Media Release
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Sasol achieves beneficial operation of first Lake Charles Chemicals Project production facility
Linear low-density polyethylene unit first of seven units to come online

LAKE CHARLES, La. — Sasol today announced its new U.S. linear low-density polyethylene unit has achieved beneficial operations — the first of the seven LCCP production facilities to come online.

“Reaching beneficial operations of our first LCCP unit is a defining moment in Sasol’s history and a significant milestone in delivering on the promise of LCCP,” said Mike Thomas, senior vice president of Sasol’s North American Operations. “This success is attributable to our team of Sasol employees, contractors and industry partners, who worked for several years to safely enable this milestone.”

“We have been in the global polymers industry for more than 50 years with local presence established in all regions with employees and distribution partners,” said Adriaan Janse van Rensburg, vice president of Polymers for Sasol’s Base Chemicals strategic business unit. “Our competitive cost position, world-scale, state-of-the-art assets and good logistics location will provide for robust economics over the long term as we supply polymers to new and existing customers in fast-growing global markets.”

The 470ktpa LLDPE unit, which uses Univation Technologies’ UNIPOL™ PE process, is one of two polyethylene plants at the LCCP site. The second, a 420ktpa low-density polyethylene plant using ExxonMobil technology, is scheduled to come online later this year. Additionally, Sasol has a third polyethylene facility in the United States, a high-density polyethylene plant, through Gemini, its 50/50 joint venture with INEOS, in LaPorte, Texas. The new U.S. polymers facilities will effectively double Sasol’s global polymer production capabilities, benefiting customers in all regions.

The remaining six Lake Charles Chemicals Project manufacturing units are expected to reach beneficial operations throughout 2019 and early 2020.

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About Sasol

Sasol is an international integrated chemicals and energy company that leverages technologies and the expertise of more than 30,000 people working in more than 30 countries. We develop and commercialize technologies, and build and operate world-scale facilities to produce a range of high-value product streams, including liquid fuels, chemicals and low-carbon electricity. Based in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sasol is listed on the Johannesburg (SOL) and New York (SSL) stock exchanges.

In North America, Sasol has operations in Arizona, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Texas. Collectively, these sites employ a workforce of approximately 1,500 and manufacture the primary ingredients in detergents, personal care products, waxes and specialty products used as abrasives, catalysts, thickeners, ceramics and more.
Sasol is building a world-scale petrochemical complex near its existing site in Southwest Louisiana. The project will roughly triple the company's chemical production capacity in the U.S. and enable it to build on its strong positions in robust and growing global chemical markets.