



Advanced Start-Up & Maintenance for Salt Water Pools

The History of Nova Scotia Salt

North America has 10 major salt formations that are distinct in geology and history and separated by significant distances. An independent lab analysis evaluated pool salts from 16 different North American sites which represented each of the major salt formations. This analysis was performed on a blind basis so the independent lab did not know which salt was produced by which company. It was based on scientific factors that are important to new pool curing, preventing stains and scale, providing sparkling clear water and swimmer comfort. Simply put, the results conclude that salt from Nova Scotia is clearly the best to use for swimming pools.

Nova Scotia salt has a unique and rich geological evolution starting about 350 million years ago. Scientists theorize at that time the Earth's tectonic processes had brought together one super-continent called Pangea, with the major world ocean called Tethys. Nova Scotia straddled the equator unlike where it is today in northeastern Canada. As parts of the earth's crust jostled against each other, it caused some areas to be uplifted while others sagged. The depressions around what was then Nova Scotia formed a huge basin now called the Avalon Terrane and it filled with sea water about 340 million years ago.

Over the next 15 million years there were extensive periods of much drier climates followed by the rise and fall of the sea level. Excess evaporation and the irregular restricted influx of seawater caused various products that were dissolved in the water to be deposited (including salt). But there was something else special going on not seen in other salt basins. Minerals in sea water have different solubility and deposit at different times depending on their concentration in the water. Repeated flooding and drying had the effect of eliminating some of the undesirable deposits that would have been produced under more widely occurring circumstances. The legacy is an underground salt deposit in Nova Scotia, starting 1,500 feet beneath the surface and 4,000 feet thick that is the result of an ancient pre-historic sea bed.

Pangea began to break up about 250 million years ago and the gap between Nova Scotia and Morocco widened over the next 200 million years. As the continents drifted and the Earth continued its tectonic activity it led to the formation of the oceans and continents that are so familiar to us today.

In 1931 a petroleum company drilling in the Amherst, Nova Scotia region hit salt. Over the next few years geologist mapped out the region under Nova Scotia. In 1947 the Amherst

evaporation salt plant began production. In 1984 the plant was updated with a new vapor recompression process which remains the most sophisticated process today. In 1990 the plant was acquired by North American Salt Company who has continued to this day to invest in the site and facility and produce the highest quality salt.

Today we find ourselves grateful that Mother Nature provided the gift of Nova Scotia salt and we are pleased to bring this product to discerning people who appreciate having the best in their pools.

