

TOTAL PETROCHEMICALS

For Immediate Release

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Douglass Appointed Site Manager of Carville Styrenics Complex

Houston, Texas – (May 23, 2005) – Total Petrochemicals USA, Inc. announced today that Mark Douglass has been appointed site manager at the company's Carville, Louisiana Styrenics Complex.

Douglass previously was plant manager at Total Petrochemicals' Bayport Polyethylene Plant in Pasadena, Texas.

Douglass joined the company in 1986 as a process engineer at the Carville Styrenics Complex. He held various positions in maintenance and operations management at the company's Carville Polystyrene Plant, Bayport Polyethylene Plant, and La Porte, Texas, Polypropylene Plant.

Douglass graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

The Carville Styrenics Complex 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.