



PRESS RELEASE

Thermiculite® seals Petro Rabigh high olefins cracker

Flexitallic has been awarded a certificate of appreciation by JGC, Japan, for its 'significant contribution' to the Petro Rabigh Olefin Plants Project. JGC selected Flexitallic as its partner for the strength of its Engineering and Design Team together with the unique and versatile sealing properties of its Thermiculite® material.

Petro Rabigh, a joint venture between Saudi Aramco and Sumitomo Chemical Co., has a planned startup for the end of 2008. Based in Rabigh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Aramco will supply Petro Rabigh with crude oil, ethane and butane. Sumitomo Chemical will provide proprietary petrochemical technology and the marketing of petrochemical products.

The Rabigh facility is a world-class refinery and petrochemical complex with the centrepiece being the high olefins fluid catalytic cracker complex, integrated with a world scale ethane based cracker. These petrochemical derivative units will produce a total of 2.4 million ton/year of polyolefin's.

Working together with JGC, Flexitallic supplied Spiral Wound Gaskets filled with Thermiculite® 835 filler, for the Fluid Catalytic cracker. Thermiculite® enables the cracker to perform to its highest efficiency due to the ability of

Thermiculite® to maintain high sealing characteristics in the operating environment.

Thermiculite® has outstanding stability to high temperature and aggressive chemicals, Thermiculite® materials operate in areas where graphite based products cannot cope due graphite's poor resistance to oxidation. Due to its unique features, Thermiculite does not oxidize and will seal for the lifetime of the joint.

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Photography and graphics:

Photograph enclosed or contact

Johnw@jonoliver.com

For digital file – also large format images available by request



Issued by:

John Wright, Jon Oliver Communications Limited

Tel: 01902 757115 or Mobile: 07807 465201

e-mail: Johnw@jonoliver.com

Further information:

Phil Kelshaw, European Sales Director, Flexitallic Limited,

Tel: +44 01274 851273

e-mail: pkelshaw@flexitallic.com

Visit our web site:

www.flexitallic.com

Notes to editors:

Flexitallic Limited manufacture and supply advanced sealing solutions to specialist industrial sectors worldwide. A wholly owned subsidiary of Flexitallic Group based in Houston, Texas, USA. Flexitallic Limited has been manufacturing sealing products in the UK since 1871. Operating from its UK facility based in Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, Flexitallic Ltd employs over 150 staff in the UK, and supports specialised sealing applications across all industry sectors in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Flexitallic Group was established in 1997 and now has 37 manufacturing locations worldwide and a global service network of 750 distributors in 30 countries and employs over 400 people.