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### **PPE: Market Dynamics – Acrylic Acid and Super Absorbent Polymers**

Propylene & Derivatives Volume III: Propylene, Acrylic Acid and Super Absorbent Polymers is one in a series of annual reports published as part of the Petroleum and Petrochemical Economics (PPE) program.

This report provides an in-depth analysis and forecast of supply and demand of the global acrylic acid value chain industry. The report also provides an overview of the propylene industry.

Volume III: Propylene, Acrylic Acid, Super Absorbent Polymers

### Published: June 2017

### **Abstract:**

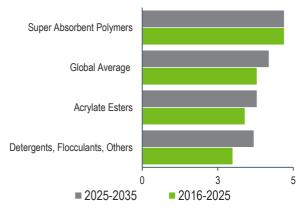
Global propylene demand growth was relatively strong at 4.9 percent in 2016, down slightly from the 5.3 percent achieved in 2015, which was partly supported by restocking of some derivatives after the rush to deplete inventories which occurred in late 2014 as a result of the sudden slump in crude oil prices.

Propylene demand into acrylic acid is the fastest growing of the major derivatives. The acrylic acid market has become turbulent however, with rapid capacity expansion in some countries causing production to stagnate and indeed fall in other regions.

Acrylic acid is used in a diverse range of applications including construction, automotive, packaging, health and personal care products. This broad range of applications results in demand growth at marginally higher than GDP

The main characteristic of super absorbent polymers is their ability to absorb and retain high levels of saline liquids which are comparable to bodily fluids. Consequently, the predominant use for these polymers are in hygiene items including diapers, feminine hygiene products and adult incontinence products; hygiene markets account for more than 95 percent of global demand in 2016.

Global Acrylic Acid Demand by End-Use (percent Volume Growth)



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Chapters 3 to 4 are segmented by key geographic region:

- North America
- South America
- Western Europe
- Central and Eastern Europe
- Middle East and 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 build-up/decline, capacity and capacity utilization.

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

NexantThinking<sup>™</sup> Online Database includes supply, demand and trade analysis for over 41 countries.

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- Consultation time with the project team
- Webinar presentation highlighting key developments in the industry (scheduled July 2017)

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- Volume I: Propylene, Polypropylene
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- Volume III: Acrylic Acid, Super Absorbent Polymers
- Volume IV: Propylene Oxide, IPA, Acrylonitrile
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