

# Natural peloids versus designed and engineered peloids

Peloides naturales versus peloides diseñados y fabricados

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## Abstract

The present study pretends to show what distinguishes *natural peloids* from *artificial peloids*. The last *peloids* referred to although being based mainly on natural constituents too, since they undergo design, manipulation, refining, maturation and beneficiation in an artificial environment are hereafter called *designed and engineered peloids*.

*Natural peloids* are being less and less used in *Thermal spas or Health resorts* of all countries where traditionally have been used, and the reasons for that will be herewith referred to. It will be shown that the *designed and engineered peloids* could advantageously replace the use of *natural peloids* in *Thermal spas*, the advantages being threefold:

1. Simple composition based on raw materials, such as the almost monomineralic commercial clays *kaolin* or *bentonite* of both therapeutic and cosmetic grades, and the *natural mineral water* from a particular *Thermal spa* also recognized by their medicinal properties;

2. Easy incorporation of pharmacologically and medically recognized *functional active principles*, natural or synthetic, and inorganic or organic, into the matured paste prepared with *kaolin/natural mineral water* or *bentonite/natural mineral water*;

3. Simple and effective sanitary control.

Therefore, the identification, the control and the assessment of the *healing action* particularly provided by both *natural mineral water* and *functional active principles* existing in a certain *peloid* would be much easier with the simple composition of a *designed and engineered peloid* than with the complex composition of a *natural peloid*.

**Key words:** Natural peloid, designed and engineered peloid, comparative advantages, peloid properties and functions, peloid functional additives

**Palabras clave:** Peloide Natural, peloide diseñado y desarrollado, ventajas comparativas, propiedades y funciones peloide, peloide aditivos funcionales