

## Meta Cresol Market Research (China)



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The coal tar pathway is the traditional method to obtain meta-cresol through the fractional distillation of coal tar that is obtained mainly from the process of coking.

As the boiling point for m-cresol and p-cresol is close, it is hard to separate them. So usually, the rest part exists in form of mixture of meta-para-cresols. The content of meta-para-cresols mixture in coal tar is low. It is reported that these two isomers are separated out in overseas companies. However no Chinese company has mastered such technology. This is why the product from Chinese coal tar plants is meta-para-cresols instead of meta cresol or para cresol. Also it explains why the production of meta cresol, by the coal tar pathway, is quite small in China.

The capacity of meta-cresols is small in China, less than 10,000t/a in 2004. Meta Cresol in China is mainly used to produce vitamine, pyrethriods, etc. As the output of meta-cresol is restrained from the production technology, now China mainly imports it.

In the next five years, synthetic vitamin E and agrochemical industry are still the major driven forces for the development of meta-cresol industry in China.

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## **COMPANIES MENTIONED**

Shanghai Baosteel Group, Chemicals Company, Jiangsu Fangzhou Chemical Co., Ltd, Jiangsu Liyang Solvents Plant, Shandong Zibo Dacheng Pesticide Co., Ltd., Jiangsu Yangnong Chemical Group Co., Ltd.

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