

News release

Oxea launches high purity n-Pelargonic Acid HP to alleviate impact from tight C8/C10 fatty acid market

Oberhausen, Germany, May 13, 2015 – In a move to alleviate the impact of the tight C8/C10 fatty acid market situation, the chemical company Oxea has launched n-Pelargonic Acid HP (high purity). It is a special grade of its existing product n-Pelargonic Acid, also known as n-Nonanoic Acid, with a very high content of linear C9 acid. Both n-Pelargonic Acid and n-Pelargonic Acid HP are economical industrial alternatives to the native fatty acids Caprylic Acid (C8) and Capric Acid (C10). This makes it highly suitable, among other uses, as an intermediate for the manufacture of high-performance synthetic lubricant esters. n-Pelargonic Acid HP is already available in commercial quantities and Oxea will market the new product to the global lubricants manufacturer market.

“In the past month we had noted significant customer interest for our existing n-Pelargonic Acid and therefore decided to add the high purity grade for our lubricant customers. It can be a viable alternative to native fatty acids with a C8 or C10 chain length and offers significant competitive advantages for formulators: It is more economical, since n-Pelargonic Acid HP is manufactured on purpose and not as a co-product of other natural fatty acid cuts. Therefore Oxea can assure reliable and flexible supply,” says Oliver Borgmeier, Commercial Business Director of Carboxylic Acids at Oxea, adding, “The market for native C8/C10 fatty acids will remain very short for the foreseeable future. Therefore it will be a value-adding initiative for our customers to reformulate their innovative lubricant solutions with our n-Pelargonic Acid HP.”

Thanks to the shale gas economy Oxea can leverage the favorable raw material prices in the US. Based on octene, a linear alpha olefin (LAO) which is widely available in the US, Oxea’s n-Pelargonic Acid is produced at its world scale plant in Bay City, Texas.

n-Pelargonic Acid HP is a mono-carboxylic acid with a linear chain comprising of nine carbon atoms. In comparison to their even-numbered counterparts, esters made of n-C9 acid show advantages of lower pour-points, higher flash points and favorable viscosity indexes.

Further details: www.oxea-chemicals.com/go/n-pelargonic-acid-hp

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About Oxea

Oxea is a global manufacturer of oxo intermediates and oxo derivatives, such as alcohols, polyols, carboxylic acids, specialty esters, and amines. These products are used for the production of high-quality coatings, lubricants, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products, flavorings and fragrances, printing inks and plastics. Oxea employs more than 1,400 people worldwide. Oxea is owned by Oman Oil Company S.A.O.C. For more information about Oxea, visit www.oxea-chemicals.com

About Oman Oil Company

Oman Oil Company S.A.O.C. (OOC) is a commercial company wholly owned by the Government of Oman. It was established in 1996 to pursue investment opportunities in the wider energy sector both inside and outside Oman. The Company plays an important role in the Sultanate's efforts to diversify the economy and to promote domestic and foreign investments.

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