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II in Petrochemical prices

- Saudi propane prices fall; Butane remain stable: Saudi Aramco maintained NGL prices (propane & butane) at high levels. The PPpropane spread expanded to USD 576 per ton from USD 553 per ton last month. While PP-butane spread declined to USD 456 per ton from USD 463 per ton.
- **Naphtha prices decline 10.9% MoM:** The decline in crude prices (down 5.6% MOM) led to a 10.9% MoM decline in naptha prices to USD 450 per ton.
- Decline in PP and PE prices: PP prices fell 0.5% MoM to USD 1,055 per ton led by a tumble in feedstock propylene price (down 13.3% MoM) and drop in global energy prices. HDPE, LDPE and LLDPE prices fell 2.5% MoM, 5.4% MoM and 2.6% MoM, respectively.
- Sharp fall in prices of styrene and polystyrene: Polystyrene prices declined 10.8% MoM to USD 1,320 per ton led by a sharp fall in styrene prices (down 17.3% MoM) to USD 1,145 per ton. End in upward trend of PVC prices as prices fall marginally by 0.5% to USD 950 per ton.
- MEG declines on fall in ethylene prices: MEG prices fell 13.2% MoM followed by decline in ethylene prices (down 15.4% MoM). Methanol prices remained flat at USD 500 per ton.
- **Titanium dioxide prices increase:** The price of weighted average titanium dioxide continued to increase (up 2.2% MoM) to USD 2,606 per ton in March.
- Urea prices decline while ammonia prices strengthen: Urea prices decline second time in a row (down 14.0% MoM) to USD 215 per ton, while ammonia prices rose 4.6% MoM to USD 340 per ton. DAP prices were up 6.9% MoM to USD 385 per ton.

Uncertainty over oil prices continues

- Oil market turns bullish: Brent crude oil prices declined 5.6% MoM to USD 52.83 in March as US Department of Energy reported a much larger increase in inventory than expected. However, oil market turned bullish again in the second week of April amid geopolitical tension in Syria following US airstrikes. Moreover, Libya's largest oilfield, Sharara oilfield, was shut on April 10 after an unknown group blocked the pipeline. Brent oil rose to USD 56.0 per barrel due to these two factors.
- Crude oil prices witness a fall in March: Brent and WTI declined 5.6% MoM and 6.3% MoM, respectively, in March. The spread between Brent and WTI expanded to about USD 2.23 per barrel in March from USD 2.00 per barrel in February. Brent and WTI prices closed at USD 52.8 per barrel and USD 50.6 per barrel, respectively. Meanwhile, Henry Hub natural gas prices jumped 21.4% MoM to USD 3.19 per mmbtu.
- EIA increases US oil production target by 0.2 mbpd for 2018: In EIA's short-term energy outlook report for April, the US oil production target has been forecast to average to 9.2 mbpd in 2017 and 9.9 mbpd for 2018.
- OPEC's oil production decreases 153 kbpd in March 2017: According
 to the Monthly Oil Market Report (MOMR), OPEC's oil production
 decreased to 31.93 mbpd in March. OECD commercial inventories were
 up 268 mn barrels from the latest five-year average, with a forward
 cover of 64.2 days. Refinery margins weakened in Asia due to lack of
 export opportunities and higher inflows into the region.
- Rig count continues to rise: In the week ended April 13, the US rotary rig count rose by 8 WoW to 847. The number of rigs increased about 11% MoM in April (3.7% MoM rise In March). The rig count was up 108.1% YoY. Of the total number of rigs, 683 were used to drill for oil and 164 for natural gas.

Table 1: Petchem Prices - March 2017

Name	Price (USD pet ton)	MoM %	YTD %
Naphtha	450	-10.9%	-7.2%
Saudi Propane	480	-5.9%	26.3%
Saudi Butane	600	0.0%	42.9%
Ethylene	1,100	-15.4%	0.9%
Propylene-Asia	845	-13.3%	0.6%
HDPE	1,160	-2.5%	0.0%
LDPE	1,230	-5.4%	-5.4%
LLDPE	1,130	-2.6%	-2.6%
PP-Asia	1,055	-0.5%	-1.9%
Styrene-Asia	1,145	-17.3%	-4.6%
Polystyrene	1,320	-10.8%	0.0%
TiO ² *	2,606	2.2%	4.2%
PVC-Asia	950	-0.5%	4.4%
MEG	755	-13.2%	-12.2%
Methanol	500	0.0%	42.9%
DAP-Gulf	385	6.9%	18.5%
Urea-Gulf	215	-14.0%	-12.2%
Ammonia-Gulf	340	4.6%	65.9%
MTBE-Asia	575	-12.9%	-16.7%
EDC	365	4.3%	19.7%
Butyl-A	1,270	-8.6%	-7.3%
BPA	1,350	2.3%	20.5%
PX-Asia	825	-7.3%	-1.2%
EVA	1,500	0.7%	2.4%

Source: Argaam, Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research
* Weighted average

Table 2: Economic Calendar

Date	Country	Event
06-April to -13 April	KSA	2016 Exports & Imports
18-Apr	KSA	Crude Oil Data Published: JODI
20-April to 05-May	KSA	Non-Oil Exports YoY
22-April to 25-April	KSA	CPI YoY
27-Apr	KSA	M1, M2, M3 Money Supply YoY
27-Apr	KSA	SAMA Net Foreign Assets SAR
28-Apr	US	GDP Annualized QoQ
03-May	KSA	Emirates NBD Saudi Arabia PMI
May 02,09,16,23,30	US	Weekly Petroleum Status Report
04-May	US	Trade Balance
05-May	US	Unemployment Rate
09-May	US	EIA Short-term Energy Outlook
10-May to 25-May	KSA	Unemployment Rate (Saudis)
11-May		OPEC Monthly Oil Market Report
16-May		IEA Oil Market Report

Source: Bloomberg, IEA, EIA, OPEC

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Key comments from international energy agencies

IEA (Oil Market Report Published on 10 February)

- Global oil demand expanded by 1.6 mbpd in 2016 and is expected to increase by 1.4 mbpd in 2017(up 0.1 mbpd from the
 previous month's estimate).
- OPEC's oil production fell 990 kbpd to 32.1 mbpd in January and the cuts achieved a record initial compliance rate of 90%, with some producers, notably Saudi Arabia, appearing to cut by more than required.
- Global oil supplies fell 1.2 mbpd to 96.4 mbpd in January due to a lower OPEC and non-OPEC output.
- OECD commercial inventories fell for the five consecutive months in December.
- Refinery throughput has been revised up by 200kbpd in 1Q2017.

OPEC (Monthly Oil Market Report Published on 12 April)

- Global oil demand averaged 95.05 mbpd in 2016 and is expected to increase to 96.32 mbpd in 2017.
- Oil consumption rose by 1.38 mbpd in 2016 and is expected to rise by 1.27 mbpd in 2017 (up 10 kbpd from the previous month's estimate).
- In March, OPEC's oil production decreased 153 kbpd to 31.93 mbpd (according to secondary sources).
- Non-OPEC supplies are projected to decline 0.69 mbpd to 57.32 in 2016 (down 30 kbpd from the previous month's estimate), but increase 0.58 mbpd to 57.89 in 2017 (up 176 kbpd from the previous month's estimate).
- OECD's oil and oil product inventories fell in February to 2,987mn barrels.
- OECD commercial inventories were 268 mn barrels higher than the latest five-year average, with a forward cover of 64.2 days (up by 4.6 days from previous five-year average).
- Demand for OPEC crude averaged 31.7 mbpd in 2016 (up about 1.9 mbpd from 2015) and is projected to average 32.2 mbpd in 2017 (up by around 0.6 mbpd from 2016).

EIA (Short-Term Energy Outlook Published on 11 April)

- Brent prices are projected to average USD 54 per barrel in 2017 (USD 1 lower than previous months estimates) and USD 57 per barrel in 2018.
- WTI oil prices are expected to average USD 2 per barrel, lower than Brent prices in both 2017 and 2018. (USD 1 higher than previous months estimates)
- US crude production averaged 8.9 mbpd in 2016.
- US crude production is projected to average 9.2 mbpd in 2017 and 9.9 mbpd in 2018 (up 0.2 mbpd from the previous month's estimate).
- As on March 31, 2017, US natural gas inventories totaled 2,051 bn cubic feet (down 13.2% MoM).
- Global consumption of petroleum and other liquid fuels is expected to rise 1.5 mbpd in 2017 and 1.6 mbpd in 2018.
- Non-OPEC production is anticipated to rise 0.6 mbpd in 2017 and 1.2 mbpd in 2018 (0.2 mbpd higher than the previous month's estimate).
- On average, OPEC members produced 32.5 mbpd of crude oil in 2016. Crude oil production is expected to increase 0.1 mbpd in 2017 (0.1 mbpd lower than the previous month's estimate) and rise by an additional 0.6 mbpd in 2018 (0.1 mbpd higher than the previous month's estimate).
- OPEC's unplanned oil supply disruptions averaged 1.9 mbpd in March, up 0.1 mbpd from February.
- OECD inventories are forecast to rise to 2.97 bn barrels by the end of 2017 and increase to 3.04 bn barrels by the end of 2018.

2



Figure 1: TASI versus Materials sector



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 2: Materials sector versus Oil (Brent)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Table 3: World Oil Demand and Supply

(mbpd)		20	16			20	17E		2015	2016	2017E	2018E
World Crude Oil & Liq. Fuels Supply	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
OPEC Supp.	38.32	38.79	39.24	39.63	38.89	39.31	39.83	40.01	38.30	38.99	39.51	40.22
Non-OPEC Suppl.	58.47	57.62	57.91	58.71	58.00	58.57	59.13	59.47	57.48	58.18	58.80	59.96
Total World Supply	96.79	96.41	97.15	98.34	96.89	97.88	98.96	99.48	95.78	97.17	98.31	100.18
World Crude Oil & Liq. Fuels Cons.												
OECD Consumption.	46.66	46.00	47.25	47.32	46.69	46.36	47.56	47.56	46.41	46.81	47.05	47.34
Non-OECD Consumption.	48.78	50.08	50.30	50.26	49.87	51.35	51.65	51.54	47.66	49.86	51.11	52.45
Total World Cons.	95.44	96.08	97.55	97.58	96.56	97.71	99.21	99.10	94.07	96.67	98.16	99.79
OECD Inventory (mn bbls)	2,995	3,035	3,042	2,965	2,978	3,003	2,995	2,979	2,967	2,965	2,979	3,043
OPEC Surplus Crude Oil Prod. Cap.	1.62	1.25	0.97	1.03	2.16	1.94	1.49	1.42	1.60	1.22	1.75	1.21

Source: EIA STEO March 2016, EIA STEO March 2017, AlJazira Capital Research

- The gap between crude supply and consumption is expected to expand to 0.38 mbpd by 4Q2017 from 0.33 mbpd in 1Q 2017.
- Crude inventories are anticipated to stabilize in 2017, ending the year at 2,979 mn barrels.
- OPEC's surplus production capacity is expected to contract to 1.42 mbpd by 4Q2017 from 2.16 mbpd in 1Q2017.

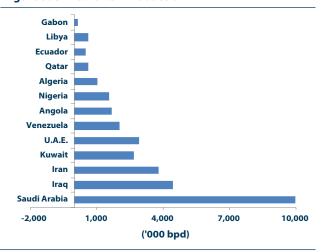


Table 4: OPEC monthly oil production

Prod. ('000bpd) Cap. Dec Jan Feb Mar % MoM Chg. Algeria 1,150 1,110 1,040 1,040 1,040 0.0% Angola 1,870 1,670 1,670 1,690 1,700 0.6% Ecuado 555 550 530 535 530 -0.9% Gabon 220 195 180 180 0.0% 4,000 3,800 3,780 3,785 0.1% Iran 3,730 4,700 4,490 4,440 4,430 -0.2% Iraq 4,630 3,000 2,705 -0.2% Kuwait 2,860 2,710 2,710 Libya 780 630 690 700 620 -11.4% Nigeria 2,200 1,500 1,640 1,680 1,550 -7.7% Qatar 780 615 610 -1.6% 620 620 Saudi Arabia 11,500 10,480 9,870 9,940 10,010 0.7% U.A.E. 3,150 3.070 2.950 2.950 2.915 -1.2% Venezuela 2.500 2.080 2.030 2.030 2.020 -0.5% **Total OPEC** 36,405 33,140 32,230 32,295 32,095 -0.6%

Source: Bloomberg

Figure 3: OPEC Mar Oil Production



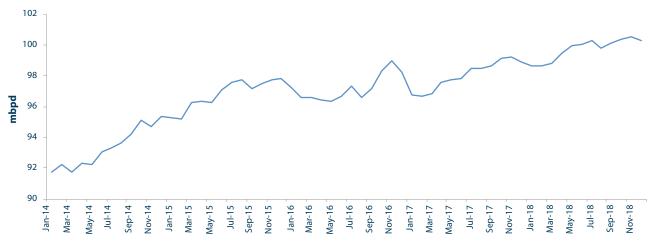
Source: Bloomberg

Figure 4: US Weekly Oil Inventories



Source: US EIA, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 5: World Oil Production and Forecast



Source: Bloomberg



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Saudi Arabia | Petrochemicals Sector | March

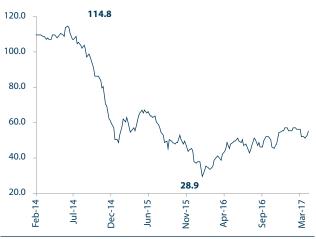
Corporate announcements		
Name of company	Date	Announcement
Alujain Corporation	April 05, 2017	National Petrochemical Industrial Co., Alujain Corporation 57.4% owned subsidiary, is expected to close its propylene and polypropylene complex for 25 days of scheduled maintenance, starting April 9. The company is forecast to witness the relevant financial impact in its 2Q2017 results.
Rabigh Refining and Petrochemical Co.	January 22, 2017	The company suspended work on Thursday, January 19 at its petrochemicals complex. The company took this decision due to a technical malfunction in one of the generators, which did not lead to any material damage. The generator began operating again on January 21, and the petrochemicals complex would gradually recommence operations on January 22. The company is expected to announce the financial impact of the suspension later on.
Saudi Basic Industries Corp. (SABIC)	April 10, 2017	SAMAC Poly Methyl Methacrylate Plant, the joint venture between SABIC and Mitsubishi Rayon Co. is expected to be commissioned in 2Q2017. Commercial operations are expected to begin six months after the commissioning. The other plant would produce poly methyl methacrylate (PMMA) and has an annual capacity of 40,000 metric tons.
Sahara Petrochemical Co.	April 09, 2017	The company decided to extend the maintenance period of Al Waha Petrochemical Co. and Sahara and Maaden Petrochemical Co. (SAMAPCO) due to additional technical issues. The company did not disclose the duration of the extension. On March 7, Sahara had announced that it plans to shut down the Al Waha plant for 32.5 days and subsidiary SAMAPCO's caustic soda and EDC unit for 25 days due to scheduled maintenance.
Saudi Industrial Investment Group	April 02, 2017	The company shut down its Saudi Chevron Phillips (SCP) project due to scheduled maintenance for a period of 35 days, starting April 1. The company expects the relevant financial impact in 2Q2017.
Saudi International Petrochemical Co. (Sipchem)	March 23, 2017	Sipchem announced that International Diol Co. (IDC), its Sipcems affiliate, had cut production due to a technical malfunction. The malfunction is being investigated and the plant is expected to resume full production by the end of next week.
Methanol Chemicals Co.	March 19, 2017	Methanol Chemicals Co. obtained the Saudi Industrial Development Fund (SIDF)'s approval to reschedule its remaining loan of SAR 385mn to support the company's financial position. Under the new agreement, the company will pay the remaining sum in seven instalments, starting May 1, 2018, to March 28, 2021. The rescheduled debt has no additional guarantee.
National Industrialization Co.	February 22, 2017	US-based Tronox Limited signed an agreement to acquire the titanium dioxide business of Cristal for USD 1.7bn in cash plus stock. National Industrialization Co. (Tasnee) owns 79% stake in Cristal. Tasnee and other shareholders would retain 24% stake in the overall Tronox business after acquisition. The acquisition, which is subject to regulatory approvals and satisfaction of customary closing conditions, is likely to be finalized in Q1-2018.
Yanbu National Petrochemical Co.	March 29, 2017	The company plans to close its ethylene glycol plant for 21 days due to scheduled maintenance from April 21, 2017. In addition, the company plans to halt production at its olefins plant for 10 days, starting May 1. The financial impact of the shutdown is estimated at SAR 110mn based on average prices and is expected to reflect in the 2Q2017 and 3Q2017 results.

Source: Tadawul, AlJazira Capital Research



Oil and gas price trends

Figure 6: Brent Crude (USD per Barrel)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 7: WTI Crude (USD per Barrel)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 8: OPEC Reference Basket

120.0 110.5 110.0



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 9: Henry Hub Natural Gas (USD per mmbtu)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research



Petchem price trends

Figure 10: Naphtha (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 11: Ethylene (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 12: HDPE (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 13: LDPE (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 14: LLDPE (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 15: MTBE (USD per Ton)





Figure 16: Propylene (USD per Ton)



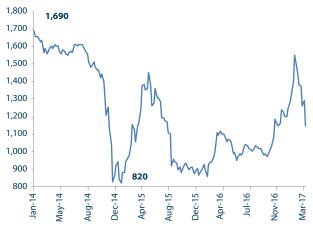
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 17: Polypropylene (USD per Ton)



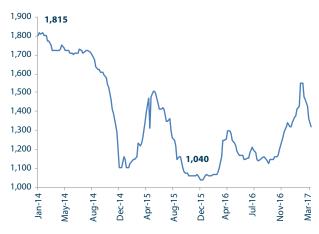
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 18: Styrene (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 19: Polystyrene (USD per Ton)



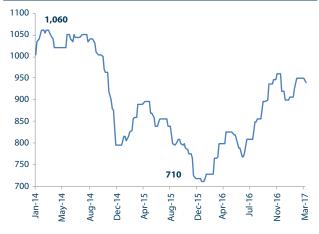
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 20: EDC (USD per Ton)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 21: PVC (USD per Ton)



Source: Reuter Eikon, AlJazira Capital Research



Figure 22: Methanol (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 24: Urea (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 26: TiO² Europe



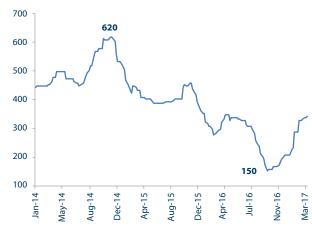
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 23: DAP (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 25: Ammonia (USD per Ton)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 27: TiO² America

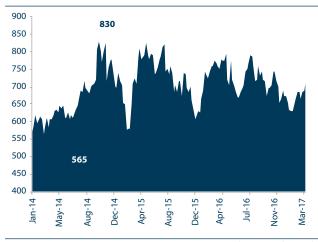




Petchem Spreads

- Naphtha prices averaged USD 465 per tonne in March, down from USD 515 per tonne in February, whereas those of polypropylene declined to USD 1,056 per tonne in March from USD 1,063 per tonne in February.
- The HDPE-naphtha, LLDPE-naphtha, and PP-naphtha spreads expanded to USD 688 per tonne, USD 665 per tonne, and USD 591 per tonne, respectively. LDPE-naphtha spread contracted to USD 763 per tonne in March from USD 795 per tonne in February.
- The PP-propane spread expanded to USD 576 per ton from USD 553 per tonne last month, whereas PP-butane spread declined to USD 456 per tonne from USD 463 per tonne.
- The HDPE-ethylene and LLDPE-ethylene spreads contracted on MoM basis, and turned negative averaging USD 28 per tonne and USD 50 per tonne, respectively. LDPE-ethylene spreads contracted on MoM basis to USD 48 per tonne.
- The PVC-EDC spread contracted to USD 585 per tonne from USD 596 per tonne.

Figure 28: HDPE-Naphtha



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 29: LDPE-Naphtha



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 30: LLDPE-Naphtha



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 31: PP-Naphtha

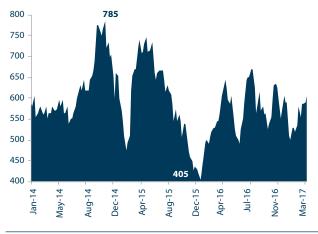
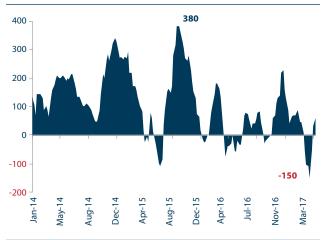


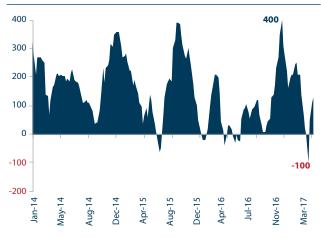


Figure 32: HDPE-Ethylene



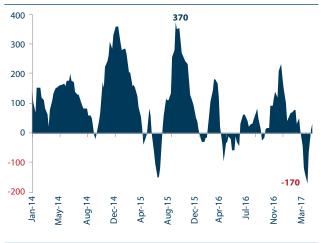
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 33: LDPE-Ethylene



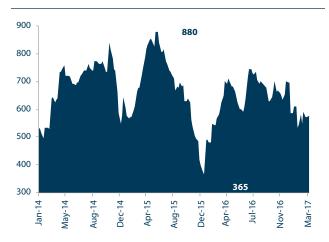
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 34: LLDPE-Ethylene



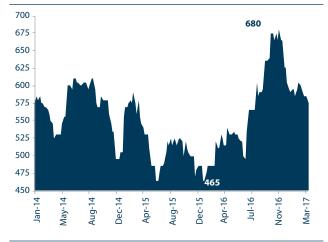
Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 35: PP-Propane (Saudi)



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 36: PVC-EDC



Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research

Figure 37: Polystyrene-Propane





Table 5: Petchem Price Performance

Name	Price * (USD per ton)	MoM % Chg.	QoQ % Chg.	YoY % Chg.	YTD % Chg.
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Saudi Propane	480	-5.9%	26.3%	65.5%	26.3%
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LDPE	1,230	-5.4%	-5.4%	2.1%	-5.4%
LLDPE	1,130	-2.6%	-2.6%	-3.4%	-2.6%
PP-Asia	1,055	-0.5%	-1.9%	6.6%	-1.9%
Styrene-Asia	1,145	-17.3%	-4.6%	4.1%	-4.6%
Polystyrene-Asia	1,320	-10.8%	0.0%	5.2%	0.0%
TiO2	2,606	2.2%	4.2%	10.4%	4.2%
PVC-Asia	950	-0.5%	4.4%	19.5%	4.4%
MEG	755	-13.2%	-12.2%	7.1%	-12.2%
Methanol	500	0.0%	42.9%	96.1%	42.9%
DAP-Gulf	385	6.9%	18.5%	4.1%	18.5%
Urea-Gulf	215	-14.0%	-12.2%	10.3%	-12.2%
Ammonia-Gulf	340	4.6%	65.9%	3.0%	65.9%
MTBE-Asia	575	-12.9%	-16.7%	-0.9%	-16.7%
EDC	365	4.3%	23.7%	32.7%	19.7%
Butyl-A	1,270	-8.6%	-7.3%	49.4%	-7.3%
BPA	1,350	2.3%	20.5%	45.9%	20.5%
PX-Asia	825	-7.3%	-1.2%	5.8%	-1.2%
EVA	1500	0.7%	2.4%	-	2.4%

Source: Argaam, AlJazira Capital Research *Weighted average

Note: *Prices as of March 26, 2017

Table 6: Petrochemical Products by Saudi Petrochemical Companies

Company	Finished Products
SABIC	Polyethylene, polypropylene, poly styrene, ethylene glycol (MEG), methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE), benzene, urea, ammonia, PVC, and PTA
SAFCO	Urea, ammonia
YANSAB	Polyethylene, polypropylene, MEG, MTBE, and benzene
Tasnee	Polyethylene, polypropylene, and propylene (TiO2)
Saudi Kayan	Polyethylene, polypropylene, MEG, polycarbonate, and bisphenol A
Petro Rabigh	Polyethylene, polypropylene, propylene oxide, and refined petroleum products
Petrochem	Polyethylene, polypropylene, and polystyrene
Sahara Petrochemicals	Polyethylene, polypropylene
Saudi Group	Styrene, benzene, cyclohexene, and propylene
Sipchem	Methanol, butanol, acetic acid, and vinyl acetate monomer
Advanced	Polypropylene
Alujain	Polypropylene
CHEMANOL	Formaldehyde – improvers concrete
NAMA	Epoxy resin, hydrochloric acid, liquid caustic soda, and soda granule
MAADEN	Ammonia and DAP

Source: Argaam Plus



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- 1. Overweight: This rating implies that the stock is currently trading at a discount to its 12 months price target. Stocks rated "Overweight" will typically provide an upside potential of over 10% from the current price levels over next twelve months.
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- 3. Neutral: The rating implies that the stock is trading in the proximate range of its 12 months price target. Stocks rated "Neutral" is expected to stagnate within +/- 10% range from the current price levels over next twelve months.
- 4. Suspension of rating or rating on hold (SR/RH): This basically implies suspension of a rating pending further analysis of a material change in the fundamentals of the company.

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