy. Easily tailored, these materials provide routine features, such as high temperature stability and resistance to aging and chemical assault. These advanced materials also have the ability, depending on the material, to:

- Adhere
- Condition
- Control foam
- Improve appearance
- Connect
- Transfer energy
- Mask
- Reconstruct
- Seal
- Lubricate
- Purify
- Wet
- Insulate
- Protect
- Release
- Soften
- Conduct
- Deliver

Versatile

Versatility is the hallmark of silicon technology. By varying molecular structure, network density, molecular size, or functional contents, a world of possibilities emerges: free-flowing resins, rigid plastics, rubbers, greases, powders, and fluids that are thinner than water or as thick as paste. Silicon-based materials can take on all of these different forms. And physical and chemical properties – such as thermal stability, strength, and weatherability – can be varied for specific applications. Because of this versatility, silicon-based materials are key ingredients in thousands of improved products.

Surface Properties

What really differentiates silicon-based materials from other materials is their unique surface properties. These properties help Dow Corning customers create distinctive products. In many applications – such as adhesives, sealants, or coatings – a product must “stick” to another material. By careful design and formulation, Dow Corning scientists make these products bond directly with the substrate. At the other end of the spectrum, coatings can be designed to have unique “release” behavior, where there is no adhesion between the coating and the adhesive layer.

The flexible surface properties of silicon-based materials make them ideal for many applications, including paper and mold release agents, textile modifiers, water repellents, defoaming agents, anticaking aids, corrosion inhibitors, emulsifiers, lubricants, conditioners, and glass enhancers. These are just a few of the thousands of applications for silicon-based products.



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