Newsflash - November 2019

OXYDE CHEMICALS
Passion, Performance, Partnership

(Note: Some email-programs do not show all graphical elements in the intended way. If this is the case, click on "webversion" at the bottom of the newsletter for better view)

Dear Business Partner,

is it possible that time travels faster over time? It seems like yesterday when we started to prepare the previous newsletter but it is again months ago. Underway the economy didn't get stronger and we all need to work very hard to keep our business running. Soon enough it will be Christmas again but in the mean time a very important aspect of business is happening right now. Indeed, November is probably the month in which most people finalize contract negotiations for next year. And by the end of November we can estimate if next year could be a better or worse year depending on how many contracts you win or you loose. And - typical for our industry - what happened to price formulas for the next 12 months.

About a month ago many of us met for the yearly petrochemical conference EPCA in Berlin. Nobody seems to have had really positive meetings and almost nobody believes their business will grow next year. But at the same time, there is a general concensus that many commodities have probably reached their bottom and that overall demand for next year will be similar than this year. That is ratherbad news because we all remember the good times of 2017 and 2018. But the bright side is that we have enough confidence in the economy and don't expect a real recession. With that positive view I hope you will enjoy the content of this newsflash.

November 2019

- Oil markets: shale industry already at the top of growth curve?
- Olefins outlook for 2020
- MEG market is back to the dog-house
- VAM demand holding up in November
- Acetic acid and methanol on the way down again
- Acrylates margin under major pressure
- Aceton pricing finally turning up
- MPG demand stronger than expected
- Regulatory update on REACH
- Hydrogen-powered tug boat for Port of Antwerp
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle + Redesign Plastics