PETROCHEMICAL NEWS
A Fast, Accurate Report of Significant World Petrochemical Developments
Published Weekly Since 1963, ©William F. Bland Co.
E-Mail Edition

1 SEPTEMBER 2025 (Vol. 63, No. 33)

Citroniq & ABB Agree to Collaborate On New 100% Biogenic PP Facility

Lincoln—ABB has entered into a supply agreement with Citroniq to provide integrated automation, electrification and digital technologies for Citroniq's 100% biogenic polypropylene (PP) plant to be built in Falls City, Nebraska (PCN, 11 Nov 2024, p 1).

The 400,000-t/y bio-PP plant, which will be located at the Mid-America Rail Campus, will use corn-based ethanol feedstock. It is expected to be the "world's first" full commercial-scale facility of its kind, ABB noted. Operations are scheduled to start in 2029.

Upon final investment decision, ABB will deliver its ABB Ability System 800xA distributed control system, advanced process control, digital simulation, electrical equipment, instrumentation and engineering services to optimize design, delivery and operations at the plant.

This is the first of four plants scheduled to be built by Citroniq in North America at a total cost of around $5-billion.

"Our collaboration with ABB is a critical step to building an advanced world-class manufacturing facility that transforms the plastics industry," said Citroniq President and Co-Founder Mel Badheka.

Sasa Polyester Plans $25-Billion Project For Adana PP Plant, Refinery & Port

Adana—Sasa Polyester is planning to invest $25-billion in a polypropylene (PP) production facility, refinery, and integrated port in the "Sasa Polyester Sanayi AS Yumurtalik Special Industrial Zone" in Adana, Turkey, according to an Anadolu Agency (AA) report on Sasa's website.

The first phase of the three-phase project will include 1.2-million t/y of PP production, a 13-million t/y refinery and an integrated port for exports. Construction is anticipated to begin in the first or second quarter of 2026 with operations to begin in four years.

Approximately 8,000 to 10,000 people will be employed during construction and around 2,500 to 3,000 people in the final phase.

Arclin Enters Definitive Agreement To Buy DuPont's Aramids Business

Alpharetta—Arclin announced it has signed a definitive agreement to purchase DuPont's Aramids business for approximately $1.8-billion.

The deal includes the Kevlar and Nomex brands, and around 1,900 employees. Subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory approvals, the transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2026.

"DuPont is proud of the legacy of the Kevlar and Nomex brands," said DuPont Chief Executive Lori Koch. "We are confident that under Arclin's leadership, these businesses will continue to thrive and expand their impact in new industries and applications."

Aster Finalizes Purchase of CPChem's Singapore PE Manufacturing JV

Singapore—Aster recently completed the acquisition of Chevron Phillips Singapore Chemicals (CPSC), a joint venture between Chevron Phillips Chemical (CPChem), EDB Investments and Sumitomo Chemical, that operates a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) manufacturing facility in Singapore (PCN, 12 May 2025, p 1).

Located on Jurong Island, the unit has a production capacity of 400,000 t/y of HDPE. Under Aster's ownership, the facility is being renamed Aster Polymer Solutions and will be fully integrated into the Aster Group.

The HDPE facility will complement Aster's refinery operations on Bukom Island and downstream chemical assets on Jurong Island.

"The acquisition of CPSC directly enhances our integrated manufacturing platform," said Aster Group Chief Executive Erwin Ciputra.

"With CPSC's polymer capabilities and our existing feedstock and processing infrastructure, we can offer a broader range of solutions to customers across packaging, consumer goods, and industrial sectors.

"This synergy strengthens our ability to respond to evolving market needs and build a more resilient chemicals ecosystem across Asia Pacific."

Neste and Ravago Abandon Project For Dutch Chem Recycling Facility

Amsterdam—Neste told PCN that its planned project with Ravago to build an industrial chemical recycling facility in Vlissingen, the Netherlands, did not reach final investment decision readiness and has been discontinued.

In 2021, the European Commission approved a joint venture between the two companies to build the plant, based on Alterra's proprietary thermochemical liquefaction technology, with a processing capacity of about 55,000 t/y of mixed plastic waste (PCN, 22-29 Nov 2021, p 3).

The partnership was to combine Ravago's expertise in the mechanical preparation of plastic waste and Neste's expertise in the processing of hydrocarbons.

Mura Plans Expansion into Singapore With New Advanced Recycling Plant

Singapore—Mura Technology announced plans to expand into Singapore with construction of a new advanced recycling facility on Jurong Island within the Singapore Essential Chemicals Complex, where it recently secured rights to a site from PCS Pte.

The 50,000-t/y plant will utilize Mura's Hydro-PRT technology to convert plastic waste into circular hydrocarbon products that can be used to create virgin-quality recycled plastic materials. The plant will have the capability to expand to 100,000 t/y in the future. An expected completion date was not available.

SABIC, Plastic Energy JV Produces First Pyrolysis Oil at Geleen Plant

Geleen—SABIC Plastic Energy Advanced Recycling (SPEAR), the joint venture recycling plant of SABIC and Plastic Energy in Geleen, the Netherlands, has produced its first pyrolysis oil, known as Tacoil (PCN, 18 Nov 2024, p 1).

The 20,000-t/y facility, based on Plastic Energy's patented TAC chemical recycling process, is expected to reach full commercial production later this year.

Tacoil serves as a replacement for conventional naphtha in existing petrochemical plants, enabling the manufacture of food-contact packaging, medical-grade plastics and other high-quality products, Plastic Energy noted.

"Recycling plastic waste into new plastics is critical to building a circular economy – and that's exactly what this plant delivers," said Plastic Energy Chief Executive Ian Temperton.

"It boosts recycling rates, helps reduce CO2 emissions by diverting used plastic from incineration, and shows what's possible when innovation meets scale."

BASF and Yara Discontinue Project For Low-Carbon NH3 Unit in U.S.

Houston—BASF and Yara International have jointly decided to cancel a project to build a low-carbon (blue) ammonia (NH3) production facility with carbon capture and storage in the U.S. Gulf Coast region (PCN, 3 July 2023, p 3).

In 2023, the two companies announced they were evaluating the feasibility of developing the project with a capacity of between 1.2-million and 1.4-million t/y of blue ammonia.

For BASF, the plant would have acted as backward integration to serve its demand for low-carbon ammonia and was expected to lower the carbon footprint of its ammonia-based products.

"This decision reflects the companies' commitment to focus on initiatives with the highest potential to achieve their respective value creation goals," the companies noted.

"Yara will continue its ammonia strategy as previously communicated, evaluating and maturing equity investment opportunities in U.S. ammonia to determine the optimal project portfolio."

BASF and Yara continue to jointly operate a world-scale ammonia plant at BASF's site in Freeport, Texas.

Sibur Receives First Hexene Product From NKNK Olefins Plant in Russia

Kazan—Sibur has received the first commercial hexene product from its Nizhnekamskneftekhim (NKNK) olefins complex in Tatarstan, Russia, Interfax reported.

The 50,000-t/y hexane facility, which uses ethylene from the new EP-600 plant as feedstock, will meet Sibur's current and future hexene needs, the report stated (PCN, 5 Sept 2022, p 3).

In January 2025, Sibur announced it had produced its first ton of ethylene from the EP-600 cracker (PCN, 27 Jan 2025, p 1). The cracker is expected to reach its design capacity of 600,000 t/y of ethylene by the end of this year.

Agilyx Gets German Regulatory Approval For Purchase of 44% Stake in GreenDot

Berlin—Agilyx said it has received clearance from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy for its proposed acquisition of 44% of GreenDot Global, Europe's "largest" circular plastic recycling platform, for €52-million consisting of newly issued Agilyx shares and cash (PCN, 21 July 2025, p 3).

GreenDot processes over 1-million t/y of packaging waste, including more than 400,000 tons of plastic. It is expanding its advanced recycling feedstock supply capabilities by investing in sorting facilities in Austria and Italy.

The only remaining condition to closing the transaction is the approval of Agilyx shareholders at an extraordinary general meeting, details of which were not disclosed. The acquisition is expected to be finalized in September 2025.

Evonik Opens World-Scale Facility For Alkoxides on Jurong Island

Singapore—Evonik announced the opening of a new world-scale alkoxides production plant on Jurong Island in Singapore (PCN, 8 May 2023, p 3).

The "mid-double-digit-million-euro" plant includes the production of 100,000 t/y of alkoxides, which is expected to strengthen the company's ability to meet rising demand for alkoxides across Asia, while advancing its commitment to sustainable, safe, and customer-focused operations, Evonik noted.

The Singapore plant completes Evonik's global alkoxides production network, which includes sites in Germany, Argentina and the U.S.

"With this addition, Evonik now offers a global supply chain for alkoxides, designed to meet local market needs with speed and precision," the company noted.

Kao Starts Up Tertiary Amine Unit

Houston—Kao Corp. said it has started up a new tertiary amine production plant in Pasadena, Texas, to further enhance stable supply for the U.S. market, which is expected to grow in the mid- to long-term.

The 20,000-t/y tertiary amine facility, based on Kao's own technology, will create a three-production-site system with plants in the U.S., Europe and Asia, to ensure a more stable and speedier supply of tertiary amines to global markets, the company noted.

People on the Move

IRPC Public Co. Ltd.—*Chaiyaporn Puprasert*, an independent director, has been appointed chairman of the board, effective 26 Aug. 2025.

LyondellBasell Industries—*Jasper de Kruif* has been named a member of the management and director of sales at Basell Orlen Polyolefins. He has also assumed the position of president of the management board of Basell Orlen Polyolefins Sprzedaz, effective 1 Aug. 2025. He previously managed the European cluster of high-density polyethylene plants owned by LyondellBasell.

Mura and Dow Call Off Plans to Build Advanced Recycling Plant at Bohlen

Leipzig—Mura Technology and Dow have jointly decided not to proceed with previously announced plans to construct a Hydro-PRT advanced recycling facility at Dow's site in Bohlen, Germany (PCN, 19 Sept 2022, p 3).

The project, originally expected to begin operations by this year, included about 120,000 t/y of advanced recycling capacity.

In 2022, Mura and Dow announced plans for several 120,000-t/y advanced recycling units in the U.S. and Europe, with Dow being the offtaker of the circular feed produced by Mura.

"Dow and Mura remain mutually committed to growing advanced recycling capacity and advancing a circular economy for plastics, globally," said Mura. "This joint decision reflects the broader industrial context in Europe, where persistent economic and regulatory challenges continue to impact the competitiveness of manufacturing investments, including those aimed at achieving sustainability goals.

"Both Mura and Dow remain confident in the partnership's long-term value and in Mura's unique technology, with its ability to transform plastic waste into valuable resources. Together, we are pursuing new opportunities to expand our supply portfolio in Europe."

Aster Chem Declares Force Majeure At Bokum Island Naphtha Cracker

Singapore—Aster Chemicals and Energy has declared force majeure on petrochemical supplies from its naphtha cracker on Bukom Island in Singapore, Reuters reported, citing a letter seen by Reuters and sources with direct knowledge of the matter.

The ethylene cracker complex, which has been under planned maintenance since 1 Aug. 2025, experienced an "unforeseen event" which led to the force majeure declaration. It is unknown when the 1.1-million t/y unit will restart. The original restart date was scheduled for the first half of September 2025.

Mars Materials Receives SNF Validation For 'Impurity-Advantaged' Acrylonitrile

Austin–Mars Materials announced "industry-first" validation of its product, an "impurity-advantaged" acrylonitrile, by specialty chemical company SNF.

Mars' novel scalable technology produces drop-in replacement acrylonitrile from captured carbon dioxide, and only generates water that can be treated and recycled within its process.

"This validation proves our technology can meet the exacting quality demands of major industrial partners like SNF," noted Aaron Fitzgerald, chief executive of Mars. "It's a critical inflection point in our approach.

"We're building on this success, doubling down on strategic partnerships to demonstrate that our acrylonitrile can produce high-performance, carbon-negative carbon fiber. We're not just creating sustainable chemicals; we are turning everyday products into sources of carbon storage and building a circular carbon economy."

The company is currently raising funds to accelerate scale-up activities and validate its acrylonitrile in new high-value derivative markets.

Transition Awards FEED Contract Related to Pacifico Mexinol Project

Mexico City—Transition Industries has awarded a front-end engineering design (FEED) contract to Siemens Energy and Techint Engineering & Construction for an electrolyzer facility as part of its Pacifico Mexinol project in Sinaloa, Mexico (PCN, 18 Aug 2025, p 3).

Pacifico Mexinol is expected to be the "largest" standalone ultra-low carbon chemical production plant and one of the largest producers of green hydrogen and green methanol in the world, Transition noted.

Planned to be operational in 2029, Pacifico Mexinol will have a production capacity of 350,000 t/y of green methanol and 1.8-million t/y of blue methanol from natural gas with carbon capture.

Under the FEED contract, Siemens and Techint will provide an initial binding not-to-exceed lump sum firm price, followed by a final binding lump sum turnkey firm price for the engineering, procurement and construction of the electrolyzer unit.

The electrolyzer is expected to have a production capacity of 4,000 kg of hydrogen/hr utilizing Siemen's Elyzer P-300 technology.

Shandong Recon Finalizes Construction Of Chinese Chemical Recycling Plant

Beijing—Recon Technology announced that construction has been completed on the waste chemical recycling project of Shandong Recon Renewable Resources Technology Co. (Shandong Recon) in Shandong, China.

The 40,000-t/y facility, expected to begin trial production this December, will produce plastic pyrolysis oil to serve as high-quality, sustainable feedstock for large-scale chemical plants and consumer goods companies, both domestically and internationally.

"In the future, Recon will continue to focus on upgrading core technologies for waste plastic chemical recycling, integrating and optimizing raw material supply chains, and expanding terminal product portfolios to build a more complete industrial ecosystem and achieve higher economic and social value," noted Yin Shenping, chief executive of Recon.

U.S. DOE Grants Lake Charles LNG Additional Time to Begin Exports

Washington—The U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) has signed an amendment order granting additional time for Energy Transfer's Lake Charles LNG Export Co. to begin exports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to non-free trade agreement countries from the Lake Charles LNG project in Lake Charles, La.

The project, for which a final investment decision is expected in the fourth quarter of this year, will be capable of exporting up to 2.33-billion cu f/d of natural gas as LNG.

Lake Charles LNG was originally configured as an LNG import terminal, but is now being developed as an export terminal. It recently signed several long-term LNG off-take contracts, including agreements with Chevron and Kyushu Electric Power Co. (PCN, 9 June 2025, p 3).

Circularix Opens New Recycling Unit; Plans Expansion of Flagship Facility

Ocala—Circularix, a U.S.-based producer of food-grade recycled polyethylene terephthalate (rPET), announced the completion and start-up of its new recycling facility in Ocala, Fla. (PCN, 22 Jan 2024, p 2).

The site complements the company's flagship plant in Hatfield, Penn., which Circularix said it plans to expand by taking over the adjacent industrial space. No other details were given.

Circularix was launched in 2022 as a joint venture of HPC Industries and Macquarie Group's Commodities and Global Markets group.

At the time, the venture said it planned to build and operate a total of five recycling facilities across the U.S. with a total capacity of more than 275-million lbs/yr of rPET resin.

Last year, Circularix entered into a supply deal with Republic Services, under which it agreed to source a portion of its post-consumer PET flake from Republic's polymer centers for use in its Hatfield and Ocala plants.

Evonik Bundling Infrastructure Services Of Marl & Wesseling Chemical Parks

Berlin—Evonik is combining its infrastructure activities of the Marl and Wesseling chemical parks in Germany into a new company called SYNEQT GmbH, a 100% subsidiary of Evonik.

Scheduled to commence operations on 1 Jan. 2026, SYNEQT will have experience in all services related to chemical plants and other process industries, for example, the supply of energy, pipeline construction and operation, safe facility and plant management, technical services, waste disposal, port operations, plant logistics, and fire brigades, and also plant security and canteen operations.

"At SYNEQT, we have combined all the qualifications and fundamentals to be able to develop the sites in the long term into climate-neutral, digitally networked and highly flexible industrial ecosystems with modular, tailor-made assets, closed material cycles and smart services," said Thomas Basten, spokesman for the management of SYNEQT.

"In the future, we will be able to concentrate fully on these core tasks and thus retain existing customers in the long term and attract new ones."

PETROCHEMICAL NEWS
(ISSN 0031-6342)
® Published since 1963 by
William F. Bland Co.
709 Turmeric Lane
PO Box 52327
Durham, NC 27717-2327 USA

Susan B. Kensil, Director
Tammi M. Weir, Editor & Publisher
Michelle Zaro, Circulation Director
William F. Bland, Founder

Phone: 919/544-1717 E-mail: pcn@petrochemical-news.com
Subscriptions: US$942 per year via E-Mail or Airmail anywhere in the world
© 2025 William F. Bland Co. Registered with Copyright Clearance Center (CCC)
It is unlawful and illegal to photocopy or otherwise reproduce this publication or any portion of it without written permission of the publisher or without payment of a fee of $8/page per copy to:
CCC, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA, USA 01923 (0031-6342/00/$0 + $30)
Visit PetroChemical News at **www.PetroChemical-News.com**

ADNOC, IndianOil Ink Definitive Deal For LNG Supply from Ruwais Project

Ruwais—Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. (ADNOC) has signed a 15-year sales and purchase agreement (SPA) with Indian Oil Corp. (IndianOil) for the supply of 1-million t/y of liquefied natural gas (LNG), sourced primarily from ADNOC's Ruwais LNG project in Abu Dhabi, UAE (PCN, 16 Sept 2024, p 2).

The Ruwais LNG project, currently under development in Al Ruwais Industrial City, will have a production capacity of 9.6-million t/y. Commercial operations are planned to begin in 2028.

The SPA converts a previous heads of agreement into a definitive agreement (PCN, 16 Sept 2024, p 2). By 2029, IndianOil is set to become ADNOC's largest LNG customer, with a total offtake of 2.2-million t/y – comprising 1.2-million t/y from ADNOC's Das Island operations and 1-million t/y from the Ruwais project, ADNOC noted.

This past February, ADNOC Gas and its subsidiaries signed a 14-year SPA with IndianOil for the delivery of LNG from the Das Island liquefaction facility in Ruwais. Deliveries are expected to begin next year (PCN, 17 Feb 2025, p 2).

PetroChemical News Briefs

- SK Innovation is rumored to be divesting its ethylene acrylic acid and polyvinylidene chloride businesses acquired from Dow in 2017, and the functional polyolefins business acquired from Arkema in 2019, according to several Korean news reports. SK Innovation did not confirm the reports.

- A dozen South Korean petrochemical firms have agreed to reduce the combined output from their naphtha crackers by up to 25% and will submit a rescue plan to the government, reported the Korea Times. The company's efforts are a prerequisite for eased regulations, financial support and tax incentives aimed at revitalizing the petrochemical sector.

- A third-party reviewed product carbon footprint report of Styrenyx, Agilyx's proprietary recycling technology, shows carbon dioxide emissions can be cut by up to 86% by using depolymerization of waste polystyrene compared to fossil production.

- Mitsui Chemicals and Nigerian Dangote have signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at considering comprehensive collaboration. The companies will jointly explore concrete possibilities to contribute to strengthening the living foundations and developing regional industries in African countries including Nigeria.

- KazMunayGas and Uzbekneftegaz are in talks to cooperate on joint geological exploration and petrochemical projects in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, according to Kazinform International News Agency.

★ ★ ★