



Sloan Career Cornerstone Center

Profiles of Chemists



Robert Faber

**Senior Scientist
Home Care Product Research and Development
Amway Corporation**

Education:

B.S. - Chemistry, Calvin College

Job Description:

Senior Scientist, Consumer Product Research and Development

Interview:

Before receiving his B.S. in Chemistry from Calvin College, Bob Faber worked as a summer intern for Upjohn Corporation. He notes, "The most important thing I learned was how to apply academic knowledge to real world problems where business factors are important." After graduating, Faber went to work for Amway Corporation. He has worked on the development of a variety of household and automotive cleaning products. Most recently, he was on the team that developed SCRUB BRITER kitchen/bathroom cleaner, a cleaning product designed to be effective, mild to hands, and non-abrasive. SCRUB BRITE cleaner illustrates that many properties besides effectiveness in the end use must be designed into consumer products.

What Faber likes most about his job is the freedom he has in project design and direction. He notes that complying with federal, various state, and various foreign country environmental regulations takes up an increasing fraction of many consumer product chemists' time. However, Faber notes that the research necessary to comply with these regulations is a vital part of the product development process.

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