Soda Ash in Soap Making

Soda ash is a by-product in soap making created when lye comes into contact with carbon dioxide. It is a reaction that occurs inconsistently, and sometimes can cover the entire bar in large crystals. The reason it happens is somewhat of a mystery, but any soap maker can tell you it's a pain to deal with. Soda ash in soap making is completely harmless, and won't affect the performance of the soap and at times ads a certain appeal to the design of finished product so some soap makers do not correct this.