

For Immediate Release

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Goins Named Product Manager – Styrenics

Houston, Texas – (January 24, 2006) – Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. announced today that Mike Goins has been named polystyrene product manager for the Styrenics business line.

Goins joined the company in 1984 as a development engineer working in Big Spring, Texas, then applications manager at the La Porte, Texas Research and Technology Center, later taking an expatriate assignment in Brussels, Belgium. He returned to the U.S. in 1995 to assume responsibility as technical manager at the Bayport PE facility, then technical services manager and in 1998 was named product manager for the Polyethylene business line.

Goins has a BSME degree from The University of Texas, Austin and MBA from the University of Houston.

Goins, his wife and two children live in Houston, Texas.

Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc.'s Carville Styrenics business consists of the world's largest styrene monomer facility with a capacity of 2.6 billion pounds per year and the world's largest polystyrene facility with a capacity of 1.65 billion pounds per year. The styrene monomer facility, operated by Total Petrochemicals, is a 50/50 joint venture with GE Petrochemicals, Inc. The polystyrene facility is wholly owned and operated by Total Petrochemicals.

Polystyrene is a plastic used in foam packaging, insulation boards, house wares, office products, toys, and appliance casings.

Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. is headquartered in Houston and produces polypropylene, polyethylene, polystyrene, styrene, base chemicals and transportation fuels. With sales of \$7.47 billion in 2004, the company employs about 1,600 people in the U.S. and has manufacturing facilities in Texas and Louisiana as well as a research and technology facility in La Porte, Texas and a refinery in Port Arthur, Texas.

www.totalpetrochemicalsUSA.com



Total Petrochemicals encompasses petrochemicals activities of Total, the fourth largest oil company worldwide. Its business includes base petrochemicals from steam crackers and certain refinery processing plants – olefins (ethylene, propylene), C₄ fractions and aromatics (benzene, toluene, xylenes and styrene) – as well as the commodity polymers they derived from (polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and elastomers). Total Petrochemicals employs 7,500 people in Europe, the United States, the Middle East and Asia. Its products are used in many consumer and industrial markets, including Packaging, Construction and Automotive.