

6th Petrochemical Conclave

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Global Chemical and Petrochemical Scenario - Is India the next driver?

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<u>Synopsis</u>

Geo-political, economic and energy uncertainty have continued to rise. While the guiding hand of OPEC has created apparent price stability, its commitment to cuts and the reaction of shale as a new short-cycle supply dynamic are highly uncertain.

Meanwhile underwhelming global economic performance continues to dissuade capacity growth in favor of M&A, especially in China where historically impervious demand growth has been pared back by reduced finished good exports amidst a global slowdown, a pivot to a domestic driven economy and reduced access to capital by companies without stellar balance sheets.

These typical drivers of chemical demand are threatened by a geo-political tone threatening to potentially reverse a two-decade shift toward globalization that has driven economic growth in the developing economies while the contained exported low-cost labor has contained inflation by providing value-priced consumer goods around the world.

In addition, delays and CAPEX overruns for a number of USGC shale-based investments have threatened to erode the returns despite widening gas-oil differentials and for many companies, and their Boards, realized the fears that EPC productivity would be problematic.

This paper by Mr David Witte (see bio below) will examine the macro influences on the global chemical industry and provide an overview of the current high level trends impacting the industry outlook. These include the outlook for the global economy, energy and investment under the backdrop of global geo-politics.

India's industry will be presented in the context of these global drivers with several examples provided to give specific ideas of the market and associated opportunities of India's economic growth and its supporting demographic profile.

Mr. Witte will be available to answer questions as part of his presentation.