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Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc to Permanently Shut down Polystyrene line

Houston, Texas – (November 11, 2011) – Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. will permanently shut down a 200 million pound per year polystyrene unit at its Carville, LA styrenics site that has been idled since the second half of 2010.

“The balance of supply and demand in North American polystyrene has shifted over the last decade,” said Stan Beisert, Vice President of Styrenics at Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. “While we remain committed to styrenics, this unit is no longer viable given current market conditions.”

Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. is focusing on improving efficiency on its other units rated collectively at 1.45 billion pounds per year. While the company believes demand for polystyrene will improve over the next few years, its remaining capacity and infrastructure will be sufficient to support that growth. “This change is in line with our strategy to operate the world’s largest polystyrene lines on an integrated site and maximize the benefits of our technology. If demand warrants additional capacity in the longer term, we have the capability to debottleneck existing units,” added Beisert.

Total Petrochemicals encompasses petrochemicals activities of TOTAL S.A., the fourth largest oil company worldwide. Its business includes base petrochemicals from steam crackers and refinery processing plants – olefins (ethylene, propylene), C4 fractions and aromatics (benzene, toluene, xylenes and styrene) – as well as derivative commodity polymers (polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and elastomers). Total Petrochemicals is a global producer of styrene and polystyrene, with production facilities in the United States, France, Spain, Belgium, England, Singapore and China.

Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc., headquartered in Houston, Texas, produces polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, styrene, base chemicals and transportation fuels. The company employs about 1,700 people in the United States and has manufacturing



Total Petrochemicals encompasses petrochemicals activities of Total, the fourth largest oil company worldwide. Its business includes base petrochemicals from steam crackers and certain refinery processing plants – olefins (ethylene, propylene), C4 fractions and aromatics (benzene, toluene, xylenes and styrene) – as well as the commodity polymers they derived from (polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and elastomers). Total Petrochemicals employs 7,500 people in Europe, the United States, the Middle East and Asia. Its products are used in many consumer and industrial markets, including packaging, construction and automotive.

facilities in Texas and Louisiana, a research and development facility in La Porte, Texas, and a refinery in Port Arthur, Texas.

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