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## **Optimization of the temperature for the production** of synthetic wollastonite based on rice husk

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## Abstract

Every year around the world, as a result of rice threshing, about 600 million tons of rice husk waste are generated. They pollute the environment, since rice husks do not disintegrate in the ground, due to the presence of silicon dioxide in its composition. Silicon dioxide from rice husk ash differs from other known types of silicon-containing raw materials in that it is in an amorphous state, contains less metal impurities and is chemically more active.

At the same time, this amorphous silica can be effectively used in combination with limestone for the synthesis of promising types of fillers for polymer materials, in particular, wollastonite.

Based on the results of X-ray analysis, the phase composition of the synthesized filler samples was determined. It was shown that synthetic wollastonite, regardless of the synthesis temperature and the ratio of silicon dioxide and calcium carbonate in its composition, contains mainly β-wollastonite and larnite as impurities. A higher content of  $\beta$ -wollastonite in the composition of the synthesized filler samples is achieved at temperatures of their preparation in the range from 800 to 900 °C. At the same time, in the case of wollastonite with a ratio of silicon dioxide and calcium carbonate 1:1, the synthesis temperature has a greater effect on its composition. Filling epoxy compositions, both natural and synthetic wollastonite, significantly increases their wear resistance. This effect is associated with the anisodiametric shape of the filler particles and is approximately the same when using natural and synthetic wollastonite, with a similar content of  $\beta$ wollastonite in their composition.

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