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Global Chemicals Industry 2025: Reinvention, Innovation, and Sustainability at Full Throttle

- The global chemicals industry is undergoing a seismic shift in 2025, driven by sustainability, digital transformation, and geopolitical realignments. Green chemistry, circular economy initiatives, and net-zero commitments are no longer optional but essential for survival. Electrification of processes and AI-driven smart manufacturing are reshaping production efficiency.
- Asia-Pacific remains the powerhouse, with India emerging as a key export hub, while North America capitalizes on cheap feedstocks, and Europe navigates regulatory hurdles. Meanwhile, the EV revolution fuels a surge in battery chemicals, and specialty chemicals see booming demand across pharmaceuticals and personal care.
- M&A activity soaring, companies are racing to expand portfolios and enter new markets. However, the industry faces a talent crunch, making upskilling and workforce transformation critical. As investment flows into green technologies, digitalization, and advanced materials, 2025 marks a year of reinvention—where those who adapt will lead the future of chemicals.

Source: Fibre2Fashion

Global PET Prices Exhibit Mixed Trends Amid Seasonal Shifts

In early February 2025, Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) prices displayed varied movements across regions due to seasonal factors and fluctuating demand. Europe saw a 1.74% increase in PET prices, driven by rising production costs and renewed demand from the beverage sector as temperatures climbed. In contrast, Asia experienced a 1.24% decline in PET prices, attributed to subdued consumption during the Lunar New Year and decreased manufacturing activity.

Source: Chem Analyst

Illinois Legislators Renew Effort to Ban Harmful Food Additives

Illinois lawmakers are reintroducing the Food Safety Act to prohibit four food additives—brominated vegetable oil, red dye No. 3, potassium bromate, and propylparaben—linked to health risks like cancer and behavioral issues. The bill, led by Sen. Willie Preston, D-Chicago, has bipartisan support and aligns with recent FDA actions and bans in Europe and Australia. Advocates emphasize the need for state-level action to ensure food safety.

Source: Capitol News

AquaChemie Unveils \$24.5M Chemical Facility in KEZAD

AquaChemie Global Chemicals has launched a \$24.5 million chemical manufacturing facility in KEZAD,

EPA Tightens Ethylene Oxide Regulations to Reduce Cancer Risks

The EPA's Interim Decision on ethylene oxide (EtO) introduces stricter exposure limits and mitigation measures to reduce

supporting the UAE's "Make it in the Emirates" initiative. With strategic access to Khalifa Port, the plant will supply industrial chemicals to ADNOC and key clients, enhancing supply chain resilience and global distribution.

Source: Marine Link

cancer risks while ensuring sterilized medical supplies remain available. Key actions include phased worker exposure reductions, targeted bans, enhanced safety requirements, and ventilation mandates for healthcare facilities.

Source: Environment Energy Leader

EA Warns Geopolitical Tensions Threaten Critical Mineral Supply

The IEA warns that rising geopolitical tensions and China's export controls on key minerals could disrupt global supply chains, impacting EV and battery costs. Prolonged shortages may drive inflation and widen manufacturing cost gaps, with a detailed Global Critical Minerals Outlook 2025 report expected soon.

Source: SPGlobal

Upcoming Events

- The **World Petrochemical Conference**, is scheduled on March 17-21 2025, at Marriott Marquis, Houston, TX.
- The **Lubricant Expo North America**, is scheduled on March 18-20 2025, 2025, at Huntington Place, Detroit, MI.
- The **AFPM Petrochemical Conference**, is scheduled on March 23-25 2025, at Grand Hyatt San Antonio, San Antonio, TX.

CONTACT US :

Arjun Srivastava
arjunsrivastava@apacss.com



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