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Texas Tech Product Cleans Oil Spills

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Reported by: Brooke Thomas
Sunday, June 20 2010

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Researchers at Texas Tech have developed a product that could help with the oil crisis in the Gulf.

The product is an absorbent wipe called Fibertect, made of cotton and carbon.

It was recently tested on a glob of oil on a beach in Grand Isle, Louisiana.

Not only did the wipe suck up the oil... never dropping any from the material.

But it also absorbed toxic fumes produced by the oil.

"We did not know that this would be a success. It was really nervous for us when we started experimenting with oil," said Seshadri Ramkumar, Texas Tech associate professor of nonwoven technologies.

First Line Technology and Texas Tech researchers want to use the product to aid in the Gulf oil clean up and protect coastal lands and wildlife.

"Depending upon this situation. Depending upon the type of the oil. Depending upon the needs. There's so many products. But surely this is one of the products which can be of help," said Ramkumar.

Fibertect was initially made to protect the military from chemical and biological warfare.

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