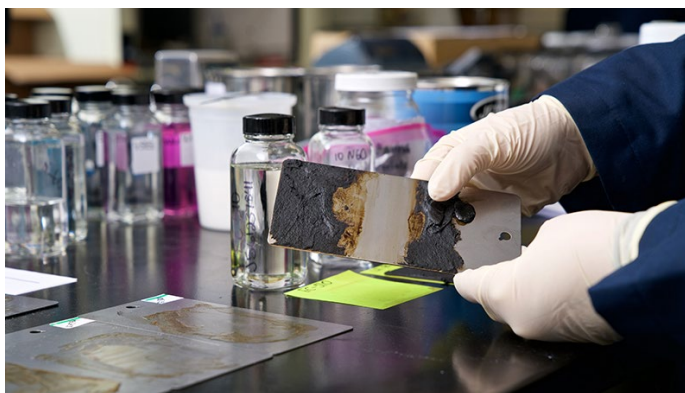


Chemistry in Industry: Quality Control and Research & Development

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Chemicals are widely used in industry for cleaning, manufacturing, and maintenance. Quality control refers to the process of ensuring that materials are tested using specific procedures and that they meet set specifications. In the case that products do not meet a specification, it is the chemist's job to determine the issue and implement a solution. In my position, I deal with a variety of solvents, solvent blends, surfactants, and water-based blends. Some of the common testing done on these materials includes Gas Chromatography (GC), Karl Fischer water content, pH, non-volatile matter, viscosity, reserve alkalinity, and refractive index.

A combination of the solvents, water, surfactants, resins, etc. can be formulated for specific customers and their specific needs. Research is done on what is needed to solve a problem and then a product is developed to meet that need. My job includes both of these vital skills that are the backbone of chemistry in industry. I will discuss my experience in both quality control and research & development and welcome all questions.