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CMAI Releases its 2012 World Paraxylene and Terephthalates Analysis

HOUSTON – [Chemical Market Associates, Inc. \(CMAI\)](http://www.cmaiglobal.com), acquired by IHS Inc. (NYSE: IHS - www.ih.com), has released its new [*2012 World Paraxylene and Terephthalates Analysis*](#), its annual, global market study covering historical developments and future projections for supply, demand, capacity, and trade in the global paraxylene (PX), terephthalic acid (PTA), dimethyl terephthalate (DMT) and phthalic anhydride markets for the period 2006 to 2016. These chemicals are used primarily for producing polyester fibers and packaging.

According to the report, as living standards increase worldwide, demand for textiles and packaging is forecasted to grow, especially in the highly populated, emerging-market economies of China and India. Polyester fiber has established itself as the leading fiber among both synthetic and natural fibers, due to its ample availability, cost advantages and better performance characteristics relative to competing materials. Consequently, future growth prospects for polyester fiber are better as compared to alternative or competing fibers.

Northeast Asia (primarily China) will remain the main driver of global PTA demand. While a significant portion of Asia's finished polyester goods' production will continue to be driven by external demand, the potential for greater domestic consumption seems almost limitless in view of the rapidly increasing middle class. The Chinese government has made concerted efforts to move away from the export-led growth model by encouraging greater domestic consumption, which could greatly accelerate this demand trend.

As the center of demand growth, it is not surprising that Asia also accounts for the majority of the world's PX and PTA capacity additions. Asian capacity is increasing at a dramatic pace. Companies in Brazil, Poland, Portugal, Russia and Saudi Arabia also have announced plans to build new PTA facilities; and even in the U.S. and Europe, producers are planning to expand existing facilities. However, the anticipated significant growth in PTA capacity will limit increases in utilization rates and, as a result, limit future improvements in cash margins.

To order the *2012 World Paraxylene & Terephthalates Analysis* and learn more about the current market issues and CMAI's outlook for this industry, please visit www.cmaiglobal.com. The analysis is available in paper and CD-ROM format, with access to CMAI's Online Capacity and Supply/Demand databases, which are updated frequently to reflect changing market conditions.

[CMAI](#) is the premier provider of market, planning, and business advisory services for the global chemical, plastics, fibers and chlor-alkali industries. With offices in Houston, New York, London, Dubai, Düsseldorf, Bangkok, Singapore and Shanghai, CMAI has provided expert business advisory services to a broad range of companies across multiple value chains and geographies since 1979. Clients to CMAI services include

companies in the following industries: chemical & oil, technology & EPC; banking and financial institutions; plastic converters; textile & apparel manufacturers; brand-owners; grocers/retailers, government agencies; trading.

[IHS](#) (NYSE: IHS) is the leading source of information and insight in critical areas that shape today's business landscape, including energy and power; design and supply chain; defense, risk and security; environmental, health and safety (EHS) and sustainability; country and industry forecasting; and commodities, pricing and cost. Businesses and governments in more than 165 countries around the globe rely on the comprehensive content, expert independent analysis and flexible delivery methods of IHS to make high-impact decisions and develop strategies with speed and confidence. IHS has been in business since 1959 and became a publicly traded company on the New York Stock Exchange in 2005. Headquartered in Englewood, Colorado, USA, IHS employs approximately 5,100 people in more than 30 countries around the world.

Jamie Van Fleet
CMAI
1401 Enclave Parkway, Suite 500
Houston, TX 77077 U.S.A.
Tel: 1-281-531-4660 Fax: 1-281-531-9966
Email: jvanfleet@cmaiglobal.com

HEADQUARTERS
Houston, Texas
Tel: 1-281-531-4660
Cmai@cmaiglobal.com

EUROPE Ltd
London, England
Tel: 44 (0)20-7930-9818
London@cmaiglobal.com

ASIA
Singapore
Tel: 65-6-226-5363
Asia@cmaiglobal.com

USA
Valhalla, New York
Tel: 1-914-579-0010
NewYork@cmaiglobal.com

EUROPE GmbH
Düsseldorf, Germany
Tel: 49-211-710081-10
Dusseldorf@cmaiglobal.com

MIDDLE EAST
Dubai, U.A.E
Tel: 971-4-391-2931
Dubai@cmaiglobal.com

CHINA
Shanghai, PRC
Tel: 86-21-6163-5470
Shanghai@cmaiglobal.com

THAILAND
Bangkok
Tel: 66 2 617 7820
Thailand@cmaiglobal.com