

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 2, 2018

Industrial Boilers and Cookstoves in China Increasingly Use Methanol Fuel

Beijing – The Singapore-headquartered Methanol Institute (MI) and Peking University’s Center for Global New Energy Studies (CGNESS) today released a detailed study on the use of methanol as a fuel for industrial boilers and cookstoves in China.

Methanol New Energy Applications in China: Boilers and Cookstoves finds that more than 1,000 methanol-fueled industrial boilers consume over 2 million metric tons (MMT) (660 million gallons/3 billion liters) of methanol annually in China, while more than 3 MMT (1 billion gallons/3.8 billion liters) of methanol are consumed each year in cookstoves in Chinese homes, restaurants, and commercial kitchens.

“In just the past few years, methanol-fueled industrial boilers and cookstoves have emerged as critical tools for leaders looking to address urgent air pollution challenges in Chinese cities,” said MI CEO Gregory Dolan. “Moving away from burning coal, Chinese manufacturers, residential buildings, restaurants, and homes are finding methanol to be a clean and affordable alternative to natural gas, electricity and biomass.”

China has more than 600,000 boiler units that consume more than 700 MMT of coal annually to provide steam and heat for industrial facilities and residential apartments. These boilers typically lack emission controls and are found in the center of China’s cities, thereby contributing more airborne pollution than other sources. To combat this pollution, Chinese officials have banned the use of coal- and diesel-fired boilers in more than 40 urban centers. Over the past five years, more than 1,000 industrial boilers have been converted to run on liquid methanol, a clean-burning alcohol fuel. MI and its sister Chinese trade associations are working on developing standards for the safe and efficient growing use of methanol in industrial boilers.

In many developing countries, the use of biomass, wood, etc. for cooking generates significant air pollution and is a health hazard. Limited natural gas pipeline and liquified petroleum gas (LPG)/propane availability for cooking in China has also created a high demand for clean-burning, safe, affordable energy sources. The wide availability of methanol-fueled cookstoves in China – ranging from mini hotpots to industrial stoves – has transformed the country’s food services industries. More than 3 MMT of methanol are consumed annually via cookstoves in home, restaurants, and commercial kitchens.

It is expected that methanol demand for industrial boilers and cooking in China will continue to soar in the coming years.

Interested parties can download a copy of the report free from MI's web site at <http://www.methanol.org/uses/IB-CS-Report-2018.pdf>.

#####

About the Methanol Institute

The Methanol Institute (MI) serves as the global trade association for one of the world's most vibrant and innovative industries. Founded in 1989, MI represents methanol producers, distributors, and technology providers in every corner of the globe – from our headquarters in Singapore and regional offices in Washington, D.C., Brussels, and Beijing. MI and its members dedicate significant resources to developing best practices for the safe handling, transportation, and use of methanol. www.methanol.org

For more information, contact:

Mr. Zhao Kai
Chief China Representative
Methanol Institute (MI)
#511, Pacific Sci-Tech Development Center
Peking University
No. 52 Hai Dian Rd.
Beijing 100871, China
mobile: +86 185 1158 9623
e-mail: kzhao@methanol.org

Mr. Dom LaVigne
Director, Government & Public Affairs
Asia Pacific/Middle East
Methanol Institute (MI)
10 Anson Road
#28-12 International Plaza
Singapore 079903
mobile: +65 9835 4092
e-mail: dlavigne@methanol.org