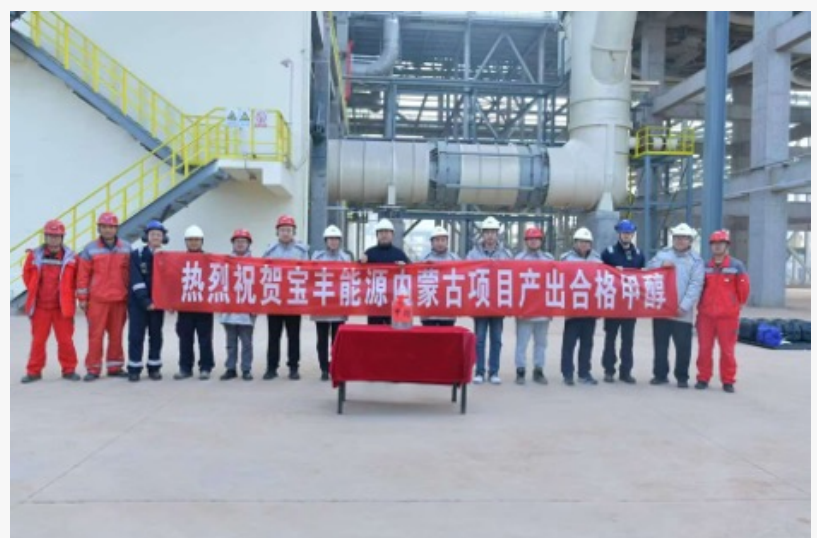


Johnson Matthey's Technology Enables Successful Start-up of the World's Largest Single Train Methanol Plant

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, August 15, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Johnson Matthey (JM) is pleased to announce that the three methanol production trains of Inner Mongolia Baofeng Coal-based New Materials Co., Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Ningxia Baofeng Energy Group, were successfully commissioned in November 2024, February 2025, and March 2025, respectively.

Located in the Wushenqi Sulige Economic Development Zone of Ordos City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, this plant employs Johnson Matthey's advanced methanol synthesis technology and catalysts, making it the largest single methanol plant in the world. Inner Mongolia Baofeng also stands as one of the largest chemical enterprises globally that produces polyethylene and polypropylene by using coal as a substitute for oil.

The successful start-up of this facility highlights Johnson Matthey's ability to deliver world-scale methanol solutions: capabilities that are increasingly relevant for fast-growing regions such as India, where methanol is emerging as a key component of future energy



and chemical strategies. JM's recently established engineering centre in Mumbai will play a central role in supporting similar low-carbon technology projects across Asia and beyond.

Ningxia Baofeng Energy Group is a key partner of Johnson Matthey in the fields of methanol process licensing and catalysts. The partnership between the two companies began in 2014 and has continued to deepen over the years. The successful start-up of this methanol plant marks another milestone in their long-standing collaboration.

Johnson Matthey was awarded the contract for this project in 2020, which included process licensing for three methanol synthesis units, process design, technical review, commissioning support, and the supply of catalysts. To date, Johnson Matthey has licensed seven methanol synthesis units to Ningxia Baofeng Energy Group. This achievement underscores the company's sustained technology leadership in this critical and fast-growing market, as well as its commitment to delivering the highest standards of quality and performance.

This successful commissioning also represents JM's 14th methanol plant in China with a capacity exceeding 1.8 MT per year, further highlighting the proven success of using Chinese-fabricated radial steam-raising converters and compressors in large-scale projects.

The Johnson Matthey designed methanol plant uses syngas as feedstock, combined with advanced catalysts, to produce stable, high-quality methanol, which is then used for olefin production in downstream units—contributing to efficient and greener chemical manufacturing.

Dr. Mark Su – President of Johnson Matthey Greater China says: “The successful start-up of the world's largest methanol plant fully demonstrates Johnson Matthey's world-class capability in delivering advanced, sustainable chemical production solutions. Our long-standing collaboration with Ningxia Baofeng Energy Group not only drives innovation and high-quality growth in China's chemical industry but also sets new benchmarks for scale and technological excellence globally.”

Dr. Maurits van Tol – Chief Executive, Catalyst Technologies, Johnson Matthey adds: “This project showcases the value of Johnson Matthey's global expertise, drawing on talent and innovation from across our network, including India. With the recent opening of our engineering centre in Mumbai, we are ideally placed to support customers in the region with advanced methanol and low-carbon technology solutions that help meet their decarbonisation goals.”

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About Ningxia Baofeng Energy Group

Founded in 2005, Baofeng Energy is currently China's largest privately-owned coal-to-olefins enterprise. The company is listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange under the stock code SH.600989.

About Johnson Matthey

Johnson Matthey is a global leader in sustainable technologies. For over 200 years, we've used advanced metals chemistry to tackle the world's biggest challenges. Many of the world's leading energy, chemicals, and automotive companies depend on our technology and expertise to decarbonize, reduce harmful emissions, and improve their sustainability. And now, as the world faces the challenges of climate change, energy supply, and resource scarcity, we're actively providing solutions for our customers. For more information visit www.matthey.com.

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