

Shell Singapore says will restart troubled steam cracker 'in next few weeks'

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Shell Singapore expects to restart its troubled steam cracker at Pulau Bukom "in the next few weeks," a company spokesperson said Wednesday.

"Based on current assessment, we expect to restart the plant in the next few weeks," the spokesperson said.

Shell Chemicals issued a force majeure on base chemicals from its Pulau Bukom complex as of Thursday last week, after an emergency shutdown of the cracker last Tuesday due to a compressor problem.

The petrochemical complex comprises a steam cracker, which is able to produce 960,000 mt/year of ethylene, 540,000 mt/year of propylene and 186,000 mt/year of butadiene.

The site also has a 276,000 mt/year benzene unit and a 750,000 mt/year monoethylene glycol plant.