

S Korea's Lotte Chem to raise ethylene, propylene capacity by mid-Nov

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Singapore — South Korea's Lotte Chemical will complete debottlenecking of its olefins production capacity at Yeosu by mid-November through the addition of a new LPG cracking furnace, as it looks to diversify its feedstock slate, a company source said Tuesday.

The new furnace, which uses propane as a feedstock, will be linked to its naphtha-fed steam cracker. After the debottlenecking, ethylene production capacity at Yeosu will be raised to 1.2 million mt/year, from 1 million mt/year, and propylene to 620,000 mt/year, from 520,000 mt/year.

Prior to that, the steam cracker will undergo a scheduled turnaround between September 21 and October 31, during which it will undertake debottlenecking works, S&P Global Platts reported previously.

Lotte Chemical has another naphtha-fed steam cracker at Daesan, which has a production capacity of 1 million mt/year ethylene and 500,000 mt/year of propylene. No turnarounds are scheduled at the Daesan steam cracker this year.

Following the debottlenecking, Lotte Chemical's total ethylene and propylene capacity will reach 2.2 million mt/year and 1.12 million mt/year respectively, making it one of the largest petrochemical producers in South Korea. Current capacity in South Korea:

Company	E/P capacity ('000 mt/year)	Location
KPIC	800/500	Onsan
YNCC (1)	860/485	Yeosu
YNCC (2)	580/270	Yeosu
YNCC (3)	470/230	Yeosu
SK Innovation (1)	200/140	Ulsan
SK Innovation (2)	660/360	Ulsan
LG Chem	900/450	Daesan
LG Chem	1,000/550	Yeosu
Lotte Chem	1,000/520	Yeosu
Lotte Chem	1,000/500	Daesan
Hanwha	Total 1,000/600	Daesan