



News Release

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CRITERION CATALYSTS & TECHNOLOGIES TO INCREASE PRICES DUE TO RAPID GROWTH IN WORLDWIDE DEMAND AND RISING COSTS

(Houston, June 30, 2005) – Effective July 1, 2005, Criterion Catalysts & Technologies L.P. will increase catalyst base prices by an average of 12%, with Criterion affiliates in the hydroprocessing catalyst market outside the U.S. announcing similar price increases. The base price increase is in response to a rapid growth in worldwide hydroprocessing catalyst demand amidst increased variable costs for energy, raw materials, and manufacturing fixed costs.

Seeking to address growing catalyst requirements, Criterion Catalysts & Technologies L.P. recently announced planned increases in the companies' capacity for supply of catalysts available to the refining markets. Criterion will restart its hydroprocessing catalyst plant at Michigan City, Indiana. The plant is scheduled to restart in Q3 of 2005. Project work has also begun on a new world scale hydroprocessing catalyst plant, the location of which remains proprietary.

Criterion and its affiliates are committed to supplying outstanding performing catalysts, technologies and solutions to address more stringent current and future refinery needs. "Criterion teams up with refiners to meet the new fuel quality standards" said Pat Laabs, Criterion's President. "We focus on having the products, technologies, and manufacturing capacity to meet our customers' needs".

Criterion Catalyst & Technologies L.P. is a subsidiary of CRI/Criterion Inc., a company within the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies. Criterion supplies total packages of catalysts, services and solutions for refineries and is a leading provider of hydroprocessing, reforming and specialty catalysts to the refining industry.

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Note to Editors

Q&A

Q - What is the capacity of the plant additions?

A - Not disclosed.

Q - Are additional capacity enhancements being considered?

A - Yes. Additional supply options are currently being studied.

Q - Is the current surge in demand a short term phenomena?

A - No. The present demand is a step change with long term implications for a demand for high performance catalysts. 6/30/05