# Naphtha Catalytic Cracking for Propylene Production by FCCU

# Christopher Dean -HIGH Olefins Technology Services LLC



MORE PRODUCTION - LESS RISK!

Coking and CatCracking Conference New Delhi, India – October 2013

# **Purpose (Objective)**

 To present and discuss producing propylene (C3=) by catalytic cracking paraffinic naphtha utilizing Fluid Catalytic Cracking processes

## **Contents- Covering 3 Points**

- Why Propylene from FCCU's ?
- Naphtha Feedstocks Supply Balances
- Naphtha Catalytic Cracking Processes
  - FCC Catalytic Processes
  - Traditional Steam Cracking (Comparison)



### **Benefits**

- MOTOR GASOLINE
- PETROCHEMICAL FEEDSTOCKS
  - Propylene (C3=)

# TODAY & FUTURE PLANNING

- Minimizing to no gasoline production from FCC
- Additional Focus
  - Light Olefins (Ethylene & Butylenes)
  - Aromatics

# Why Propylene from FCCU's ?

- Europe, North America (US) refineries are facing profitability challenges
  - Gasoline demand declining both areas
  - Middle Distillates (Diesel) markets increasing both areas
  - European surplus gasoline export markets are declining
  - US lighter shale crudes, "tight oil" use is increasing that produce more naphtha and less diesel
- Asia market is for distillates and petrochemical feedstocks
- Large Middle East, Asia, India and South America are building large integrated Refinery/ Petrochemical Complexes

# **Petrochemicals Opportunities**

Main Building Blocks

- Olefins Two Main Blocks
  - Ethylene
  - Propylene
- Aromatics
  - Benzene
  - Paraxylene (other xylenes too)

 High Olefins - FCC (HOFCC) produces C3= and byproducts of other light olefins and aromatics

Produced by Steam Cracking Ethane & Liquid Feeds Naphtha Reformers

Secondary Source Produced by FCC's

# Why Propylene ??

- C3= is the second important raw material after ethylene
- C3= by-product from steam cracking for ethylene with traditional FCC's the other main source
- Ethylene demand is expanding proportionally faster than Propylene demand (Propylene was exceeding ethylene growth up thru 2007-2008 Recession)
- To meet C2= demand new steam crackers are using Ethane as feedstock!
- With new SC, C3= shortages are expected; Existing FCC's can't meet the demand

# On Purpose Propylene Processes (OPP) will be developed

# **Ethylene & Propylene Supply Sources**



Data Courtesy of IHS CMAI

10

# **Steam Cracking Yields**

# **Propylene/Ethylene( P/E)** Ratio indicates propylene selectivity

Typical light olefin yields for steam cracking			
Feedstock	Ethylene, wt%	Propylene, wt%	P/E
Ethane	80	3	0.04 (0.0375)
Propane	44	15	0.34
Naphtha	30	16	0.53
Gas oil	23	15	0.65

Table 1

#### Meet Future C3= Demand in Asia A P/E Ratio 0.85 is required

# WHY NAPHTHA CATALYTIC CRACKING ?

**NAPHTHA SUPPLY** 

### Naphtha Supply Balances

### Supply is Increasing Globally

- Steam Cracking
  - Shifting to Ethane & Lighter Fuels from Naphtha & Gasoil
  - LNG/NGL
- Increased Byproduct Condensates from Gas Production
- Lighter Crude Slates for refiner feedstocks
  - Produce more naphtha
- Increasing demand for diesel not gasoline
- In North America: Fracking for Natural Gas and Shale Oil (Tight Oil)
- Aromatics supplies are being squeezed ???

#### "Somewhat decoupling" of naphtha pricing from crude"

# Naphtha Cracking

#### **Steam Cracking - Thermal**

- Not Selective to Propylene makes Ethylene (P/E Ratio)
  - P/E Ratio of 0.55-0.68 (Naphtha & Gasoil Cracking)
- Steam Cracker capacities are world class size > 1000 KTA

#### Naphtha Cracking - Catalytic

- Propylene Selective not Ethylene
- P/E Ratio of 1.0 to 2.4
- Naphtha FCC capacities 20 MBPD == 64 KTA of ethylene

# Naphtha Cracking Comparisons

Paraffinic Naphtha Feedstock Driven Catalytic & Thermal Processes

- ACO (Advanced Catalytic Olefin)
  - KBR License
  - Riser Technology
- HS-FCC (High Severity FCC)
  - Axens/S&W License
  - Downer Reactor
- Steam Cracking
  - Generic

# **Advanced Catalytic Olefins (ACO)Process**

### ACO Process Key Features - Reactor



- Proprietary KBR FCC reactor features
- Propylene/ethylene (P/E)
  Product Ratio ~1/1
- Proprietary catalyst from SK Corporation
- All proven hardware and processes
- Robust and flexible, compared to other processes



2008 Kellogg Brown & Root LLC. All Rights Reserved.



# **Features & Advantages of HS-FCC**

## Features

- Downflow Reactor (Downer)
- High Reactor Temperature
- High Catalyst to Oil Ratio
- Short Contact Time

### **Advantages**

- High Propylene Yield
- High Butylene, iso-butylene Yields
- High Gasoline Octane (High Aromatics Content)
- Minimized Dry Gas

# **CATALYST FLOW**

# **HS-FCC**





# **SEPARATOR**

# US Patent 6146597

Quick separation Catalyst & Gas

Separator

Catalyst

Centrifugal force

Product Gas + Cat

SProduct Gas

**Guide Vane** 

### **HS-FCC Naphtha Process**

- Retrofit Type to existing FCCU
- Standalone Unit



# Full Range Naphtha Yields Olefins wt%



#### P/E of 2.4

P/E of 0.55

# Naphtha Cracking Fluid Processes

ACO Commercial Demonstration Unit Ulsan, South Korea HS-FCC Semi-Commercial Unit Mizushima, Japan





# **Conclusions Petrochemical Opportunities**

- Naphtha Fluid Catalytic Cracking is a viable "On Purpose Propylene Process"
- Naphtha Catalytic Cracking produces higher propylene selectivity than Steam Cracking
- Naphtha Catalytic Cracking will help meet future propylene demand
- Naphtha Catalytic Cracking byproducts of other light olefins and aromatics for petrochemicals
- Paraffinic Naphtha Catalytic Cracking processes are in the initial stages of commercialization

