Sasol is building a world-scale ethane cracker and derivatives complex at its existing site near Westlake, Louisiana, that will roughly triple the company’s chemical production capacity in the United States and enable it to build on its strong positions in robust and growing global chemical markets.

At the heart of the project is an ethane cracker that will produce 1.5 million tons of ethylene annually, benefiting from significant economies of scale. The complex also includes six chemical manufacturing plants. Approximately 90 percent of the cracker’s ethylene output will be converted into a diverse slate of commodity and high-margin specialty chemicals for markets in which Sasol has a strong position underpinned by collaborative customer relationships.

Ethane cracking is the process of breaking down molecules of ethane contained in natural gas to create ethylene, one of the building blocks of the petrochemical industry.

**Key facts and figures**
- **Capacity:** 1.5 million tons of ethylene and other downstream derivatives per year
- **Contractors:**
  - Fluor Technip Integrated: Primary engineering, procurement, construction management contractor
  - Project management
- **Anticipated employment**
  - More than 5,000 construction jobs at peak construction
  - More than 700 full-time positions
  - Thousands of indirect jobs across Louisiana

**Key dates**
- Commenced front-end engineering and design phase: December 2012
- Reached final investment decision: October 2014
- Commenced construction: November 2014
- Anticipated beneficial operation: 2019
Products

**Ethylene oxide/ethylene glycol:** Virtually all of the ethylene oxide produced is used as an intermediate to produce other useful chemicals, particularly ethylene glycol. Ethylene glycol is used to manufacture polyester fiber for clothes, upholstery, carpet, and pillows and the blending of automotive engine antifreeze and coolant. Ethylene glycol is also used to manufacture fiberglass.

**Ethoxylates:** Used in products such as detergents, paints, inks, coatings and adhesives

**Ziegler alcohol** and **Guerbet alcohol:** Used in products such as laundry detergent, hand lotions, fragrances and glass cleaners

**Linear low density polyethylene** and **low density polyethylene:** Used in products such as films, plastics bags and food packaging

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**About Sasol**

Sasol is an international integrated chemicals and energy company that leverages technologies and the expertise of more than 30,000 people working in more than 30 countries. We develop and commercialize technologies, and build and operate world-scale facilities to produce a range of high-value product streams, including liquid fuels, chemicals and low-carbon electricity.

In North America, Sasol has operations in Arizona, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Texas. Collectively, these sites employ a workforce of approximately 1,500 people and manufacture the primary ingredients in detergents, personal care products, waxes and specialty products used as abrasives, catalysts, thickeners, ceramics and more.

Based in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sasol is listed on the New York and Johannesburg stock exchanges.

Read more at www.sasolnorthamerica.com