

## **Taiwan's Formosa HDPE unit to shut temporarily end Aug on ethylene shortage**

Platts.com, 17th Aug 2016

Taiwan's Formosa Petrochemical Corp.'s 320,000 mt/year high density polyethylene unit will shut for a few days at the end of August due to ethylene shortage while its No. 2 steam cracker goes through maintenance from July 29 to September 22, a company source said Wednesday.

Other polyethylene units, including a 235,000 mt/year low density polyethylene/ethylene vinyl acetate swing plant and a 260,000 mt/year linear low density polyethylene plant, will not be affected and running, the source said.

Formosa has three naphtha-fed steam crackers and each goes through maintenance once every three years.

The No. 1 cracker was shut in 2015, and the No. 3 cracker will shut in 2017.

The No. 1 cracker is able to produce 700,000 mt/year of ethylene, 350,000 mt/year of propylene and 109,000 mt/year of butadiene.

The No. 2 unit is able to produce 1.03 million mt/year of ethylene, 515,000 mt/year of propylene and 162,000 mt/year of butadiene.

The No. 3 steam cracker has the capacity to produce 1.2 million mt/year of ethylene, 600,000 mt/year of propylene and 180,000 mt/year of butadiene.

Formosa's vinyls complex has also been shut due to the steam cracker maintenance, S&P Global Platts reported earlier.