



## Altech Chemicals Secures Johor Land for HPA Plant

**A**ltech Chemicals Limited announced that it has now secured land in the Tanjung Langsat Industrial Complex, Johor, Malaysia for its proposed high purity alumina (HPA) plant.

The company has reserved a ~4 hectare site in a section of the industrial complex that is set aside for chemical facilities. The site is initially reserved until 30 December 2015 and upon execution of an option to lease, will be leased for a period of thirty years, with an option to renew. The land reservation and option to lease has been secured with a non-refundable deposit of MYR300, 000, that is credited against the 30-year lease payment on exercise of the option.

As previously announced, the company selected Tanjung Langsat as the location for its proposed HPA plant based on significant economic and developmental benefits including the ready availability of required consumables such as hydrochloric acid, limestone, quicklime, power and natural gas all at highly competitive prices. The availability of skilled labour, proximity to an

international container sea-port and international airports (Johor Bahru and Singapore) and the various investment incentives on offer were additional benefits.

Feedstock for the HPA plant will be sourced from the Company's 100% owned aluminous clay (kaolin) deposit at Meckering, Western Australian. Approximately 18,565tpa of beneficiated kaolin will be containerised and transported via road to the port of Fremantle, Western Australia (a distance of ~153kms). The containers will be shipped from Fremantle to the port of Tanjung Pelepas (a container port located in south-western Johor, Malaysia ~90kms by road from Tanjung Langsat) and then transported via road from Tanjung Pelepas to Tanjung Langsat.

Operating costs for in Malaysia the HPA plant are estimated to be in the region of 40% lower compared to an equivalent plant operated in Western Australia. In addition, the shipping of the Company's final HPA



product from the Tanjung Langsat international sea container port to nearby Asian markets will provide both cost and delivery time advantages. Overall, Altech expects its proposed HPA plant to be in the bottom quartile of the operating cost curve for the world's HPA producers.

Altech's HPA project has the potential to enhance the Malaysian region's HPA value-add chain, as sapphire glass producers such as Rubicon Technology currently operate a facility in Malaysia.

## CSIRO Unveils New Lab-at-Rig Technology for Mining Industry



**T**he Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) has teamed-up with Imdex and Olympus Scientific Solutions Americas, as part of the Deep Exploration Technologies Cooperative Research Centre (DET CRC), to introduce new technology for miners. The new Lab-at-Rig technology enables analysis of chemistry and mineralogy of rocks found within a drill hole within a short space of time after drilling.

CSIRO Lab-at-Rig futures project leader Dr Yulia Uvarova said "Lab-at-Rig is an important breakthrough for the industry

because of the potentially massive cost savings in drilling, exploration and overall mining operations.

"If mining or exploration companies have real-time information about the mineralogy and chemistry in the drillhole, they can efficiently plan what to do next; whether that is to drill deeper, drill further holes, try elsewhere or to stop."

Offering the relevant sampling methods and quality control current processes use, the technology features automated analysis of mineralogy of drill-hole cuttings directly from the drill site.

Fitted to a diamond drill rig and Imdex's AMC Solids Removal Unit, the system includes a sample preparation unit that collects solids from drill cuttings and dries them. It also comes with Olympus X-ray fluorescence and X-ray diffraction sensors to provide chemistry and mineralogy of the sample respectively. "Lab-at-Rig is an important breakthrough for the industry

because of the potentially massive cost savings in drilling, exploration and overall mining operations." The technology can also offer sampling methods and quality control features that are available in current processes in the segment.

CSIRO Discovering Australia's Mineral Resources Program director Dr Rob Hough said "The way that Imdex, Olympus and CSIRO have worked together on this through the Deep Exploration Technologies CRC has been crucial and critical to delivering this world-class technology in such a short time frame."

CSIRO, Imdex, Olympus, University of Adelaide and Curtin University are working on the \$11m collaborative DET CRC Lab-at-Rig Futures Project. Global game changing technologies provider Reflex will serve as the commercialization partner for the technology. The technology will be integrated with Reflex solutions such as the secure, cloud based REFLEXHUB-IQ.

This section is a compilation from various company press releases, business dailies & trade publications