# Colin A. Houston & Associates, Inc. announces a new multiclient study

# ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 and ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE

Consumption of linear alpha-olefins in direct end uses totaled 2.5 million tons in 2000 and is forecast to grow at an average rate of 6.6 percent/year to 2010. However, there are wide variations in growth rates among the various end uses, and the outlook for individual chain lengths ranges from a potentially severe shortage of octene-1 to significant surpluses of certain other chain lengths. There are also major differences in consumption patterns and growth rates from region to region.

Alpha-olefins capacity has increased from 2.4 million tons/year in 1997 to 3.2 million tons/year by year-end 2001, and could reach 4.0 million tons/year by 2005, including both confirmed and potential new plants and expansions.

Colin A. Houston & Associates, Inc. (CAHA) has completed a comprehensive new multiclient study of the global markets for alpha-olefins that analyzes supply and demand for alpha-olefins through 2010. The study profiles producers and quantifies and forecasts production by region and chain length to 2010. It includes a thorough investigation of 18 separate end uses for alpha-olefins, covering derivative producers and production, technology and trends, and it quantifies alpha-olefin consumption in each use by region and chain length annually for 2000 through 2005, and for 2010.

In addition to the print version of the new study, a PDF version of all the key end use and summary tables is available online in an electronic database accessible to clients via an assigned user name and password. Details of this study and database, published in October 2001, are explained on the following pages. Please contact either Joel Houston, President or Marilyn Bradshaw, Vice President to discuss this valuable new program.

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### DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY

For alpha-olefin producers, profitability depends on finding and winning the right mix of customers while optimizing alpha-olefin production and disposition by chain length. A major purpose of CAHA's study is to provide comprehensive data and analysis that will support the development of successful alpha-olefin production, sales and marketing strategies.

For alpha-olefin customers, it is imperative to understand the short-term and long-term availability of individual chain lengths and the competitive position and potential strategies of their suppliers. CAHA's study profiles each producer and comments on expansion plans and new suppliers, and it explains in detail the supply/demand outlook for each chain length by region.

The Alpha-Olefin Market Intelligence Database, containing all the key tables from the study, is available to subscribers on the Internet at <a href="www.alpha-olefins.com/ao">www.alpha-olefins.com/ao</a>. A confidential username and password are assigned when the study is purchased.

### **ALPHA-OLEFIN SUPPLY**

CPChem brought a new plant on stream in Texas in 2000; BP started up its new Canadian plant in 2001; and Shell brought a new plant on stream in Louisiana in 2002. All of the other new alpha-olefin plants being built or under consideration will be located in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

By 2005, several of the existing producers will have added capacity, and there will be two new producers — SABIC, producing a full range of alpha-olefins, and Q-Chem, producing hexene-1. Several additional alpha-olefin plants are under consideration, but have not yet received final approval. These include new hexene-1, octene-1 and multipurpose units planned by Sasol and a joint venture plant proposed by Idemitsu and Formosa Plastics.

CAHA's study profiles each of the current, new and potential producers, providing details of their capacities and expansion plans, production by chain length, technology, product specifications and integration including captive vs merchant use. It also details alpha-olefin technology available for license.

### ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND

CAHA's comprehensive 690-page study analyzes nineteen individual end use markets and reports alpha-olefin consumption by chain length and by region for each.

Overall growth in demand for alpha-olefins is forecast to average more than 6 percent per year between 2000 and 2010. The largest end use, polyolefin comomoners, accounts for over 50 percent of alpha-olefin consumption, and growth is expected to average 8.6 percent/year through 2010. CAHA's study breaks out alpha-olefin consumption by region, by major polyolefin type and by chain length, and discusses the supply/demand outlook for butene-1, hexene-1 and octene-1.

During the 1990s, the polyalphaolefin (PAO) market was limited by insufficient supplies of decene-1, but the situation has changed. Group III base oils are challenging PAO on a cost performance basis in many lubricant applications. Based on numerous interviews with alpha-olefin and PAO producers, and synlube suppliers and users, CAHA's study quantifies the effect of these developments and forecasts consumption of alpha-olefins by chain length in synthetic lubricants.

The markets for  $C_{12}$  and  $C_{14}$  alpha-olefins have been tight at times in recent years, but longer term, their growth rates are not expected to match those of the lower chain lengths. However, their outlook varies by region, and some producers will be better-positioned than others to take advantage of higher-growth market opportunities. These opportunities are identified in the study.

The phenomenal growth in the use of internal and alpha-olefins in oilfield drilling fluids has tightened the market for  $C_{16}$  and  $C_{18}$  alpha-olefins, but the consumption and outlook for these products varies by region. CAHA's study examines the use of internal and alpha-olefins by chain length in this dynamic market.

### **METHODOLOGY**

CAHA's extensive files, data, knowledge and expertise on alpha-olefins gained through 20 years of consulting experience in alpha-olefins provided a unique foundation for this study. New research undertaken during the period of September 2000 through September 2001 included scores of interviews with knowledgeable contacts at more than 110 companies and organizations at over 160 locations on five continents.

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Region	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010			
North America											
West Europe											
Asia											
Other Regions											
TOTAL											

	Table I-6											
WORLD - ALPHA-OLEFIN PRODUCTION BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)												
Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010				
C <sub>4</sub>												
C <sub>6</sub>												
C <sub>8</sub>												
C <sub>10</sub>												
C <sub>12</sub>												
C <sub>14</sub>												
C <sub>16</sub>												
C <sub>18</sub>												
C <sub>20+</sub>			_	_		_						
TOTAL												

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Carbon Percent of Total Chain Length Production Production											
C <sub>4</sub>											
C <sub>6</sub>											
C <sub>8</sub>											
C <sub>10</sub>											
C <sub>12</sub>											
C <sub>14</sub>											
C <sub>16</sub>											
C <sub>18</sub>											
C <sub>20+</sub>											
TOTAL											

# SABIC - POTENTIAL ALPHA-OLEFIN CAPACITY BY CHAIN LENGTH (thousand tons) Carbon Chain Length Capacity Percent of Total Capacity Capacity C4 C6 C8 C10 C12-18 C20+ TOTAL

### Table III-7 WORLD TOTAL - ALPHA-OLEFIN END USE CONSUMPTION BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2005 (thousand tons) TOTAL End Use $C_4$ $C_6$ $C_8$ C<sub>10</sub> C<sub>12</sub> $C_{14}$ C<sub>16</sub> $C_{18}$ C<sub>20+</sub> POLYOLEFIN COMONOMERS HDPE LLDPE VLDPE/Plastomers Elastomers Polypropylene Multipolymers Subtotal SURFACTANTS AND INTERMEDIATES **Detergent Alcohols** Linear Alkylbenzene Alkyldimethylamines Alpha-olefin Sulfonates Subtotal Plasticizer Alcohols Synthetic Lubricants Synthetic Acids Petroleum Additives Alkenyl Succinic Anhydride Oilfield Chemicals Miscellaneous End Uses **GRAND TOTAL**

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North America											
Latin America											
West Europe											
Asia											
Other Regions											
TOTAL											

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LATIN AMERICA - ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND FOR LLDPE <sup>a</sup> PRODUCTION BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)												
Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR% 2000-2010				
C <sub>4</sub>												
C <sub>6</sub>												
C <sub>8</sub>												
TOTAL	TOTAL											
<sup>a</sup> Excluding V	LDPE, PI	astomers	and Elas	tomers.								

Table V-43											
WORLD - ALKYLDIMETHYLAMINE PRODUCTION BY SOURCE, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)											
Process	Process 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2010 2000-2010										
from olefin											
from alcohol											
from acid											
TOTAL											

	Table V-65											
ASIA - AOS PRODUCTION BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)												
Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010				
C <sub>14</sub>												
C <sub>16</sub>												
C <sub>18</sub>												
TOTAL												

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Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR% 2000-2010				
C <sub>6</sub>												
C <sub>8</sub>												
C <sub>10</sub>												
TOTAL								_				

	Table VII-26											
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Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010				
C <sub>8</sub>												
C <sub>10</sub>												
C <sub>12</sub>	C <sub>12</sub>											
TOTAL												

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ASIA - ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND FOR PETROLEUM ADDITIVE PRODUCTION BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)												
Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010				
C <sub>12</sub>												
C <sub>14</sub>												
C <sub>16</sub>												
C <sub>18</sub>												
C <sub>20+</sub>												
TOTAL												

### Table X-11 WEST EUROPE - PRODUCTION OF ALPHA-OLEFIN DERIVED ASA BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons) AAGR % Chain Length 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2010 2000-2010 C<sub>8</sub> C<sub>16</sub> C<sub>18</sub> C<sub>20+</sub> TOTAL

### Table XI-7 NORTH AMERICA - INTERNAL AND ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND FOR OILFIELD USES BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (thousand tons) AAGR % Chain Length 2000 2002 2003 2004 2010 2000-2010 2001 2005 $C_6$ $C_8$ C<sub>10</sub> C<sub>14</sub> C<sub>16</sub> C<sub>18</sub> $C_{20+}$ TOTAL

Table XII-1										
WORLD - ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND FOR MISCELLANEOUS END USES, 2000-2010 (thousand tons)										
End Use	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010		
Metalworking										
Epoxides										
Mercaptans										
HMW Waxes										
Polybutene-1										
Leather										
Amyl Alcohol										
Misc. Other										

Table XII-15										
ASIA - ALPHA-OLEFIN DEMAND FOR METALWORKING FLUIDS AND ADDITIVES BY CHAIN LENGTH, 2000-2010 (tons)										
Chain Length	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2010	AAGR % 2000-2010		
C <sub>10</sub>										
C <sub>12</sub>										
C <sub>14</sub>										
C <sub>16</sub>										
C <sub>18</sub>										
TOTAL										

### QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONNEL

Colin A. Houston & Associates Inc. (CAHA) was founded in 1971 to provide consulting services to the chemical industry worldwide. The primary area of expertise was and continues to be surfactants: raw materials, intermediates, major surfactants, and the surfactant-consuming industries. Other areas of activity include: a variety of industry studies on such topics as oilfield chemicals, detergent builders, ingredients for personal care products, and bleaching agents; engineering studies such as a worldwide study of glycerine evaporation plants with recommendations for improved efficiency; a world study of the state of the art in spray-drying detergents; contracts with the U.S. Government to develop industry effluent guidelines; and business strategy and acquisition studies.

CAHA has been studying alpha-olefin markets for most of its 25 year history. In 1980, CAHA was commissioned to undertake a major proprietary study of North American and West European alpha-olefin markets. In 1988, CAHA published its first world multiclient study on alpha-olefins. A second comprehensive study was completed in 1994. In addition, since 1989 CAHA has published a monthly alpha-olefin newsletter covering pricing and market developments for alpha-olefins and for polyolefins and other end uses for alpha-olefins.

The project team approach utilized by CAHA includes a core of senior and technical professionals augmented by expert consultant associates. The following brief synopses present the staff and consultants who carried out the study, *ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS*, 2000-2010 and ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE.

### Marilyn L. Bradshaw, Vice President,

was the project leader for ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. She is also the author and editor of CAHA's monthly alpha-olefin newsletter, and provides consultation to clients on alpha-olefins. Ms. Bradshaw was also the project leader for POLY-OLEFIN COMONOMERS - WORLD MARKETS, 1995-2005 and ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 1990-2002. Other recent multiclient studies she has directed include U.S. I&I CLEANING PRODUCTS - SURFACTANT SUPPLIERS AND CUSTOMERS, and INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS OF SURFACTANTS - NORTH AMERICAN FORECAST TO 2010. Since joining CAHA in 1980, she has also been the project leader for numerous proprietary projects. Ms. Bradshaw has a B.A. from Finch College and an economics and management certificate from Manhattanville College. She is a committee chair and former director of CDMA and a member of ECMRA.

### Joel H. Houston, President,

authored the Detergent Alcohols section of ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. In addition, Mr. Houston was the project leader for numerous multiclient studies including HIGHER ALCOHOLS: MARKET FORECAST TO 2010, SURFACTANTS FOR EMERGING MARKETS IN ASIA/PACIFIC, 1996-2010, OPPORTUNITIES IN PERFORMANCE SURFACTANTS IN THE U.S., SURFACTANTS FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS - NORTH AMERICAN FORECAST TO 2008, and DETERGENT ALKYLATES - WORLD MARKETS, 1992-2005. He has guided CAHA's research in oleochemicals since 1980, and in detergents since 1987. Mr. Houston has extensive experience in projects for consumer products, has presented papers at CMRA, ECMRA and CSMA meetings, and is the editor of CAHA's global detergent newsletter, AGGLOMERATIONS. He is a member of CDMA, AOCS and ASTM.

### H. James Bigalow, Senior Research Associate,

authored several sections of ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. In addition he has contributed to numerous multiclient studies including INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS OF SURFACTANTS - NORTH AMERICAN FORECAST TO 2010, SURFACTANTS FOR EMERGING MARKETS IN ASIA/PACIFIC, 1995-2010, DETERGENT ALKYLATES - WORLD MARKETS, 1995-2010 and SURFACTANTS FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS - NORTH AMERICAN FORECAST TO 2008. Mr. Bigalow has also worked on proprietary detergent and surfactant studies. Mr. Bigalow has over 20 years experience as a senior marketing research executive in the chemical industry. He has conducted successful business analysis projects which have included financial evaluations of businesses and acquisition candidates, identifying current and future markets for new and existing products, and product development and usage. Additional experience has included economic and sales forecasting, strategic planning, proprietary market research projects, benchmarking, and product safety. He is a member of the CDMA, the Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP), ACS and the Chemical Marketing and Economics Division of the ACS. Mr. Bigalow holds an M.S. Industrial Administration, Krannert School of Management, Purdue University and a B.S. degree in Chemistry, Denison University.

### Mack Hunt, Senior Research Consultant

authored the Synthetic Lubricants, Petroleum Additives and Metalworking Fluids sections of ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. He has over 35 years of experience in the creation, synthesis, development, manufacture and management of fuel and lubricating oil additives. Mr. Hunt is an internationally know expert in motor oil detergents and has authored or co-authored 53 U.S. patents and many foreign patents. He authored U.S. GASOLINE DETERGENT ADDITIVES, 1997-2004 and the U.S. portion of GASOLINE DETERGENT ADDITIVES - UNITED STATES AND WEST EUROPE II, 1992-2002 as well as

the Petroleum Additives section of ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 1990-2002. He also conducted a global polyisobutylene market study and proprietary studies of market prospects for gasoline detergent additives. He holds an A.B. Chemistry, Math and Biology, Nebraska Wesleyan University and an M.S. Organic Chemistry, University of Nebraska.

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Dr. Brockmeier wrote the Polyolefin Technology section of ALPHA-OLEFINS -WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. He also authored Chapter I - Polyolefin Technology of POLYOLEFIN COMONOMERS - WORLD MARKETS, 1995-2005. In addition to his own consulting practice, Dr. Brockmeier is a chemical engineer with the Process Evaluation Section in the Energy Systems Division at Argonne National Laboratory. He has over 25 years experience in industry, and is recognized as a leading authority on polyolefin process design and economics, recently in the emerging field of metallocene catalysis, with many publications and conference lectures in these areas. He was codesigner of the first Amoco gas-phase manufacturing process for homopolymer polypropylene resin, and part of the design team for a new gas-phase ethylene-propylene copolymer plant in Texas. He has also taught the capstone senior design course at Ohio State University and at the University of Texas. Dr. Brockmeier has a B.S. degree in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a member of ACS, AIChE, and the SPE, and is a registered professional engineer.

### Michael Tepper, Research Associate

authored several of the Miscellaneous End Use sections of ALPHA-OLEFINS - WORLD MARKETS, 2000-2010 AND ALPHA-OLEFIN MARKET INTELLIGENCE DATABASE. He has conducted research in support of proprietary work and contributes to CAHA's newsletter, *Agglomerations*. Prior to joining CAHA, Mr. Tepper was a mathematician who worked as a senior computing assistant for the University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business while obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. His background in statistics and his computer skills were invaluable in developing and implementing the electronic version of the new alpha-olefin study.

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