

TOTAL PETROCHEMICALS

For Immediate Release

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Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc.'s Port Arthur Refinery reports 2 million hours worked without a loss time injury

Port Arthur, Texas (February 22, 2005) — Employees and contractors at Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc.'s Port Arthur Refinery achieved a remarkable milestone of working 2 million hours without a loss time injury. This milestone was reached on February 1.

Working 2 million hours with no loss time injury is a major achievement, according to Total Petrochemicals Refinery Manager Wouter Raemdonck. He said only a handful of U.S. refineries have a safety record equal to Port Arthur.

A loss time injury is defined as any workplace injury that requires an employee or contractor to take time off to recover. This milestone is the first time the refinery has achieved the 2 million safe work hours for employees and contractors combined.

The refinery credits its safety record to the implementation of a comprehensive safety management system in the early 1990s. This system is designed to reduce risks that can lead to unforeseen losses – losses due to injury, mechanical damage, poor product quality or environmental incidents. The system consists of 20 elements, such as leadership and administration, planned inspection and maintenance, emergency preparedness, accident/incident investigation, engineering and change management, knowledge and skills training, health and hygiene controls, and critical task analysis. As part of the program, a third-party audit is conducted to measure the refinery's

compliance with each element. The audit last year gave the refinery a Level 9 rating, using a scale of 1 to 10 with ten being the best. A Level 9 is considered extremely good.

“We are continually investing in training and upgrading equipment to prevent accidents from happening,” Raemdonck said. “The safety of our employees and our neighbors demands nothing less.”

Total Petrochemicals’ 240,000 barrels per day Port Arthur Refinery employs about 450 people.

Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc., which had sales of \$5.3 billion in 2003 and employs more than 1,600 people in the U.S., is headquartered in Houston and produces polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, styrene, base chemicals and transportation fuels. The company has manufacturing facilities in Texas and Louisiana as well as a research and development facility in La Porte and a refinery in Port Arthur.

Photo Opportunity Note: Employees and contractors will feast on rib eye steak and shrimp on Wednesday, February 23, starting at 11:30 a.m. on the refinery’s employee parking lot. Reporters are invited to attend and enjoy the celebration. No special entry requirements are needed. The refinery is located at the corner of FM 366 and 32nd Street in Port Arthur near the Rainbow and Veterans Memorial Bridges.



www.totalpetrochemicalsusa.com



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.