

BASIC PETROCHEMICALS

Ammonia
Benzene
Butadiene
DDB
Ethane
Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether
Ethylene
Heptene
Hexane
Carbon Black Feedstock

Methanol
N-Paraffins
O-Xylene
P-Xylene
Pentanes
Propylene
Dodecen
Toluene
M-Xylenes

In 1987, the Federal Government reclassified the following 36 petrochemicals from basic to secondary, thereby nominally opening their production to private investors and up to 40% foreign ownership.

PETROCHEMICALS RECLASSIFIED FROM BASIC TO SECONDARY

acetic acid
acetic anhydride
acetylene
acrolein
acrylic acid
aliphatic solvents
allyl alcohol
allyl
chlorides
aromin 150
butyl alcohols
butyraldehyde
chloroprene

carbon tetrachloride
chlorogrom
ethyl chloride
ethyl hexanol
ethylene chlorhydride
ethylene dibromide
hydrogen
cyanide
isopropane
lauryl alcohol
methyl chloride
methylene chloride
naphtalene

nonene
oso alcohols
polybutylene
dichloride
propylene oxide
polypropylene
resins
propylene
tetrachlorethane
trichlorethylene
trichloretane
vinyl acetate
vinyl toluene

PEMEX's total installed capacity for basic petrochemicals was 19 million tons/year in addition to 9.7 million tons/year of secondary petrochemicals. The total production of basic petrochemicals increased 9.2% in 1989, to 16.9 million metric tons. Of these, 21% corresponded to the production of ammonia, 17% to ethane 15% to carbon anhydride, 7% to ethilene and 6% to carbon black. Total exports of petrochemical products increased 50% in 1989 to \$110.4 million, while imports increased 23% to \$21.7 million.

At present, PEMEX operates a sum total of 20 petrochemical complexes, 106 plants and 40 complementary plants. The biggest of them is La Cangrejera (Veracruz), which now includes 21 petrochemical plants. This complex, with a 4.3 million ton/year capacity, ranks fourth in the world in size. Other important complexes include: Pajaritos (Veracruz) with 13 plants, Cactus (Chiapas) with 13 plants, Cosoleacaque (Veracruz) with nine plants, Minatitlán with nine plants and Ciudad Madero (Tamaulipas) with six plants. During 1989, four petrochemical plants started operating: an ethylene and propylene plant and a polyethylene plant in the Morelos complex, an acrylonitrile and hydrocyanic acid plant in Texmelucan and a sulphur plant in Matapionche.