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Carruthers Appointed Vice President - Polyolefins

Houston, Texas – (July 19, 2010) – Phil Carruthers has been appointed Vice President of Polyolefins at Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc., according to CEO Geoffroy Petit.

Previously, Carruthers was vice president of Styrenics and president of FINA Technologies, Inc.

Carruthers joined the company in 1979 and has management and operations experience in refining, polyethylene, polypropylene, and styrenics.

In his new position, Carruthers will manage the company's polypropylene and polyethylene business in North America.

Total Petrochemicals owns and operates a 2.35 billion pound per year polypropylene facility in La Porte, Texas, which is the world's largest polypropylene facility. Polypropylene is a plastic used in food packaging, tapes, carpet yarns, absorbent products, small appliances, outdoor furniture, and toys.

The company also owns and operates a 900 million pound per year high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plant in Bayport, Texas. HDPE is a plastic used in everyday items such as milk bottles, detergent containers, grocery sacks, crates, automotive fuel tanks, pipe, crates, totes, garbage bags, panels, and bottles.

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 U.S. and has manufacturing 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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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.