



Improving Methanol Production Efficiency and Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions

Ten or more years ago, a typical methanol manufacturing plant would emit about 0.9 - 1.0 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide for every tonne of methanol produced. In addition to the environmental concerns, large CO₂ emissions represent operational inefficiencies in a methanol plant, since the carbon emitted as CO₂ is not available for making methanol molecules. For these reasons, methanol plants began and continue to focus on efficiency improvements that reduce CO₂ emissions.

Through the implementation of efficiency improvements, and through replacing of older facilities with newer plants that use more efficient technologies, over the last decade methanol plants have been able to significantly reduce CO₂ emissions by up to 40%; some facilities report emissions as low as 0.54 tonnes of CO₂ / tonne of methanol produced. This is equivalent to emitting 3.8 lbs of CO₂ per gallon of methanol.

* * *

The Methanol Institute serves as the trade association for the global methanol industry.

For more information, contact:

Gregory Dolan
Vice President
Methanol Institute
4100 N. Fairfax Drive
Suite 740
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 248-3636
gdolan@methanol.org
www.methanol.org