

Executive Summary



PULSE OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY 2018

DECEMBER 2019





PRODUCTION

- » 2018 growth of the GCC chemical industry: 8.2%
- » Production Capacity: 174.8 million tons
- » GCC share in global chemical production: 6.6%



SALES

- » 2018 growth of GCC chemicals sales: 14%
- » GCC chemical sales revenue: USD 84.1 billion
- » GCC share in global sales: 2.1%



EMPLOYMENT

- » Economic contribution: 2.8% of GDP
- » Direct Jobs Creation: 157,000
- » 2018 employment growth: 4.2%
- » Indirect impact: Every job creates 2.9 jobs in economy



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- » Total chemical industry employment (direct, indirect and induced): 617,800 jobs
- » Nationalization of GPCA member companies: 71%
- » Participation of women in total workforce: 5%



TRADING

- » 2018 growth of GCC chemical exports: 7.5%
- » 2018 chemical exports: 73.2 million tons
- » GCC chemical industry trades with more than 100 countries worldwide
- » Top export destinations for GCC chemicals:
 - China, India, Singapore, USA, Thailand, Brazil, Malaysia, Belgium, Turkey, Korea
- » Saudi Arabia is the world's top 10th exporter of chemicals
- » GCC share in global exports: 4.3%



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- » GCC R&D Investment: USD 438 million
- » GCC share in global R&D: 0.9%
- » GCC patent applications: 1,001



The Gulf Petrochemicals and Chemicals Association (GPCA) represents the downstream hydrocarbon industry in the Arabian Gulf. Established in 2006, the association voices the common interests of more than 250 member companies from the chemical and allied industries, accounting for over 95% of chemical output in the Gulf region. The industry makes up the second largest manufacturing sector in the region, producing over USD 108 billion worth of products a year.

The association supports the region's petrochemical and chemical industry through advocacy, networking and thought leadership initiatives that help member companies to connect, to share and advance knowledge, to contribute to international dialogue, and to become prime influencers in shaping the future of the global petrochemicals industry.

Committed to providing a regional platform for stakeholders from across the industry, the GPCA manages six working committees - Plastics, Supply Chain, Fertilizers, International Trade, Research and Innovation, and Responsible Care - and organizes five world-class events each year. The association also publishes an annual report, regular newsletters and reports.

For more information, please visit www.gpca.org.ae

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