

VALUE ADDITION OF FEEDSTOCK

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In the current challenging world, it is very essential to keep improving on existing assets through innovative ideas and solutions. This will help the business to grow and increase its profitability while satisfying the environment and socioeconomic demands of the growing population. The increasing requirements puts a demand to explore alternative feedstock to petrochemicals.

Apart from conventional feedstocks, research is on the rise to look out for alternative feedstocks. Recently explored Shale gas fulfills to some extent the demand for additional feedstocks. Similarly, oil (tar) sands with proven recoverable reserves of almost 450 billion barrels has been increasingly recognized as a strategic source of energy supply worldwide. Biomass is another source where lot of efforts are in place to make it more viable.

Alternative renewable sources such as water splitting, solar fuels, energy storage, fuel cells and photovoltaics will be key to powering our future. Key focus is already towards yet another strategic area that is the conversion of crude oils to chemicals, the so called "Oil to Chemicals". This enables producers to skip the refining process and convert crude oil directly to light olefins such as ethylene and propylene. In 2016, SABIC and Saudi Aramco have signed a heads of agreement to conduct a feasibility study on the development of a fully integrated crude oil to chemicals complex to be located in Saudi Arabia. Feedstock for the important petrochemicals lies in the range of carbon 1 to carbon 4 compounds. SABIC has been involved in developing technologies leading to C2 compounds as its derivatives plays an important role in meeting the socioeconomic needs of the population.

This presentation will highlight the possible approaches to unlock feedstock including the importance of integrated Oil to Chemicals. Additionally, will focus on some of SABIC's innovative approaches towards petrochemicals derivatives.

References

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