The Role of 2.45GHz Microwave on the Recovery of Activated Carbon

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Activated carbon is used on the process of adsorption to remove harmful gases, liquids and olids, such as volatile organic compounds, SOx, NOx and suspended materials. Activated carbon saturated with adsorbents, must be regenerated for reusinf on the same process, instead of burning or burying out. This method induced microwave is a energy saving process rather than any processes of PSA(Pressure Swing Adsorption) and TSA (Temperature Swing Adsorption). The temperature to regenerate activated carbon is about 850°C in traditional method such as rotary kiln, but in the microwave process, the molecules adsorbed in activated carbon are removed from carbon porosities in the bed temperature of 250°C only. Also, the Microwave energy can change the molecules adsorbed in activated carbon into the other materials. Specially, it change the heavy organic compounds into lower hydrocarbon molecules, combined gas(CO+H₂), or CO₂+H₂O. Surface area of the A/C regenerated by microwave, was the same as raw activated carbon, and it could be used on the adsorption process again.