



Careers@Singapore: Chemicals Industry

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Singapore's vision for this industry

The chemicals industry in Singapore spans over more than 40 years when the first refinery was set up by Shell on Pulau Bukom in 1961. The industry comprises three main sectors, namely oil and gas, petrochemicals and specialties. It is a key contributor to Singapore's

economy as the largest manufacturing cluster after electronics.

In 2007, the chemicals industry experienced strong growth. It attracted a record of **S\$8.6 billion in Fixed Asset Investments (FAI)**, which equated to 53.7% of Singapore's total manufacturing investments that year. When fully implemented, these projects will generate an added value of S\$1 billion per year and create an **additional 1,000 job opportunities**. The industry generated S\$81.7¹ billion worth of manufacturing output in 2007.

The centrepiece of Singapore's chemicals industry is Jurong Island, a reclaimed island off Singapore, dedicated to the development of chemicals investments and projects. There are more than 95 companies located on Jurong Island with cumulative FAI of over S\$30 billion, employing about 8,000 to date. Upon complete reclamation, Jurong Island will have a total land area of 3,200 hectares – triple its original land size.

¹ Preliminary estimates



Chemical Process Technology Centre.

Who are the leading players here?

Major companies on Jurong Island:

USA : ExxonMobil, Chevron (JV partner in SRC), Chevron Phillips, Chevron Oronite, DuPont, Eastman Chemical, Huntsman, Invista, Tate & Lyle, Chemical Specialties, Rohm & Haas, Air Products, Celanese

Europe : Shell, Akzo Nobel, BASF (JV partner in Ellba), Perstorp, Lucite, Ciba, Coim, Croda, Faci, Infineum, RohMax Evonik, Katoen Natie, Linde, Oiltanking, Stolt, Vopak, Lanxess AG

Japan : Asahi Kasei, Denka, Dainippon Ink & Chemicals, Mitsui Chemicals, Mitsubishi Gas (JV partner in Polyxlenol), Poval, Sumitomo Chemical, Sumitomo Seika, Teijin, Toagosei, Stella Chemifa, Unimatec

Exciting new projects include:

ExxonMobil Chemical (US) starts construction of its second petrochemical project in Singapore. Scheduled to start up in early 2011, this project will comprise a world-scale steam cracker and associated derivative units.

Neste Oil (Finland) will invest approximately S\$1.2 billion in building a plant in Singapore to produce NExBTL Renewable Diesel. The plant will be based on Neste Oil's proprietary NExBTL technology – the first commercial new-generation renewable diesel production process, and can use any vegetable oil or animal fat as its input.

RohMax Additives GmbH (Germany), part of specialty chemicals leader Evonik, the company extends its presence in Singapore with its first facility in the region to manufacture high performance lubricant additives. The facility, expected to open by 2008, will be one of the largest of its kind globally.

Kanto Kagaku (Japan) will start operations of its first plant in Southeast Asia in August 2008. The manufacturing plant will have the capability to produce highly functional and pure chemicals for industries such as the semiconductor, hard disk drive and solar panel.

Huntsman Corporation (US) opens its world-scale JEFFAMINE® polyetheramine manufacturing facility on Jurong Island. This facility is Huntsman's first such facility in Asia.

Mitsui Chemicals Inc (Japan) further expands its presence in Singapore by announcing plans to invest in a US\$153 million facility for its second TAFMER™ line.

DENKA (Japan) increases its presence in Singapore with two new plants – one in Tuas and another on Jurong Island – worth over US\$75 million.



BASF SE (Germany) sets up its second competence centre in Singapore: the Competence Centre for Organic Electronics. The Centre will focus on upstream research and development in Energy Management, one of the five emerging growth clusters identified by the company. This includes research in Organic Light Emitting Devices (OLEDs), organic photovoltaics and biosensors.



Wacker Chemie AG (Germany) opens its new technical centre in Singapore. The facility serves as a regional Centre of Excellence for the construction of polymers, silicone emulsions, silicone resins and antifoam agents. Its other functions include the development of applications in the construction, textiles, pulp- and paper-processing sectors, and in the process industry.

Tamil Nadu Petroproducts (India) will be setting up a US\$110 million petrochemical plant on Jurong Island to manufacture Normal Paraffin, which is a scarce component in detergents, in a joint venture with **Kuwait Finance House (Kuwait)**. The plant will be the first Indian petrochemical project on Jurong Island.

Where do you fit in?

Singapore is currently one of the top oil refining centres in the world. We are Asia's oil products trading hub and price discovery centre and amongst the top 10 petrochemical hubs in the world. Singapore is enjoying increased investments in capital, knowledge, and innovation-intensive activities. Companies are selecting Singapore as the location for these projects to produce higher value-added products and introduce several 'firsts' projects.

These developments mean that professionals in the chemicals industry will be involved in exciting and cutting-edge technologies. Singapore's strategy includes building a world-class talent base. The Institute of Chemical and Engineering Sciences (ICES), a research institute located on Jurong Island, is focused on providing highly trained R&D manpower, to establish a strong science base and to develop technology and infrastructure.

There is no better time to be in Singapore than now – the city-state is growing economically, with a constant bustle of activity. Situated at the heart of the world's fastest growing economies, the city is a bridge between the East and West, burgeoning with diversity and opportunities. Couple these factors with the city's superb physical infrastructure, sophisticated IT network, great variety of living, dining and entertainment options, and you have one of the most livable cities around.





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