

# X-Supreme8000



## Sibelco UK trusts the X-Supreme8000 for consistent product quality

Sibelco is a global materials solutions company, providing raw materials to many industries, including construction, paper manufacturing, ceramics production and glass fabrication. Founded in 1872, today they operate over 195 production sites in over 30 countries. A privately owned, family-run business, Sibelco are known for the quality of the materials they supply, including ball-clay mined from the south of England. The kaolin mined from this site in the UK is extracted, washed, processed and dried before shipping to customers world-wide.

### OBJECTIVES:

- | Reliable analysis of iron and potassium in kaolin
- | Rapid results to inform decisions on excavation site
- | Cope with high-volume, 24/7 testing

### RESULTS:

- | Assurance of mineral quality throughout the process
- | Minimal downtime supported by Hitachi Service Plan

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## COMPLIANCE WITH CONFIDENCE

To maintain a consistent, high quality product for their customers, it's essential that iron and potassium levels are controlled in the kaolin, so Sibelco need to analyse the iron levels at several points in production: when the material is dug from the ground, when it is in the slurry stream and then finally in the finished product. What's more is that they have to choose a new site for extraction every two hours and they test the extracted material first to ensure the dug kaolin is suitable.

They use X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis to determine the level of iron in the material. Kevin Barstow, UK Quality Control Manager for Sibelco said, "We've had Hitachi benchtop XRFs in this lab for over 15 years now. It adds value because we need to get the most out of our mineral."

With round-the-clock production and the need to provide a constant supply of consistent, high-quality kaolin to a global customer base, Sibelco need an analyser that gives them reliable, precise and accurate results time after time. "We've been very happy with Hitachi equipment because it is robust, it is very easy to use. It is very easy to set up and calibrate and it is reliable. We've really got to have reliable equipment and we get a good service plan with them as well," Kevin goes on to add.

## SERVICE PLAN TO SUPPORT NON-STOP PRODUCTION

If the on-site XRF analyser fails, production stops. Sibelco rely on their Hitachi XRF analysers to maintain the quality of the kaolin and failure to test each batch at several points could result in a sub-quality product. That's a risk that Sibelco are not prepared to take, so they opted for a Hitachi Service Plan to ensure that their equipment is always properly maintained and calibrated. This approach is working well for them, as Kevin confirms: "We are twenty-four seven and we need equipment running all the time, so it is essential we have a Hitachi Service Plan.

"The service from Hitachi has been really good. They come every year to service and calibrate the equipment and we've had no problems whatsoever."

Hitachi High-Tech operate a global network service hub to keep customers up and running, round the clock. As well as telephone help

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desks, online diagnostics and training, we offer a fast and efficient repair, recertification and maintenance service. This ensures your analyser is maintained in excellent condition, avoiding any unplanned costs and minimising analyser downtime.

The X-Supreme8000 is designed for high-throughput analysis. It has a 10 position sample changer that allows you to test up to 10 samples at once, and a high resolution detector ensures you get accurate results in just a few minutes. Simple to use and durable enough for busy production environments, the X-Supreme makes it easy to verify composition throughout your production.

## X-SUPREME8000 BENCHTOP XRF ANALYSER – EVERY SHIFT. EVERY TEST. EVERY TIME

For over 45 years, our benchtop XRF analysers have been counted on for reliable analysis in production control and testing laboratories.

The X-Supreme8000 X-ray fluorescence spectrometer analyses samples faster, easier and more versatile by combining latest software and hardware features built for high-throughput laboratory testing.

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