MI SWACO
A Schlumberger Company

MAX GEL

Viscosifier

APPLICATIONS

- Lost circulation control
- Hole cleaning
- Viscosity building
- Formation sloughing control
- Hole stability in unconsolidated formations
- Gel foam and air drilling

BENEFITS

- Yields more quickly than API-standard bentonite
- Enhances penetration rates
- Reduces transportation and storage costs

FEATURES

- Suitable for drilling potable-water wells
- Rapid mixing enabled by finer grind
- Lower solids content
- Less product required for treatment

The MAX GEL* viscosifier is a premium 220-bbl yield Wyoming bentonite blended with special extenders. Applications for the MAX GEL viscosifier include rapidly building mud viscosity and providing superior hole cleaning as well as helping to control lost circulation, formation sloughing, and hole instability in unconsolidated formations. The viscosifier is capable of yielding more than twice as much viscosity as regular Wyoming bentonite and is usable in the following types of wells:

NSF Certified to NSF/ANSI 60

- potable-water wells
- mineral exploration (coring and rotary drilling)
- horizontal directional drilling
- blast holes
- shaft drilling
- monitor and observation wells.

The MAX GEL viscosifier loses effectiveness in water containing >7,500 mg/L of sodium chloride or 240 mg/L of calcium. If dispersants or thinners are to be used, they should be added sparingly; 50% or less of the normal treatment should be used.

Bioassay information is available upon request. Handle MAX GEL viscosifier as an industrial chemical, wear protective equipment, and observe the precautions described in the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

The MAX GEL viscosifier is packaged in 50-lbm (22.7-kg) multiwall paper sacks and is available in bulk. Store the viscosifier in a dry location because it poses a slip hazard when wet, and minimize dust by using dustless systems for handling, storage, and cleanup. The viscosifier can be palletized at either 56 sacks/pallet or 70 sacks/pallet.

Store in a well-ventilated area away from sources of heat or ignition.

Typical Physical Properties	
Physical appearance	Light tan or gray-green powder
Specific gravity	2.3–2.5
pH (1% solubility)	220 bbl/tonUS [200.2 bbl/Mg]

Typical Amounts of MAX GEL Viscosifier Added to Freshwater

Drilling Application or Desired Results	**lbm/100 galUS**	**lbm/bbl**	**kg/m^3**
Normal drilling	15–25	6–11	15–30
In gravel or other poorly consolidated formation	25–40	12–18	35–50
Lost circulation control	35–45	15–20	40–45
Added to freshwater mud to improve hole-cleaning properties, increase hole stability, and develop filtercakes	5–10	2–5	6–14