

sintering

Coalescence of solid particles. The process by which fly ash produced in combustion of fuels such as coal is baked (sintered) at a very high temperature. The sintered material is used in the manufacture of cinder blocks and other ceramic products. This term is also relevant to the enrichment of low grade ores and preparation of the charge for, e.g. a blast furnace. The sinter plant may be a significant source of pollution while serving to aid in the abatement of pollution for the blast furnace usually called sintering. *Catalysts* often suffer during use from a gradual increase in the average size of the crystallites or growth of the *primary particles*. This is also usually called sintering.

1990, 62, 2213; 1972, 31, 611; 1976, 46, 84