



Press Release  
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## ExxonMobil Begins Construction of New Hydrocracker at Rotterdam Refinery

- Significant, long-term investment enhances refinery's competitiveness
- New unit will produce Group II base stocks and diesel to meet global customer needs
- Project further improves site energy efficiency by five percent

ROTTERDAM, June 15, 2016 – ExxonMobil and government leaders gathered in Rotterdam today to break ground on the construction of a new hydrocracker. The unit will upgrade heavier hydrocarbon byproducts into cleaner, higher value finished products such as EHC™ Group II base stocks and ultra-low sulfur diesel.

Senior government officials, including Minister of Economic Affairs Henk Kamp and Allard Castelein, chief executive officer of Rotterdam Port Authority, participated in the event. In addition to a speech by the minister, remarks were made by EU representative Tudor Constantinescu, John Noel, vice president of ExxonMobil Research & Engineering, and Joost Van Roost, president of ExxonMobil Petroleum & Chemical BVBA.

“ExxonMobil's Rotterdam facilities have been drivers of economic expansion and growth in the region for the last 125 years,” Van Roost said. “They provide affordable and reliable energy, well-paying jobs, tax revenues to governments, and are excellent examples of the value of a competitive refining sector to the economy.”

The project, valued at more than US\$1 billion, builds on past strategic investments at the Rotterdam site to strengthen the refinery's position as a leader in the advantaged Rotterdam integrated petrochemical cluster and in the global refining industry.

“This project demonstrates ExxonMobil's commitment to improve the competitiveness of its advantaged assets,” refinery manager Harro van de Rhee said. “Our leading edge facilities and configuration define the Rotterdam refinery as one of the most competitive sites in a tough European refining environment. Governments have an important role to ensure a level playing field to allow European refineries to effectively compete in the global marketplace.”

The Rotterdam refinery, operated by Esso Nederland BV, is already one of the most energy-efficient refineries in Europe, and the project will increase its energy efficiency further by five percent. The expansion will also enable ExxonMobil's proprietary hydrocracking technology to be used for the first time to produce EHC™ Group II base stocks in Europe. Base stocks are the primary ingredients used in the production of high-quality lubricating oils and greases.

“ExxonMobil leverages expertise across the entire lubricants value chain to bring efficiency, cost effectiveness and value to our customers around the world,” said John Noel, vice president of ExxonMobil Research & Engineering. “Combined with ExxonMobil's existing manufacturing capabilities, this project will enable us to provide a global EHC Group II base stocks product offering to meet current and future customer needs.”

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### **About ExxonMobil Refining & Supply**

ExxonMobil Refining & Supply and its stewarded affiliates operate a global network of reliable and efficient manufacturing plants, transportation systems and distribution centers that provide a range of fuels, lubricants and other high-value products and feedstock to our customers around the world.

### **About ExxonMobil Basestocks**

ExxonMobil is one of the world's largest suppliers of base stocks and leading licensors of base stock technology and produces Group I, Group II/II+ and synthetic base stocks at strategically located refineries around the world. ExxonMobil's base stocks are designed to provide enhanced performance capabilities in applications ranging from engine oils to industrial lubricants.

ExxonMobil's CORE Group I and EHC™ Group II slates meet more than 90 percent of the industry's base stock needs and offer broader blend coverage and the potential to reduce supply chain complexity while meeting evolving industry requirements. For more information, visit:

[www.exxonmobil.com/basestocks](http://www.exxonmobil.com/basestocks)

### **About ExxonMobil Rotterdam Refinery**

ExxonMobil's modern Rotterdam refinery has a daily throughput of 190,000 barrels and plays a key role in the region and marketplace as a manufacturer of low-sulfur petroleum products and feedstock for the chemical industry. The refinery was built in the late 1950s and was the largest ever foreign investment at that time. A 1980s Flexicoker investment was the largest ever industrial investment in the Netherlands at that time.

### **About ExxonMobil in the Netherlands**

ExxonMobil's presence in the Netherlands dates back to 1891, making it the country's oldest oil and gas company. ExxonMobil is also the oldest U.S. industrial company in the Netherlands.

ExxonMobil now has several manufacturing sites in the Rotterdam area, including a refinery, a lubes plant and four petrochemical plants. Its Esso fuels are sold to branded wholesalers and resellers. For more information visit [www.exxonmobil.nl](http://www.exxonmobil.nl) or follow us on Twitter

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