FAST FACTS

LOCATION
Sasol Lake Charles West Plant
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, USA

COMMISSIONED
2019

NAMEPLATE CAPACITY
470,000 tons per year (470 ktpa)

FEEDSTOCK
Ethylene

TECHNOLOGY
Univation UNIPOL™ PE Process

PRODUCT FORM
Pellets

CUSTOMER BASE
Global

PROCESS
In a continuous process, ethylene in gas form is purified and put into a reactor which uses pressure and temperature to assemble ethylene molecules into linear low-density polyethylene in a powder form. The powder is then melted in an extruder to create a thick fluid, then forced through a die plate – a large metal plate with thousands of small holes – and finally cut underwater into pellets. The pellets are then dried and ready for transport.

OUTBOUND LOGISTICS
Pellets are loaded into railcars and transported via rail either directly to North American customers or to packaging facilities where they are bagged in 25-kilogram (55-pound) bags, loaded into containers and shipped to customers worldwide.

END USES
LLDPE is used to make products like films and packaging.