Testimonial

– Quartz Sand Mining

Founded in 1872, Sibelco has grown into a truly multinational business, today operating 228 production sites in 41 countries with a team of around 10,000 people. When the business began, Sibelco’s focus was on mining quartz sand for Belgium’s glass producers. These days they extract and process a broad range of non-metallic industrial minerals, all of which are being continuously developed to meet the ever changing needs of manufacturers in a wide range of industries.

One of the operational sites in Russia is Nebolchi Quarry. This quartz sand field was established in 1929 near the river Syas. Until 1946 quarrying was done exclusively by hand - the upper waste rock was transported by wheelbarrows. Quartz sand transportation to the station was made on horseback, and only in winter. The extraction of sand was about 5-6 million tons per year. Since 1946 cars are used to deliver quartz sand to the warehouses. The sand mining output in 1946 was 10 thousand tons, in 1949 it was already 30 thousand tons. By 1959, all mining and loading operations were fully automated. In 1966, the output of the quartz sand mine was about 159.7 thousand tons.

Today, JSC "Nebolchinskoe Quarry" is a dynamic company. Its performance will gradually increase to 800 thousand tons of high purity quartz. Its products are used in the following industries:

- Building mixtures
- Functional fillers
- Glass
- Ceramics
- Oil and gas industry and abrasives
- Metal industry
- Sports and Recreation (e.g. beach sand, sport fields)
Sample Preparation with RETSCH Products

Tatiana Korchagina, Head of the laboratory at Nebolchinskoie Quarry uses RETSCH equipment every day to control the product quality of all production areas. The **vibratory sieving machine AS 200 control** provides precise and repeatable particle size distribution. The **Mixer Mill MM 400** together with the **Pellet Press PP40** are the perfect combination for sample preparation to XRF analysis of any product they need to explore.

"With the help of RETSCH sieving machines, grinders and pellet press our laboratory carries out the chemical and physical testing of products efficiently and quickly. This affects the performance of the entire facility in a positive way", explains Tatiana Korchagina.

RETSCH is the leading solution provider for neutral-to-analysis sample preparation and characterization of solids. On the basis of almost 100 years of experience RETSCH develops innovative size reduction and sieving equipment which is characterized by excellent performance, operating convenience, safety and a long lifetime.