



15 April 2016

New SABIC Site Director points way to secure future

A major SABIC project will secure the long-term future of the firm's Teesside business and will safeguard thousands of local jobs, says new Teesside Site Director John Bruijnooge.

Bruijnooge says the major work to upgrade SABIC's Olefins Cracker at Wilton has created hundreds of construction jobs and will safeguard thousands more across Teesside, and secure the long-term future of the Teesside business.

SABIC is converting its massive Wilton based Olefins plant to take US shale gas, which is far cheaper than naphtha, the raw material that is currently used by the firm to produce the chemical building blocks for everyday items.

Work is also underway to complete the build of a cryogenic tank at the company's North Tees site, between Port Clarence and Seaton Carew, as part of an import terminal for the project. Phase one of the Gas Cracking Project will be completed in 2016.

Bruijnooge, who is based at SABIC's UK manufacturing HQ in the Wilton Centre, said: "After a series of years of restructuring and downsizing, SABIC is now reinvesting to secure the long term life of its assets.

"With our new shale gas feedstock, we will be well positioned to face competition when the oil price rises again."

SABIC employs in the region of 600 staff and an additional 400 contractors at its Wilton and North Tees sites, bringing a total of about £400 million into the local economy from payroll, goods and services, and utilities.

SABIC also underpins the Teesside logistics economy as it is a key customer of a number of significant and internationally owned utility, logistical and infrastructure companies who support the local chemical industry.

Bruijnooge, 49, who is originally from Bergen op Zoom in the Netherlands, added: "SABIC is recognised as a leading employer in the Teesside area. I am delighted to be heading up a team that has a reputation for innovation and industrial excellence."

Ends

About SABIC

Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) ranks among the world's top petrochemical companies. The company is among the world's market leaders in the production of polyethylene, polypropylene and other advanced thermoplastics, glycols, methanol and fertilizers.

SABIC's businesses are grouped into Chemicals, Polymers, Performance Chemicals, Fertilizers, Metals and Innovative Plastics. SABIC has significant research resources with 17 dedicated Technology & Innovation facilities in Saudi Arabia, the USA, the Netherlands, Spain, Japan, India and South Korea. The company operates in more than 40 countries across the world with around 40,000 employees worldwide.

SABIC manufactures on a global scale in Saudi Arabia, the Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific.

Headquartered in Riyadh, SABIC was founded in 1976 when the Saudi Arabian Government decided to use the hydrocarbon gases associated with its oil production as the principal feedstock for production of chemicals, polymers and fertilizers. The Saudi Arabian Government owns 70 per cent of SABIC shares with the remaining 30 per cent held by private investors in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Cooperation Council countries.