

Markets & Profitability



Market Analytics: Methanol and Derivatives - 2019

Market Analytics: Methanol and Derivatives - 2019 is one in a series of reports published as part of Nexant's Markets & Profitability program.

Market Analytics: Methanol and Derivatives - 2019 report provides an in-depth analysis of the methanol industry including:

- Methanol
- Formaldehyde

Published: April 2019

- MTBE
- Acetic Acid

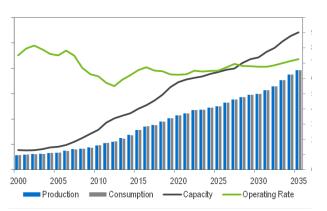
Along with the written report, Nexant's Online Database includes supply, demand and trade analysis for 40 countries and global capacity listings updated on a monthly basis.

Report Abstract:

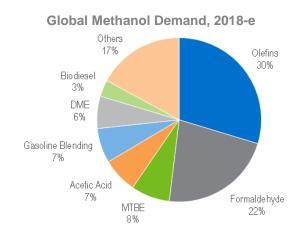
The methanol industry is currently in the middle of a five year period (between 2017 and 2021), where incremental capacity has and will exceed incremental demand. World-scale capacity addition in the United States, Iran, the Caribbean, China and Russia will increase global availability, and place downward pressure on operating rates. This follows years of double digit demand growth as new applications have penetrated the market. The scale of a 'world-scale' unit has been constantly increasing, but operating rates were consistently tightening as incremental demand outstripped incremental supply.

Non-integrated methanol-to-olefins (MTO) units had been the focus of demand, driving increased demand from the





merchant market, with prices becoming increasingly volatile as these units entered the market. The lower crude oil price environment has put pressure on the MTO producer margins however, and whilst they can still be profitable, margins are lower currently than they were in the period prior to 2015. As a result, there will be a focus in the near term of coal-to-olefins (CTO) investments.



An emerging application for methanol with great potential is use as a bunker fuel. Interest is gathering as a global cap on sulphur in marine fuel of 0.5% will come into force in 2020. Alternatives to current marine fuels are being explored, whether it being low sulphur fuel oil, methanol or LNG. Although methanol has a higher cost of production compared to LNG, methanol brings logistic cost advantages over natural gas which requires costly LNG compression trains, shipping and regasification units.

At the same time of ever increasing world-scale capacity, there is now a trend for small scale, modular supply, located in isolated areas and close to demand centre. 'Green' methanol supply is also gaining interest and starting to increase commercial operational capacity, focusing on producing syngas in a more sustainable way using bio-based routes.



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Table of Contents:

- 1. Executive Summary
- 2. The Methanol and Derivatives Industry
 - 2.1. Global Overview
 - 2.2. Current Industry Performance
- 3. Methanol
- 4. Formaldedhyde
- 5. MTBE
- 6. Acetic Acid

Appendix

- Methodology
- Methanol and Derivatives Technology В.

Chapters 3 to 6 are segmented by key region:

- North America
- South America
- Western Europe
- Central Europe
- Eastern Europe
- Middle East
- Africa
- Asia Pacific

Each region/country is further segmented by:

- Consumption: Assesses historic and forecast consumption; forecasts are based on projections of end use and economic activity.
- Supply: Includes a list of all producers, their production capacity, location, etc., and discussion of the status of new projects.
- Supply, Demand and Trade: Provides historical analysis and forecasts to 2035 of consumption, production, imports/exports, inventory buildup/decline, capacity and capacity utilization.

This analysis will identify the issues shaping the industry, as well as provide an independent appraisal of the market.

For related analysis, please refer to:

Market Insights: Vinyl Acetate Monomer - 2018 Profitability and Price Forecasts: Methanol and **Derivatives - 2018**

Subscription Details:

Subscription to Market Analytics: Methanol and **Derivatives - 2019** includes:

- 12 month access via the Nexant website, to:
 - Unlimited downloads of PDF reports
 - Downloadable data in Excel from the Online Database
- Webinar
- Consultation time with the project team

Customized subscriptions are also available.

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The Markets and Profitability program comprises of the well-known Petroleum and Petrochemical Economics (PPE), PolyOlefins Planning Service (POPS), Strategic Business Analysis (SBA) and World Gas Analytics (WGAS).

Markets and Profitability tracks over 60 feedstocks, petrochemicals, polymers, chemical intermediates and fertilizers on an ongoing basis and provides regularly updated reports covering all commercial aspects of these global industries. The accompanying database, provides global analysis and forecasts in two major inter- related areas: Markets and Profitability.

Nexant serves its clients from over 30 offices located throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

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