

Argentina Petrochemicals Report 2015

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Abstracts

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With gas on the decline and a cautious approach to investment in the country's shale potential, Argentina's petrochemicals industry is unlikely to see growth over the next five years, according to BMI's latest Argentina Petrochemicals Report.

The Argentine petrochemicals industry faced a major challenge in 2014 when growth from the previous year was wiped out by a contraction in plastics and rubber production. This coincided with a downturn in the economy. Tepid private consumption growth is expected to continue into 2015, leading to further pressure on local producers.

Gains reported in ethylene and polyethylene (PE) in 2013 were reversed in 2014 with the downturn likely to have undermined that recovery with the total cracker utilisation rate at around 15% below full capacity. At the same time, PE was also under pressure, partly as a result of market dynamics with the influx of lower priced PE imports.

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