



## Dow Olefins, Aromatics and Alternatives



# Implementation Challenges and Risk Mitigation for New Technology

Brien Stears - Associate R&D Director

AICHE 2016 Natural Gas Utilization Conference, Morgantown WV, November 1-4, 2016

## Responding to Uncertainty

**ALL NEW!**  
• SHOCKING!  
• BIZARRE!  
• INCREDIBLE!  
and it's ALL TRUE!

# WEEKLY WORLD NEWS®

THE WORLD'S ONLY RELIABLE NEWSPAPER

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT DOESN'T WANT YOU TO KNOW . . .

# NO MORE OIL!

**WORLD SUPPLY WILL BE GONE IN 6 MONTHS**

- ECONOMY WILL COLLAPSE!
- MILLIONS WILL STARVE!

**DRY!**

**DRY!**

**DRY!**

**DRY!**

**DRY!**

## A New Opportunity or Threat?



# Strategic Response

## — Advantaged Positions Across the Globe

**USGC Investments**

- US shale

**Sadara**

- Low cost
- Access to Asia

**Revamped Alberta Advantage**

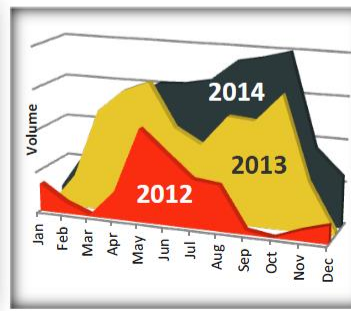
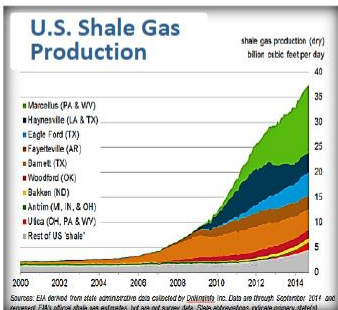
- Alberta advantage

**European LPG**

- Extending US shale advantage
- Abundant LPG for Europe

**Established Key Alliances in Latin America**

- Growing ethane
- Next large shale development



2014 Dow Investor Forum (<http://www.dow.com/investors/>)

**R&D evaluates, develops and deploys technology options for different scenarios**



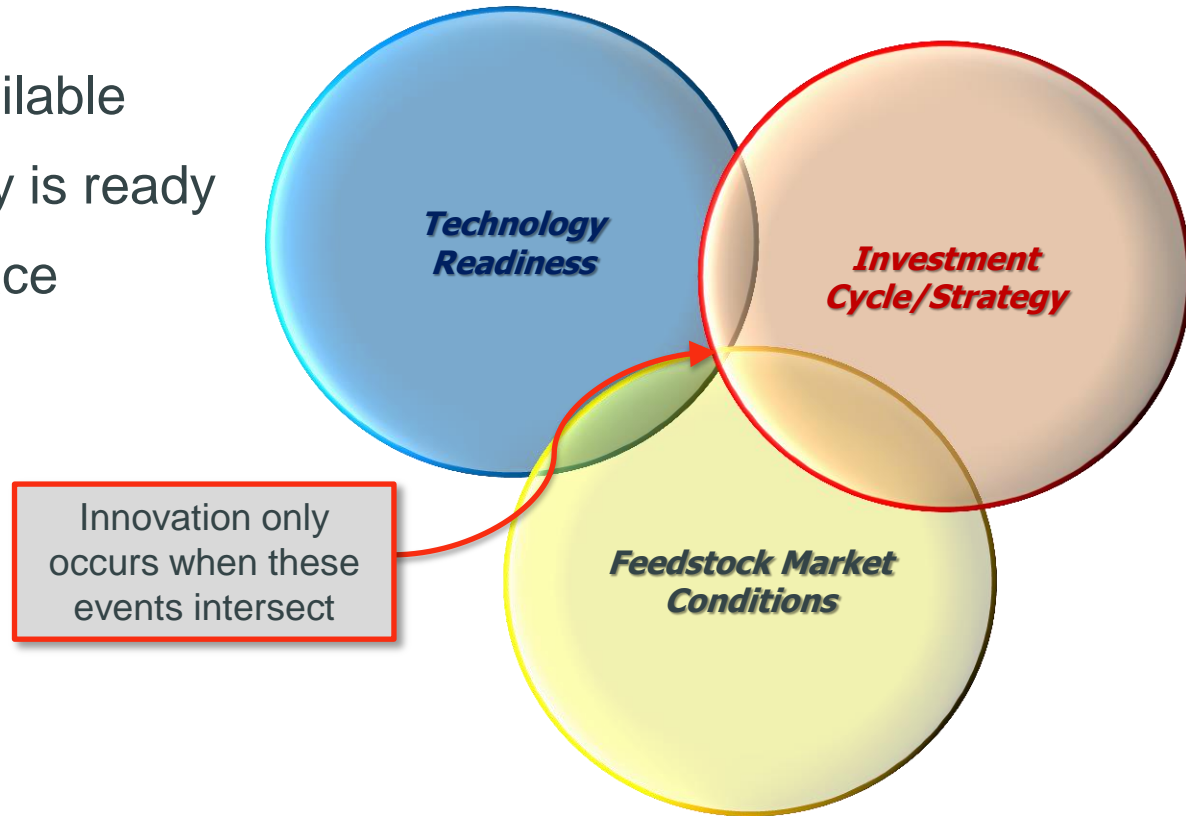
## Responding to Uncertainty with Innovation

Innovation:

The economically successful commercialization of a technology providing an unmet need or significant advantage over the next best alternative.

# Technology Innovation Requirements

1. Market opportunity is available
2. Need-meeting technology is ready
3. Investment support in place



*Technology and Commercialization Plan must be complete prior to alignment to insure quick and robust execution*

# Implementation Challenges



Low

*Ability to Mitigate Challenges*

High

Price Volatility  
Supply Security  
Infrastructure  
RM Quality  
RM Logistics  
Geography

Catalyst  
Expertise in Area  
Lab capabilities  
IP Strategy/RTP  
Process Equipment  
BPCS/LOPA

Funding Availability  
Regulatory  
Tax implications  
Financing Rates  
Extent of Leverage  
Partnerships

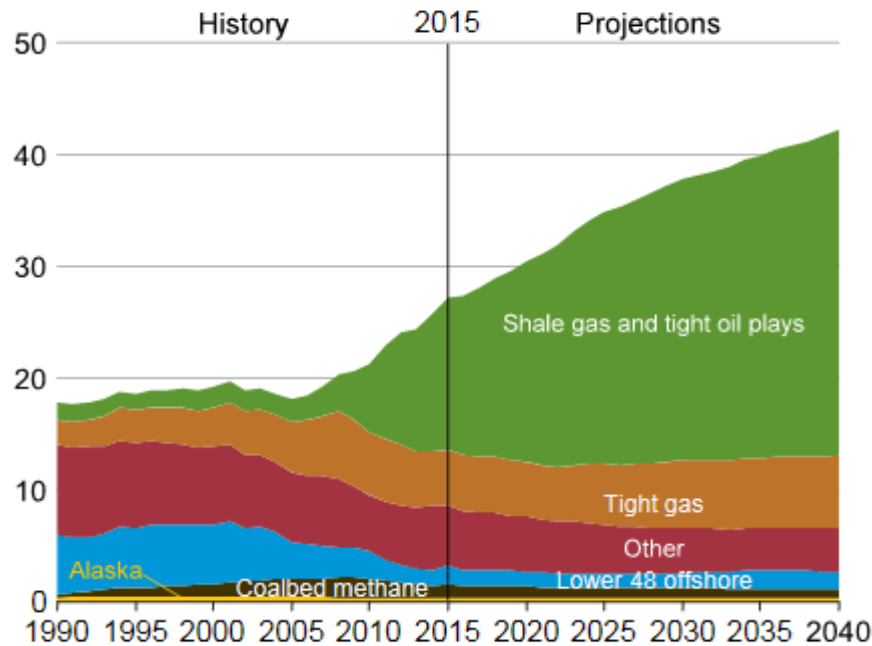
## Mitigating Feedstock Market Challenges

- Seek new opportunities that add flexibility
- Understand what drives volatility
- Take advantage of market floor/ceilings
- Look for preferential geographies



# US Chemical Expansion: Driven by Cheap Shale-gas

**U.S. Dry Natural Gas Production by Source 1990–2040  
(trillion cubic feet)**



U.S. Energy Info. Administration  
Annual Energy Outlook 2016

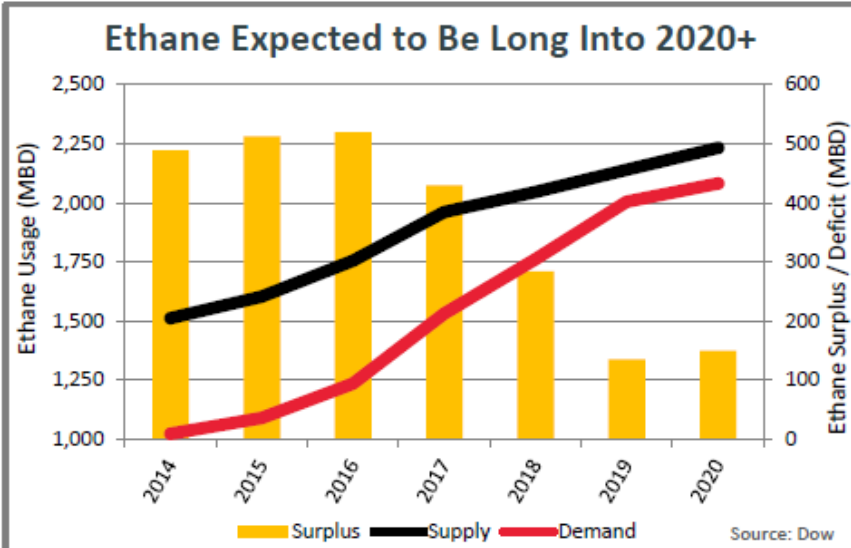
- Abundant shale gas in North America → shift of feedstock in petrochemical industry from more naphtha to LPG
- Less propylene production from steam cracking
- On-purpose propylene production to close the gap

**Dow's Shale Gas Driven US Expansion:**  
Investing >\$4 billion into US Gulf Coast Operations

**Feedstock  
Market  
Conditions**



# Outlook for Feedstock Supply Favorable



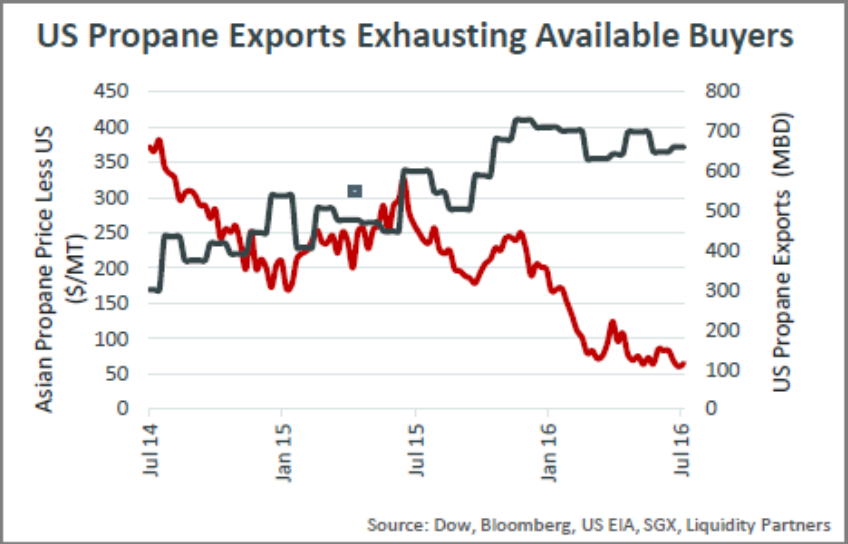
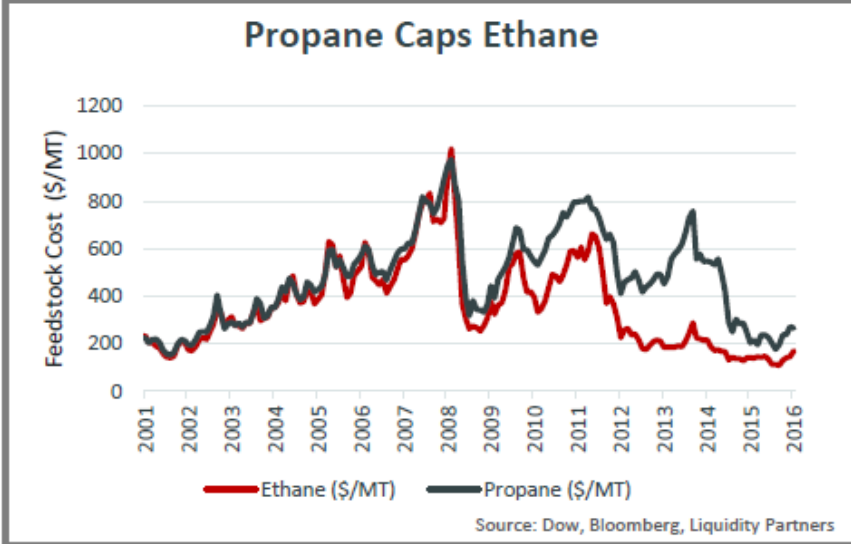
### Dow's View on Market Drivers

Favorable balances through next several years

- Gas well supplied
- NGL supplies grow with associated gas
- Forecasts include exports and new crackers

Propane supply/demand remains soft

- Propane prices below naphtha
- Propane has historically – and will continue to – cap ethane price



## Mitigating Technology Risk:

Technology  
Readiness

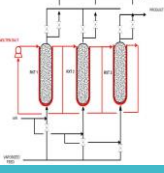
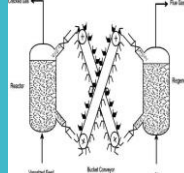
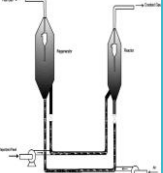
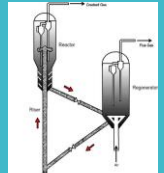
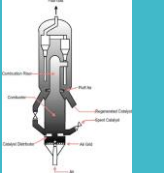
- Use a stage gate approach to assess TRL
- Get key stakeholder buy-in at beginning
- Determine shortcomings and comparisons with NBA
- Utilize Strategic partnerships
- Hire expertise if not available internally
- Build upon and learn from the past
- Utilize equipment suitable for the process
- Use your best most advanced tools
- Set ambitious targets- both CAPEX/OPEX
- Utilize catalyst vendors for scale-up
- Clear implementation plan for first commercialization with contingencies

# Evolution of Catalytic Cracking Processes

Technology will converge to the Best Economic Solution  
The question is .....When?



**Gasoline**  
**~1,200,000<sup>(8)</sup> kTa**

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1936<sup>(22)</sup>

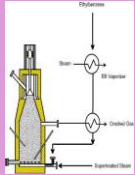
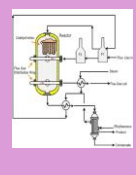
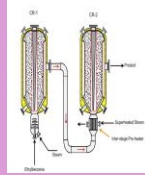
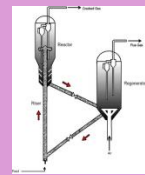
Moving Bed  
1938<sup>(22)</sup>

FCC  
1942<sup>(22)</sup>

FCC/Riser/Zeolite  
1960-65<sup>(22)</sup>

2 Stage RG  
1972<sup>(22)</sup>

**Styrene**  
**~27,500 kTa<sup>(9)</sup>**

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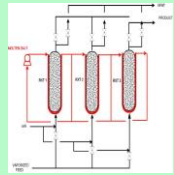
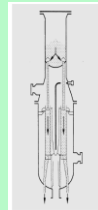
Axial Adiabatic  
1940<sup>(23)</sup>

Heated Case  
1965<sup>(23)</sup>

Radial Adiabatic  
1972<sup>(23)</sup>

SNOW Process  
2005

**Propylene**  
**~89,000 kTa**  
**On-Purpose**  
**~5,000 kTa<sup>(9)</sup>**

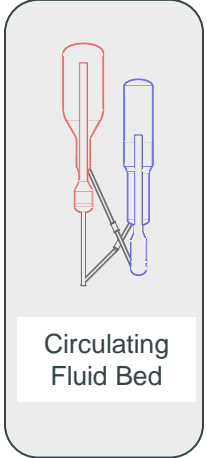
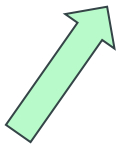



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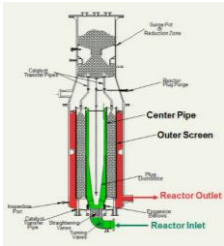
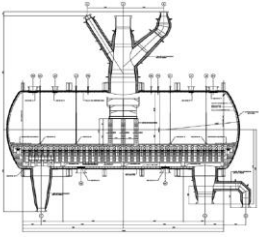
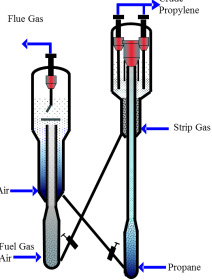
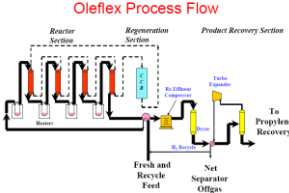
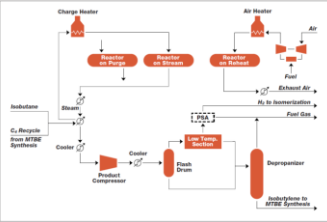
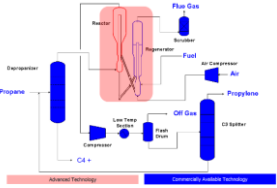
FCC Byproduct  
Steam Cracking Byproduct

CATOFIN® Unit (c4)  
1980's<sup>(12)</sup>

OLEFLEX™ Unit  
1990<sup>(11)</sup>



# Current Commercial PDH Technologies and Dow Fluidized Catalytic Dehydrogenation (FCDh)

	Oleflex™	Catofin®	Dow PDH
Reactor	 <p>Multi-stage, adiabatic, moving bed reactor, CCR Regenerator</p>	 <p>Multi-reactor, Adiabatic Fixed-bed</p>	 <p>1 Proprietary Fluidized Reactor 1 Proprietary Fluidized Regenerator</p>
Process	 <p>Oleflex Process Flow</p>		 <p>Advanced Technology   Conventional Refining Technology</p>
Catalyst	Pt-Sn/alumina	Chromia/alumina	Ga-Pt/alumina
Reactor Outlet Pressure, psia	16-24 psia	7 psia	19-25 psia
Conv. per pass	35 - 40%	48 - 53%	43-53%
Sel. to C3=, mol%	89% @ XX conv; 84% @ 40% conv	86+ @ XX% conv	92-96% @ 43%-48% conv



Oleflex™ and Catofin® info. from process brochure, presentation, journal publication and patent literature



# Dow Catalytic Dehydrogenation Technology



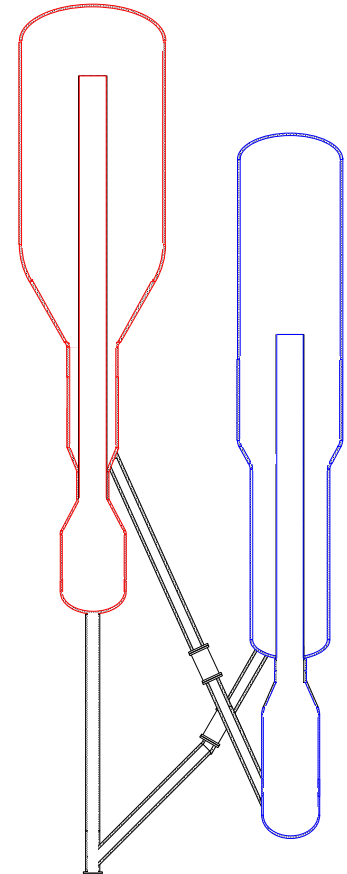
**Delivers Significant Capital and Operating Cost Advantage over existing commercialized technologies**

Circulating fluid bed technology for **reaction** and **regeneration**

- Lowest Energy Cost (20% reduction)
- Lowest Raw Material Consumption (5% lower unit ratio)
- Lowest capital cost outlay
  - Simple 1 regenerator and 1 reactor system without furnaces
  - 25% less capital (including catalyst)
- Sustainable technology: Low NO<sub>x</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Based on proven FCC technology

- Invested in and Partnered with FCC Experts for over 10 years
- Leveraged FCC know-how from industry
- Design variations from FCC validated
  - Pilot Plants
  - Models
- Reliable production
  - FCC Plants routinely operate 4-6 years between turnarounds
  - Catalyst can be continuously replaced as needed



# Catalyst for Dow PDH



- Dehydrogenation
- Combustion of fuel and coke
- Regenerability
- Resistance to feed impurities

- Proper hydrodynamics
- Attrition resistant

Chemical requirements

Costs

Physical requirements

Lifetime

## Catalyst: GaOx Supported on Fluidizable Alumina with Pt promoter

- Ga is the key dehydrogenation ingredient
- Trace amount of Pt important for fuel combustion



# The Dow Catalytic Dehydrogenation Process is a Platform Reactor Technology

*Technology  
Readiness*

- Most economical PDH technology that can integrate with a cracker
- Plants scale down at attractive capital intensity
- Reactor technology can plug and play into multiple plant configurations



**New PDH**



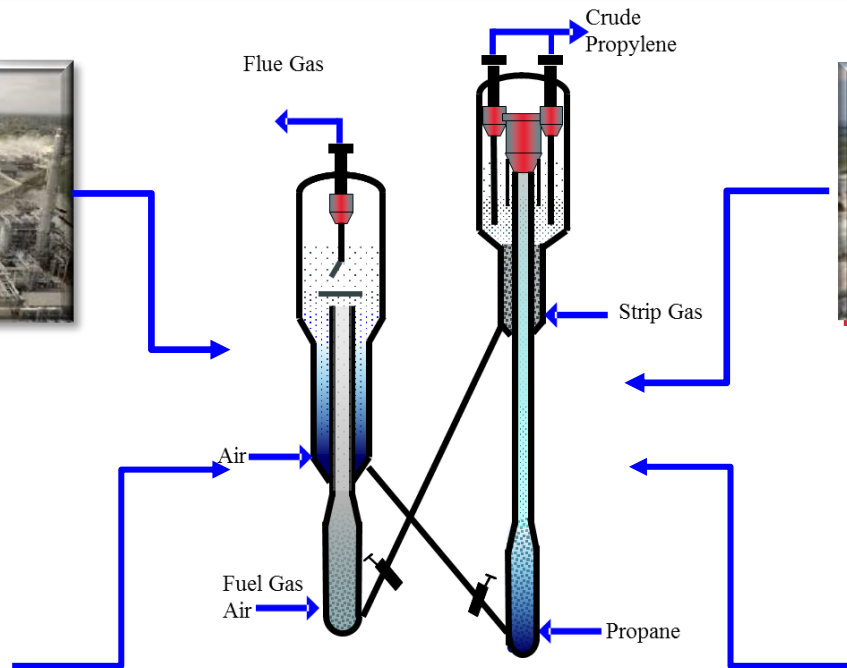
**New Crackers**



**Retrofit Existing PDH**



**Retrofit Crackers**



### Multiple Chemistries

- EB → Styrene
- Propane → Propylene
- Butane → Butene
- Isobutane → Isobutene



# Dow Catalytic Dehydrogenation Technology Development History: Ready for Commercialization

- Index and Process Flow Sheets are Complete
- Reactor/Regenerator Design Complete
- Layers of Protection Analysis Complete
- Process and Instrumentation Diagrams Complete
- IP Portfolio Growing and Robust (>20 applications 3 key grants)
- Scale-up Plan uses a multi faceted approach



Lab  
Reactors

PDH  
DCR

PDU

Cold Flow

FCC SME's

Modeling

Small  
Commercial  
Integrated  
with Cracker

World-Scale  
Commercial



*Thank You!*

