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DECARBONISATION AND LOW CARBON AMMONIA



Orica KI Ammonia Plant Background

- MW Kellogg designed plant commissioned in 1969 to make 540 mtpd.
- Since initial commissioning the plant has been up-rated to ~1060 tpd.
- Ammonia from Orica KI is predominantly used for manufacturing ammonium nitrate but is also used directly as a fertilizer and some other special applications.
- Change of feedstock from Naphtha to Natural Gas in 1982.
- Significant modernsation has been implemented throughout the life of the plant.
- The KI Ammonia Plant has been decarbonising for decades!







Conventional Ammonia Production

3 H ₂	+	1 N ₂	<>	2 NH ₃
Hydroge	n +	Nitrogen		Ammonia

A 3 to 1 ratio of hydrogen to nitrogen is required to make ammonia.

Hydrogen source:

 Natural Gas Feed to Steam Methane Reformer, Secondary Reformer, Water Gas Shift Conversion, CO2 Removal





Decarbonisation Options: Past and Future

<u>Past</u>

Standard ammonia plants focus on fuel or feed efficiency improvement projects.

Fuel: Improved energy recovery (reduced fuel consumption)

Feed: Improved hydrogen yield from feed gas (i.e. improved reformer performance, purge gas recovery).

Use purified CO_2 in downstream processes or sell as product. Some plants use CO_2 for urea production, KI doesn't do this.

<u>Future</u>

Alternate feedstocks, e.g.:

- Renewable power to produce hydrogen from electrolysis
- Syn gas produced by waste recycling process (i.e. pyrolysis of waste)

Use purified CO_2 in downstream processes or sell as product.



Figure: Example of standard decarbonisation project. Install improved heat exchanger to reduce steam, and hence fuel consumption (\sim 10kt/y CO₂)



Figure: Example of standard decarbonisation project. Recovery vented hydrogen during start-up, to offset natural gas consumption.



KI Ammonia Plant Overview and renewable hydrogen addition to the process

Phase 1: Replace ~7% natural gas with renewable hydrogen. Limitation in conventional ammonia plants with secondary reformers, is the secondary reformer outlet temperature. Engineering to overcome intermittent nature of supplied renewable hydrogen.

Future phases: Further engineering is required to manage the steam balance on the ammonia plant.

Technically possible to convert to 100% renewable hydrogen.

