Title: Tetraacetylethylenediamine (TAED): Development of a process and

design of the basic engineering for its manufacture

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Tetraacetylethylenediamine (TAED) is an organic compound that is generally used as

a bleach activator in household detergents. The reaction of TAED with hydrogen

peroxide is known as perhydrolysis, which results in the formation of peroxyacids that

allow washing at very low temperatures.

The purpose of this project is to develop a continuous plant for the production

process of TAED, as well as to perform its basic engineering. Generally, TAED is produced

in two reactions: acetylation of ethylenediamine (EDA) generates

diacetylethylenediamine (DAED), which in reaction with acetic anhydride, produces

TAED as the final product.

The manufacturing process design has been carried out for an annual production of

15 000 tons of TAED. This amount has been chosen taking into account the worldwide

production volume of such substance. Different patents have been studied in order to

find a basic recipe that could be scaled to industrial level. A production process based

on the recipe has been synthesized, including also all the equipment involved. After that,

all this information has been uploaded to Aspen Plus software, simulating the plant and

determining the operating conditions and basic dimensions of the main equipment. To

conclude, the project includes a selection of suitable equipment, extracted from the

catalogues of different existing suppliers, that would be required in order to bring the

proposed production process to a real industrial situation.

Keywords: Tetraacetylethylenediamine, production process, equipment selection,

equipment sizing, patent recipe.