

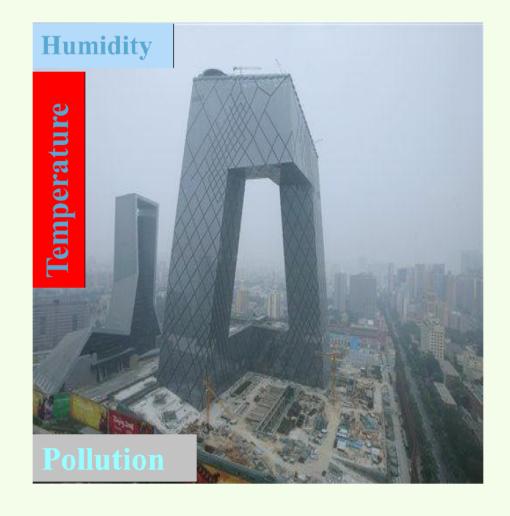
# Mitigate Urban Air Pollutants



### Today's Air Pollution Problem

Urban outdoor air pollution is estimated to cause 1.3 million deaths worldwide per year. Those living in middle-income countries disproportionately experience this burden.

2011



#### What is Air Pollution?

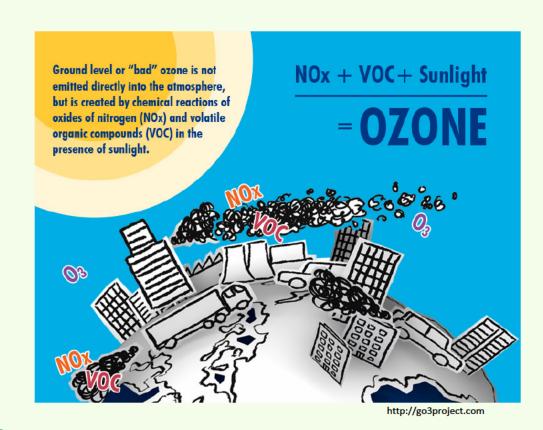
#### There are several major air pollutants

Major air pollutants include Particulate Matter (PM), Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) and Sulfur (SOx), Volatile Organics (VOCs) and Ozone  $(O_3)$ .

Ozone, which occurs at ground level, is generated from a photochemical reaction between NOx (NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) and VOCs.

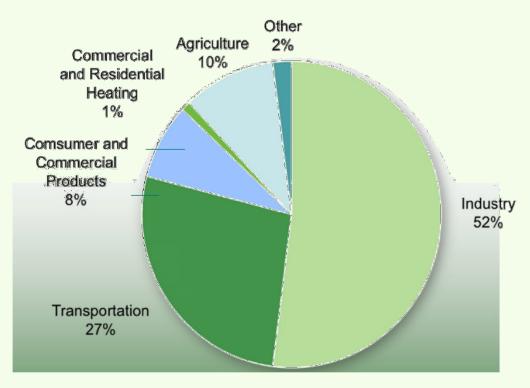
Today, PM, NOx, and Ozone are the most persisting and hazardous pollutants in our major urban areas.

The most visible effect of these pollutants is smog.



### Air Pollution Comes From Multiple Sources

## Sources of Emissions of Air Pollutants



- Industry, including power generation, and transportation represent more than 75% of the pollutant emissions
- The relative importance of sources can vary from country to country

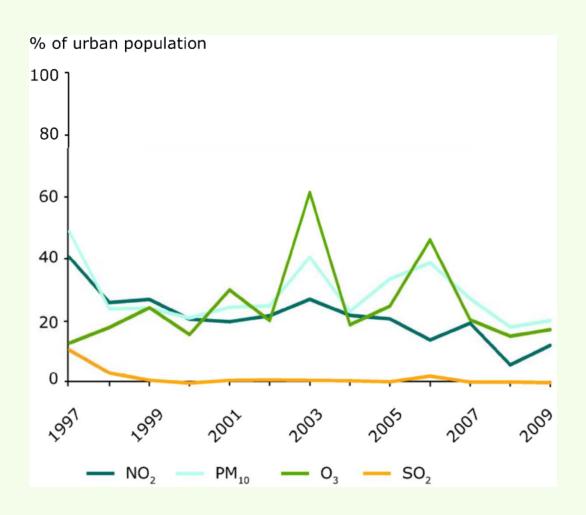
But the problem affects all regions

# Control of emissions at their source has showed significant reduction, but with some limitations

#### The European Union case:

- EU infringement procedures have been opened against 20 of the EU's 27 member states over air quality
- The infringement actions follow the entry into force of a new EU air quality directive in June 2008
- EU rules aimed at lowering vehicle emissions through technical changes have not brought targeted reductions
- The level of pollutants such as NOx or O<sub>3</sub> remain above ceiling targets in many urban areas (EEA - Sept 2012 report)

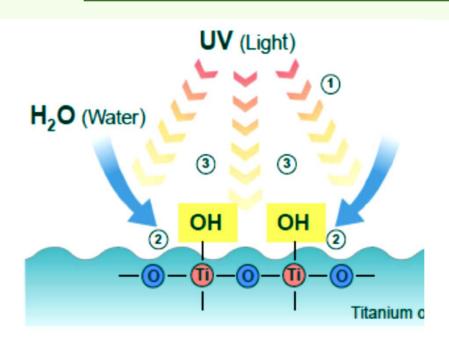
# A large portion of the EU population is still exposed to pollutants limits exceeding the ceilings



Percentage of urban population resident in areas where pollutant concentrations are higher than selected limit/target values, 1997-2009 (EU-27)

### Photocatalysis is a Natural Process

#### Instant reaction with organic matter at the molecular level



- UV light source can be the sun, a fluorescent light or even indoor light
- Water + Light = Chemical Reaction

Peroxy and hydroxy radicals are created

These reactive species are then available to drive redox reactions to break down organic species

- Photocatalysis is the acceleration of a photoreaction in the presence of a catalyst
- Photo = light (Greek): energy source for the reaction

## What is heterogeneous photocatalysis?

- Catalyst (TiO<sub>2</sub>): a substance which accelerates a chemical reaction,
   but which itself is not consumed by the overall reaction.
- In the case of TiO<sub>2</sub> (semi-conductor) radicals are formed due to the energy absorption of the light. These radicals will provoke the chemical reaction with the pollutants.
- Heterogeneous: reaction between pollutants in gas form and radicals formed at the surface of the material, due to the presence of TiO<sub>2</sub> at the surface.

# Photocatalysis Technology offers a range of environmental solutions

#### A properly designed photocatalytic surface can:

- Degrade atmospheric pollutants such as NOx, SOx, and VOCs
- Self-cleaning
- Anti-algae
- Bacteriological
- Water purification
- Soil purification

## **Results**

	Lab Test EN ISO 22197 -1 NOχ ppm	Bacteria Test	Bacteria Test	VOCs	PM 10
<b>Product: Concrete P</b>	Reduction				
Specimen 10 mm x	48%				
50 mm x 10 mm.					
<b>Product Active Cool</b>		Area:Walls	Area: Indoor Air	Area: Indoor Air	Area: Indoor Air
Real Scale App.*		Reduction	Reduction	Reduction	Reduction
		100%	33-42%	40%	25 %

Real Scale App.\* Eugenideio Hospital

### Where to apply?

#### Inside

- Increased quality of air
- Minimized pollutants
- Hospitals, restaurant kitchens, schools...

#### **Outside**

- purification of the air
- Self cleaning properties in terms of Pollution reduction
- Houses: self-cleaning and air-purification before the air enters the house

Walls, Pedestrians, Car Parks, Concrete Structures, Pavements, Roads...

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