

# Ethanol to Ethylene Conversion,

# Hummingbird Technology

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TechnipFMC Process Technology





### TechnipFMC Process Technology (PT)

- A global technology licensing business that combines leading proprietary process technologies from TechnipFMC, Badger, Zimmer and others
- Offers a market-leading portfolio of technologies, proprietary or through alliances in Refining, Syngas, Petrochemicals, Polymers and Gas Monetization
- In line with TechnipFMC's strategy to focus on technology to differentiate us from our competitors
- Headquartered in Houston with centers around the world

**TechnipFMC** 

R&D and piloting facilities in US and Europe





**Bioethanol dehydration to produce bio-ethylene** 



### **Ultra-Selective Ethylene Production Process**



Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> is an IChemE award winning gas phase reaction process, using a proprietary hetropolyacid heterogeneous catalyst.



The reaction occurs via diethyl ether [DEE] intermediate, with

#### **Ultra-selective performance**:

- With over 99% carbon conversion of ethanol to high grade ethylene.
- Low temperature operation.
- Simple separation and purification.
- Reduced utility requirements.





**Increasing Pressure** 

### **Demonstrated Technology**



The process has been **demonstrated in a fully recycling facility** with purification columns similar to a commercial plant.

- The plant was operated from 2009 to 2015 for over 36,000 hours.
- Gained understanding on start-up, shutdown, and steady state operations.
- Catalyst lifetime was proven for 2 years operation.



The programme completed by producing commercial grade ethylene product using commercial grade ethanol feed and commercially produced Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> catalyst.



## Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> Process Configuration



#### A simple Process Flow Scheme converts ethanol to ethylene. Ethylene A series of ultra-selective adiabatic reactors operate at mild temperature Purification and pressure. The Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> process does not require addition of dilution water or steam to prevent catalyst coking. Minor Primary Separation Impurities Vaporisation Reaction Ethanol -Clean-up Ultra high selective operation Simple clean-up processes are used to minimizes by-product maintain the productivity of the production. Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> catalyst. Separation and purification A few simple process operations are De-watering systems are simplified. sized according to the expected ethanol A high purity ethylene product feedstock quality. can be produced with a system of distillation columns, with a low utility usage.

**Process Water** 

# Typical GC Analysis Output



Bioethanol #1

 A typical high purity 1G Ethanol

Bioethanol #2

 A potential fuel grade ethanol





# **Designing for Bioethanol Impurities**



# Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> technology includes an bioethanol clean-up 'toolkit':

- ► Bioethanol is analysed for certain trace chemicals.
- Design of pre-treatment unit and E2E process is tailored to analysis.
- Growing reference library of commercially available bioethanols, with over 60 ethanol samples already tested.

# Process designs can accommodate a variety of bioethanol feedstocks.

- Process design to characteristics of specific bioethanol feedstock.
- Opportunity to process less expensive bioethanols.





### **Ensuring Process Performance & Development**

#### The process can use a variety of bio-ethanol feedstocks.

- Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> was developed to use fuel grade bio-ethanol feedstock, which has variable quality.
- Bioethanol is analysed for certain trace chemicals.
- Design of the process is tailored to the bioethanol analysis.

#### TechnipFMC pilot plant

- Providing an accurate platform for process design and performance guarantees.
- Assures Hummingbird<sup>®</sup> catalyst manufacturing quality.
- And is used to develop technology improvements.



hummingbird



## Thank you.

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