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ExxonMobil Starts Up New Ethane Cracker in Baytown, Texas

- New 1.5 million ton-per-year cracker to supply company's expanded plastics plant in Mont Belvieu
- Together, projects represent company's largest chemical investment in the U.S. to date
- Have created thousands of jobs and will energize regional economy

HOUSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [ExxonMobil](#) said today that operations have commenced at its new 1.5 million ton-per-year ethane cracker at the company's integrated Baytown chemical and refining complex.

The new cracker, part of ExxonMobil's [Growing the Gulf initiative](#), will provide ethylene feedstock to new performance polyethylene lines at the company's Mont Belvieu plastics plant, which began production in the fall of 2017. The Mont Belvieu plant is one of the largest polyethylene plants in the world, with manufacturing capacity of about 1.3 million tons per year.

"Our new ethane cracker will help us meet the growing global demand for high performance plastic products that deliver key sustainability benefits such as lighter packaging weight, lower energy consumption and reduced emissions, further enhancing our competitiveness worldwide," said John Verity, president of ExxonMobil Chemical Company. "The abundance of domestically produced oil and natural gas has reduced energy costs and created new sources of feedstock for U.S. Gulf refining and chemical manufacturing while creating jobs and expanding economic activity in the area."

Together, the Baytown ethane cracker and Mont Belvieu plant represent ExxonMobil's largest chemical investment in the U.S. to date. Operations associated with the Baytown and Mont Belvieu projects are expected to increase regional economic activity by roughly \$870 million per year and generate more than \$90 million per year in local tax revenues. The two projects have created more than 10,000 construction jobs, 4,000 jobs in nearby communities and 350 permanent positions.

ExxonMobil is strategically investing in new refining and chemical-manufacturing projects in the U.S. Gulf Coast region to expand its manufacturing and export capacity. The company's more than \$20 billion Growing the Gulf expansion program consists of major chemical, refining, lubricant and liquefied natural gas projects at proposed new and existing facilities along the Texas and Louisiana coasts. Investments began in 2013 and are expected to continue through at least 2022.

With the increase in chemical manufacturing and the industry's need for more skilled workers, ExxonMobil has contributed more than \$2 million over the last five years to the Community College Petrochemical Initiative, a training program offered by nine Houston-

area community colleges to provide technical skills to high school graduates, returning military veterans and others.

About ExxonMobil

ExxonMobil, the largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, uses technology and innovation to help meet the world's growing energy needs. ExxonMobil holds an industry-leading inventory of resources, is one of the largest refiners and marketers of petroleum products, and its chemical company is one of the largest in the world. For more information, visit www.exxonmobil.com or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/exxonmobil](https://twitter.com/exxonmobil).

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