

Feedstock Subcommittee:

Agenda / Notes – 25 September 2015 meeting

Attendees: Mark Brayden, Art Baumgartner, Charlyn Voight, Joe Lally, Steve Coleman, Tom Pickett, Zhenning Gu, Hua Mo, [Jeff Bone](#)

Agenda and Notes:

1. Read anti-trust statement (Joe)

*"No activity of the Committee shall involve the exchange, collection or dissemination among competitors of information or be used for the purpose of bringing about or attempting to bring about any understanding or agreement written or oral, formal or informal, express or implied, among competitors, with regard to costs, prices, or pricing methods, terms or conditions of sale, distribution, production quotas or other limitations on either the timing or volume of production or sales, or allocation of territories or customers."*

2. Report from Main Committee Meeting – Tom

A. Reminder of important dates

November 2: Call for papers closes

December 1: Accept / Reject Abstracts

B. Link to Ethylene Producers Page: Please take a look.

<http://www.aiche.org/community/sites/committees/ethylene-producers>

C. Guidelines on subcommittee membership detailed.

1. Main Committee has published bylaws, available in the above link.

2. Requirements for subcommittee addressed in bylaws. If < 50 % ethylene producers, then will need to address and get okayed by Main Committee. Goal is to address this before next year's EPC in Houston.

3. Discuss ideas for papers at 2016 EPC

1.) Zhenning (Baker Hughes), paper is not available.

2.) Mercury from shale gas – based on comments by Jay Gorawara, UOP, and recent papers on this issue, this does not appear to be a good time to present a paper on mercury.

+ 3.) Steve described a Nalco presentation given by Sam Lordo to Lyondell on the impact on upstream products. Paper forwarded to all subcommittee members. Sam Lordo / Dave Smith have agreed to submit an abstract. The length of the topic will likely cover 2 slots.

→4.) Update on feedstock contaminants survey: Consensus is that this would need to be started immediately after 2016 AIChE Spring Meeting (Mark to explore options through Tom)

5.) Steve will investigate Primary Fractionator Fouling due to contaminants. Tom checked with Chevron. Result: Both declined to present.

6.) Dow is doing impurity work on the U of Ghent pilot cracker. Mark will investigate whether Dow will allow it and whether Professor van Geem would have something to present. Not ready to be presented at this time. (Mark)

? 7.) Other ideas or suggestions? Hydrates based on EEPIC presentation (Dow). May be on Operating SC list. Tom will check. Mark will check with John Holderness.

? 8.) Steve will check on new analytical methods or measurements.

? 9.) N.O.R.M. I have found quite a bit of NORM data for the state of Texas. Not sure how it is enough for a paper.

+ 10.) Received the below abstract from Dwight Hines. Looks like we have the third slot filled.

**Abstract:**

Caustic tower performance is critical in the production of high quality ethylene for effective removal of acid gases from the cracked gas. However, an undesired polymerization reaction in caustic towers can result in accumulation of polymer, "red oil", resulting in fouling, plugging and overall decreased asset availability. At the BASF Total Petrochemicals cracker in Port Arthur, a shift toward lighter feedstocks due to market conditions resulted in higher red oil levels and increased inhibitor demand. This report investigates the correlation between lighter feedstocks and increased red oil in caustic towers, as well as effective control strategies which may decrease inhibitor demand.

Thanks,

**Scott Cheney**

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