Market Insights: Ethanolamines - 2020 is one in a series of reports published as part of Nexant’s Markets & Profitability program.

Nexant’s upcoming Market Insights report provides a comprehensive review of the global ethanolamines market, including monoethanolamine (MEA), diethanolamine (DEA) and triethanolamine (TEA), and includes:

- Discussion regarding key market drivers and constraints for each region
- Supply, demand trade for nine regions: North America, South America, Western Europe, Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia Pacific, and China
- Competitiveness analysis, including competitive landscape, who’s who of suppliers and cost competitiveness
- Price forecasts with commentary regarding latest trends
- Forecast period: 10 years history and 15 year forecast to 2035

Along with the written report, data is provided in Excel including global capacity listings.

Published: July 2020

Report Abstract:

Ethanolamines are compounds with both amine and alcohol functionality on ethyl carbon backbones, produced from the application of liquid phase ammonia to ethylene oxide. The reaction can be controlled to produce a combination of three commercially significant products, commonly known as monoethanolamine (MEA), diethanolamine (DEA) and triethanolamine (TEA).

The broad range of functionality has created a market which involves a wide range of consumer groups ranging from FMCG producers in the personal care sector to oil refiners and gas producers, various fine chemical producers, textile and lumber mills and metal working shops.

China, the United States and Western Europe are the dominant global markets and together account for around two thirds of the global market. They are however at different stages in their development, with Western Europe now much more mature, and weakened by the loss of some derivative activities to Asia, as well as low population and economic growth.

Global ethanolamines consumption has increased steadily since 2014. Demand is expected to continue to grow along with the global economy, with the average annual growth rate at 3.6 percent from 2019 to 2025.

The slowdown in parts of the global economy in 2018 and 2019 coincided with an excessive capacity build in China, leaving the global market heavily oversupplied even before the sharp downturn resulting from COVID in early 2020.

Market pressure in other regions has resulted mainly from the rapid growth in exports from Saudi Arabia. Both of the plants in Saudi Arabia are understood to have been continually operating in excess of nameplate capacity, ramping up exports all around Asia, to Western Europe and even penetrating the market in North America.
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Each region section in Chapter 3 includes:
- Market Overview
- Market Drivers
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For additional analysis on polyolefins, please refer to:
- Market Analytics: Ammonia - 2020
- Market Analytics: Ethylene Oxide - 2019
- Profitability and Price Forecast: Ethylene - 2019

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Contact Us:
For more information please contact markets@nexant.com or www.nexantsubscriptions.com

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Nexant serves its clients from over 30 offices located throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

Americas
Tel: +1 914 609 0300
44 S Broadway,
4th Floor White Plains
NY 10601-4425
USA

Europe, Middle East & Africa
Tel: +44 20 7950 1600
1 King’s Arms Yard
London EC2R 7AF
United Kingdom

Asia Pacific
Tel: +662 793 4600
22nd Floor, Rasa Tower I
555 Phahonyothin Road
Kwaeng Chatuchak
Khet Chatuchak
Bangkok 10900
Thailand