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Chemical Industry Hit by Global Wave of Plant Closures Amid Cost Pressures

High energy costs, overcapacity, and regulatory hurdles are forcing major chemical producers to shut plants, especially in Europe. Dow will close three large sites in Germany and the UK by 2027, cutting 800 jobs, while companies like LyondellBasell, Shell, and SABIC also scale back operations. Industry output remains 15% below 2018 levels, with recovery not expected before 2026. Energy prices are now a critical factor for plant survival.

Source: *ChemAnalyst*

Chemanol Faces SR70 Million Legal Battle Over GCI Deal

Saudi methanol producer Methanol Chemicals Co (Chemanol) is facing a SR73 million ($22.4 million) lawsuit filed by five former owners of Global Company for Chemical Industries (GCI). The dispute stems from Chemanol's May 2024 acquisition of an 80% stake in GCI, with the plaintiffs claiming the company has not paid the remaining balance under the share purchase agreement. The case has been lodged in the Dammam Commercial Court. Chemanol has denied the allegations, insisting it bears no responsibility and that it is too early to determine any financial impact while proceedings are ongoing.

Source: ICIS

Tata Chemicals Magadi Unveils World-First Electric Calciner in Kenya—A Bold Step Toward Carbon Neutrality

Tata Chemicals Magadi Limited (TCML), Africa's largest natural soda ash producer, has commissioned a 10-ton-per-hour electric calciner—the first such in the global soda ash industry. This pioneering facility, powered by renewable energy, replaces traditional Heavy Furnace oil–based calcination, marking a crucial stride in decarbonizing its operations. Along with the new calciner, TCML has also committed to sustainability under Tata Group's "Project Alingana," targeting net-zero carbon emissions by 2045.

Source: Manufacturing Today India

China-US Trade Truce Extended: Reciprocal Tariffs Paused Until November 10

Both nations have agreed on a 90-day extension of their tariff suspension through November 10, following an executive order from U.S. President Trump on August 11 and a matching declaration by China's

Epigral Bets Big on Specialty Chemicals to Generate 70% of Revenue by FY28

Indian specialty chemicals maker Epigral expects derivatives and specialty products to contribute over 70% of its revenue by FY 2027–28, up from 54% in FY 2024–25. The growth will be fueled by doubling CPVC

Commerce Ministry. Under the deal, existing reciprocal tariffs remain in place but no new duties will be imposed—ensuring stability for exporters and helping ahead of the holiday season. Trade officials on both sides described ongoing discussions as "constructive," with recent negotiations in Geneva, London, and Stockholm setting the stage for further efforts toward a comprehensive trade deal.

Source: ICIS

resin and epichlorohydrin capacities, scaling its new chlorotoluene value chain, and expanding into new chemistries through R&D. Backed by strong domestic demand and operational efficiencies, Epigral targets a 20% annual growth rate while maintaining ~25% EBITDA margins.

Source: Economic Times

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Source: Economic Times

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