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Editorial note on Introduction to Petro chemistry

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Petro chemistry is the branch of chemistry that deals with petrochemicals. Petrochemicals are the chemicals that are obtained during the process of petroleum refining. It can also be stated as the study of transformation of natural gas and crude oil into raw materials that can be used in the production of petro chemicals. Crude oil is the chief raw material for the production of petro chemicals. The composition of crude oil consists of many different hydrocarbons. The average composition includes 84% carbon,14% hydrogen,1-3%nitrogen oxygen,metals,salts. Some petrochemicals can also be obtained by natural resources such as maize, natural gas coal etc. there are two major classes of petro chemistry i.e. olefins and aromatics.

Aromatics and olefins are produced by the oil refineries using the fluid catalytic cracking of petroleum products technique whereas the chemical plants produce them by steam cracking of natural gas liquids like propane etc.. Aromatics are produced by catalytic reforming of naphtha. They are a widely useful in the manufacturing of several products such as solvents detergents and adhesives. Plastic, resins fibers etc. are produced by the polymers and oligomers of olefins. The production of propylene and ethylene has drastically increased over the years. The global production of ethylene was around 190million tons and propylene was around 120 million tons. The production of aromatics was around 70 million. The major production capacity of petrochemicals is in Middle East and Asia. But, the largest petrochemical industries are located in the USA and Europe. The manufacturing of petrochemicals is done around the world in various locations. For example in Jubail & Yanbu Industrial Cities in Saudi Arabia, Texas & Louisiana in the US, in Teesside within the Northeast of England within the UK, in Rotterdam within the Netherlands, in Jamnagar, Dahej in Gujarat, India and in Singapore. The production of entire petroleum

products doesn't take place in a single location but different intermediate products are produced at different places depending upon the raw materials available. All these intermediate products are combined to form a single petrochemical. This process is called as petrochemical engineering and is a backbone of the petrochemical industry.