



25 Noiembrie 2011

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### **The Rompetrol Group successfully restarted the units in Petromidia**

The Rompetrol Group has successfully concluded this week the planned shutdown and restart works on the production units within the Petromidia platform, as well as the integration of 6 new installations in the operational flow, with focus with the capacity growth program of the refinery up to 5 million tons of processed raw material per year.

"The refinery's capacity increase investment program will be finalized in Q1 of 2012, and will allow the consolidation and development of Rompetrol's presence in Central and Western Europe. The complexity of the project involved more than 2,000 specialists – Rompetrol employees and partners, who contributed to the successful accomplishment, in maximum safety conditions, of over 4,000 activities", states Alexandru Nicolcioiu, The Rompetrol Group, Vice President of Refining and Petrochemicals.

During the scheduled stop, maintenance works have been done, specific to the refining field of work, such as as the replacement of the catalysts, essential for the upkeep and improvement of the fuel quality, together with modernization works on the gas desulphurization installation and the transformation of the distilled vacuum desulphurization installation into a diesel desulphurization one. Moreover, a new nitrogen producing unit has been integrated in the technological flow, together with a new flare system.

The refinery capacity increase program was initiated in 2007, and amounts to a total estimated value of over 367 million USD, with a deadline for the finalization in Q1 2012, when another three new units will be integrated in the production process (Mild Hydrocracking installation, Hydrogen producing unit and Sulphur recovery installation).

In order to support petrochemical activities, the Group has finalized during this period the modernization of the high-density polyethylene installation, in view of the product range expansions, to which four new kinds of items were added. The total value of investments made by Rompetrol Petrochemicals between 2002 and 2010 amounts now to over 107 million USD, and aimed at the growth of its specific activities, of the production capacities, of the quality and of the range of offered products.

The works accomplished during the turn-around were executed by Rominserv, The Rompetrol Group's main contractor. Through the additional measures for labor protection and trainings for all the employees and subcontractors working on the Petromidia platform, no work accidents whatsoever have been registered during this period.

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J40/9817/13.10.2010  
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