

BASF PETRONAS to ramp up Oxo-alcohols/Acrylates output next week

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BASF PETRONAS Chemicals plans to beef up production at its propylene-based oxo-alcohol and acrylic acid/acrylate esters plants at Gebang industrial zone in Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia, next week, a company source said on Thursday. "The company will ramp up production at the respective units during the week starting on 20 May," the source said.

On 9 May, BASF PETRONAS has yet to lift the FM, the company source said. "Currently, we can fulfil contractual needs to a minimum of 35%," the source said. New orders from contractual businesses can be accepted accordingly, and on a pro-rated allocation basis, the source added.

The company's regular propylene supplier will start 'normalising' supply in early June, according to the source.

"Right now, BASF PETRONAS has been outsourcing feedstock propylene cargoes to bridge the gap, until regular flow of propylene from our main suppliers are secured," the source added.

The fulfilment of contractual needs will depend on three main factors; the restart of the facilities restart as scheduled, the arrival of propylene as scheduled, and the company's regular propylene supplier to provide as planned, he said.

BASF PETRONAS has an oxo-alcohols facility with a nameplate capacity at 240,000 tonne/year, that is able to produce 160,000 tonne/year of n-butanol (NBA) and 80,000 tonne/year of 2-ethylhexanol (2-EH).

BASF-PETRONAS also produces 160,000 tonnes/year of crude acrylic acid; 75,000 tonnes/year glacial acrylic acid; 100,000 tonnes/year of butyl acrylate (butyl-A) unit; and 60,000 tonnes/year of 2-ethylhexyl acrylate (2EH-A).

SOURCE Icis News