



## METHANOL ECONOMY

LKMT Workshop on “Petrochemicals – Beyond Bulk Products”  
*13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> October, 2017, New Delhi*

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	<b>The Imperative</b>
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# Need for Alternate Energy Sources

Increasing world population  
Increase in standard of living



Increase in carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere  
Greenhouse effect (Global warming). 401 ppm

- Methanol, Hydrogen & Ethanol could be sources of stored energy like fossil fuels but reducing our dependence on the same.
- Also potentially CO<sub>2</sub> can be converted from a global-warming liability into a raw material for Methanol.

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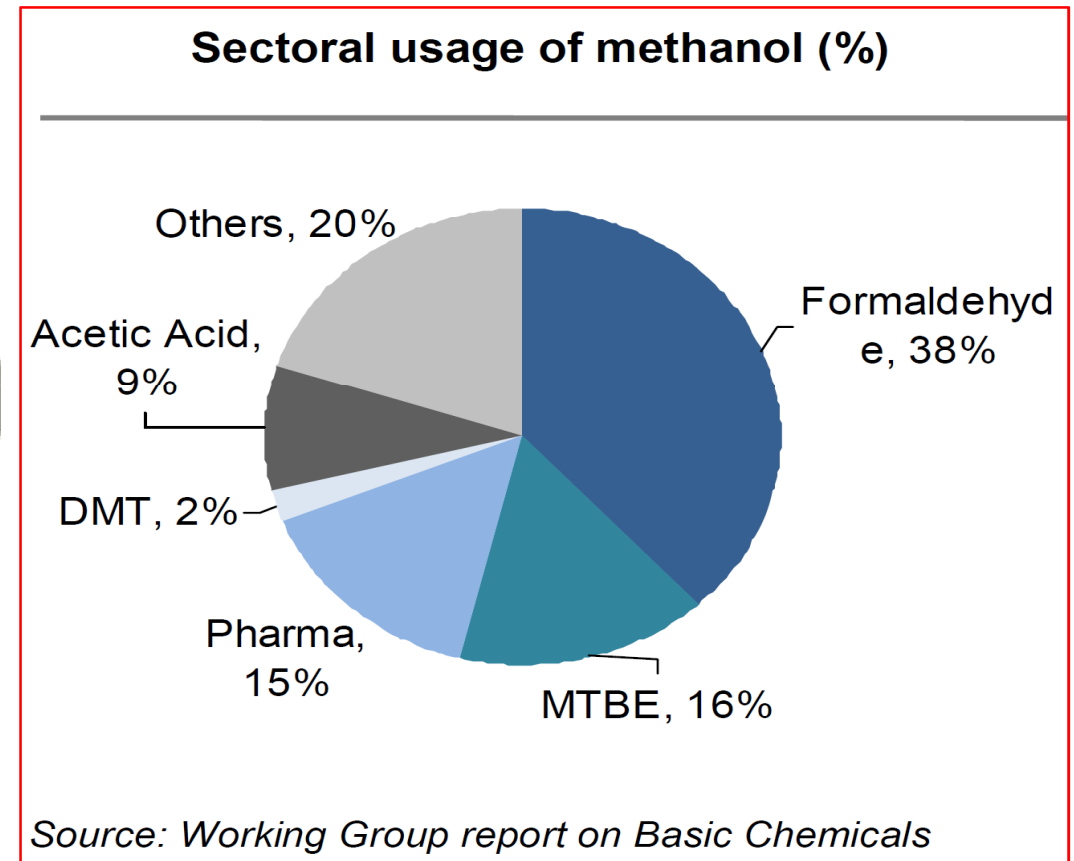
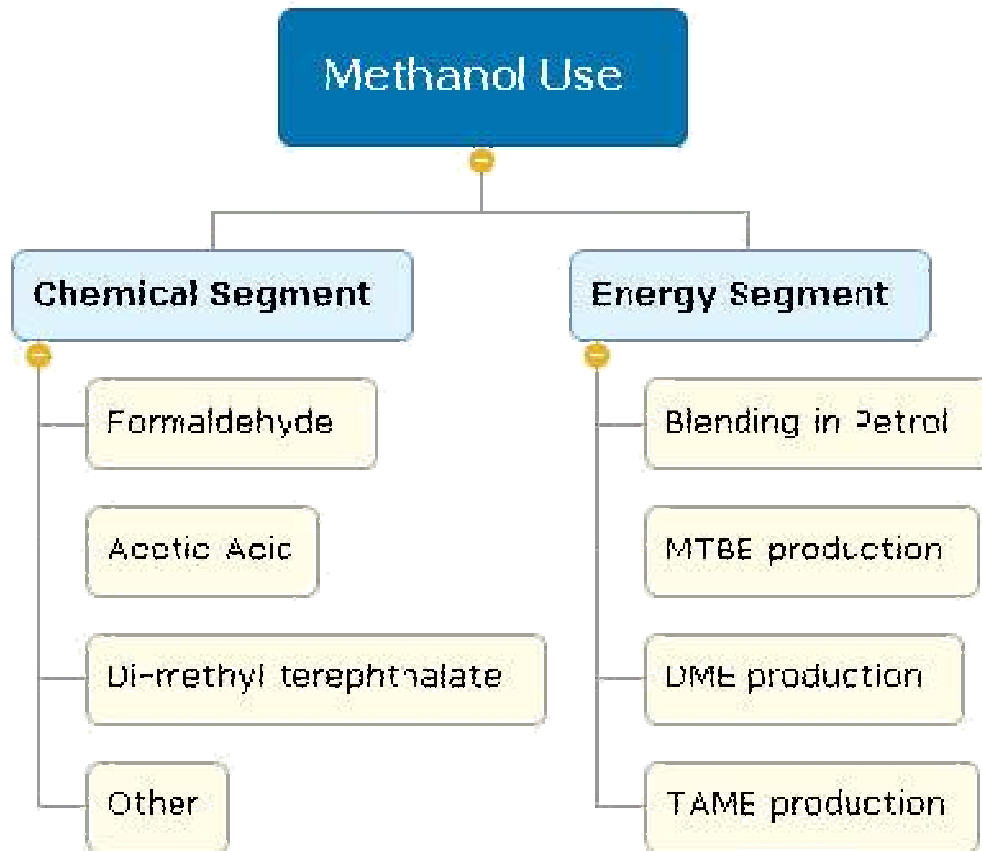
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# Methanol: Usage

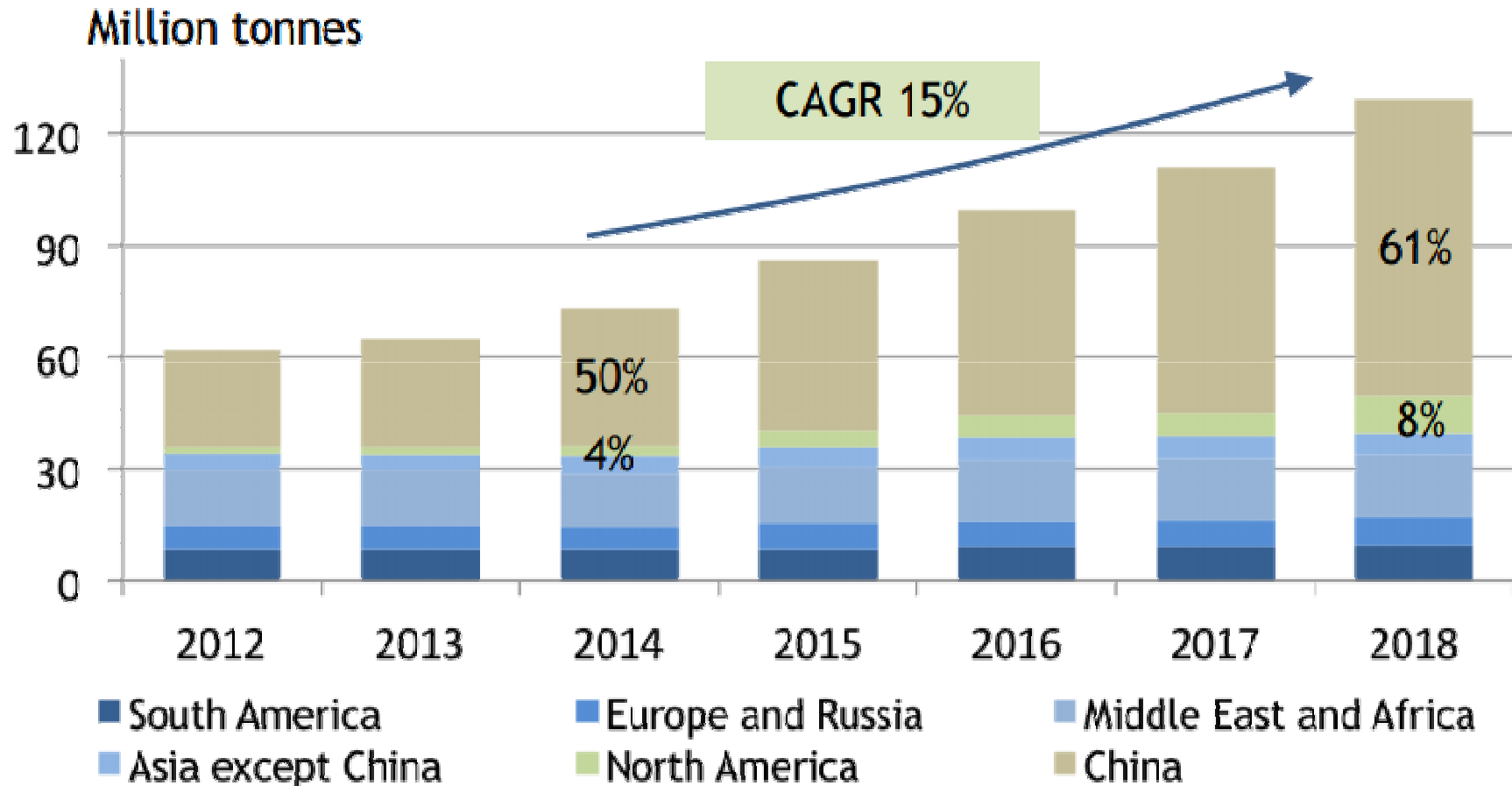
- Starting point for the synthesis of a wide range of industrial Chemicals
- Source as an alternative fuel



**Other Use:** Refrigerant, Pesticides, Paints, Tanning, Moulding Material

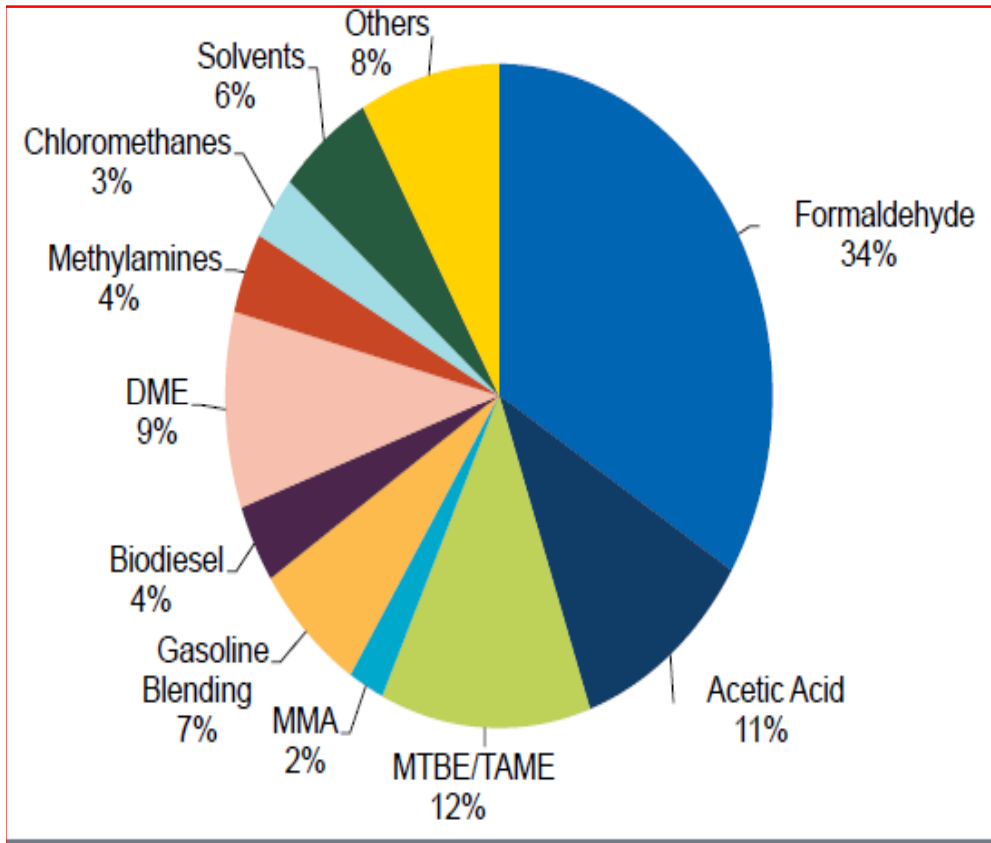
# Methanol: Global Production

Global methanol production, by region

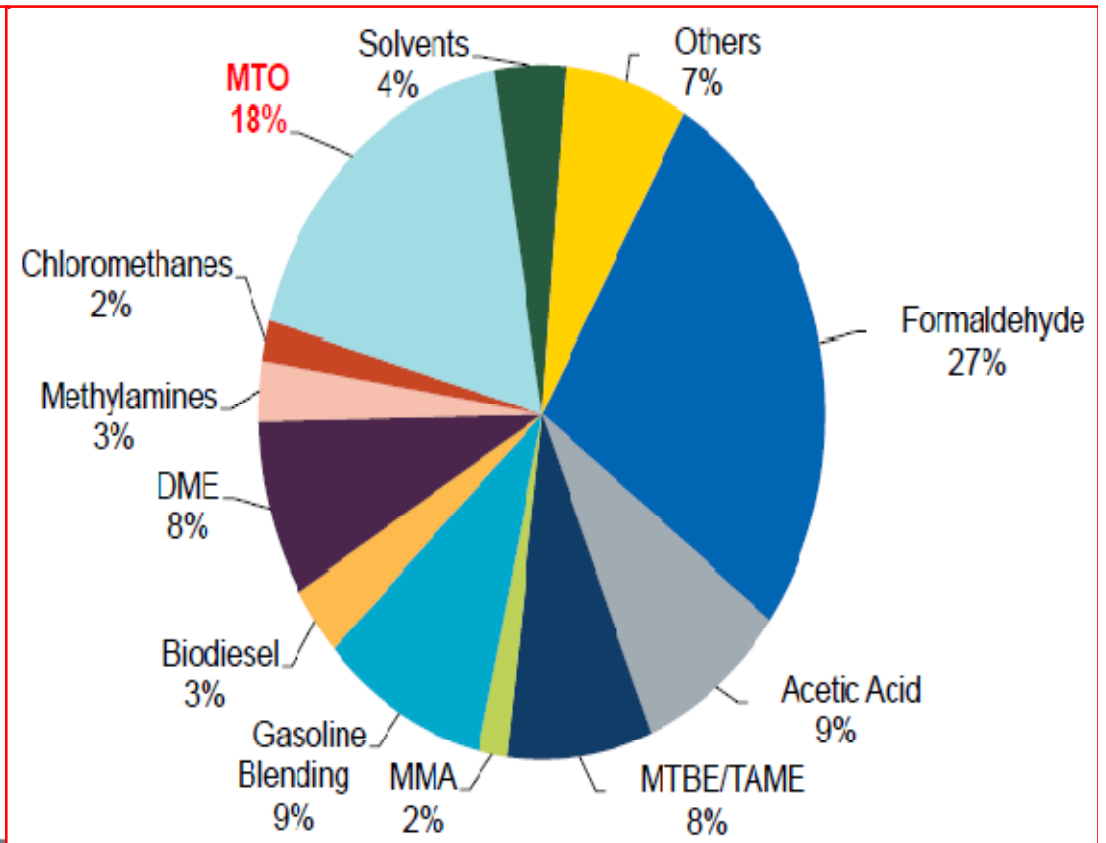


# Global Methanol Demand by End Use

2010 Global Methanol Demand By End-Use



2015 Global Methanol Demand By End-Use






# Methanol – Global & Indian Scenario

Net exporters: **Iran, Saudi Arabia**, Oman, South-east Asia producers

Net importers: China, Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, **India**, EU and US

## Indian market at a glance

- Consumption  $\approx$  2m tonnes/year (2014)
- Import: 1.4m-1.5m tonnes/year (2014)
- 70-80% imports are Iranian origin
- Five local producers 

### Feed for Methanol Production:

Primarily produced in India from natural gas/naphtha

Majority is imported

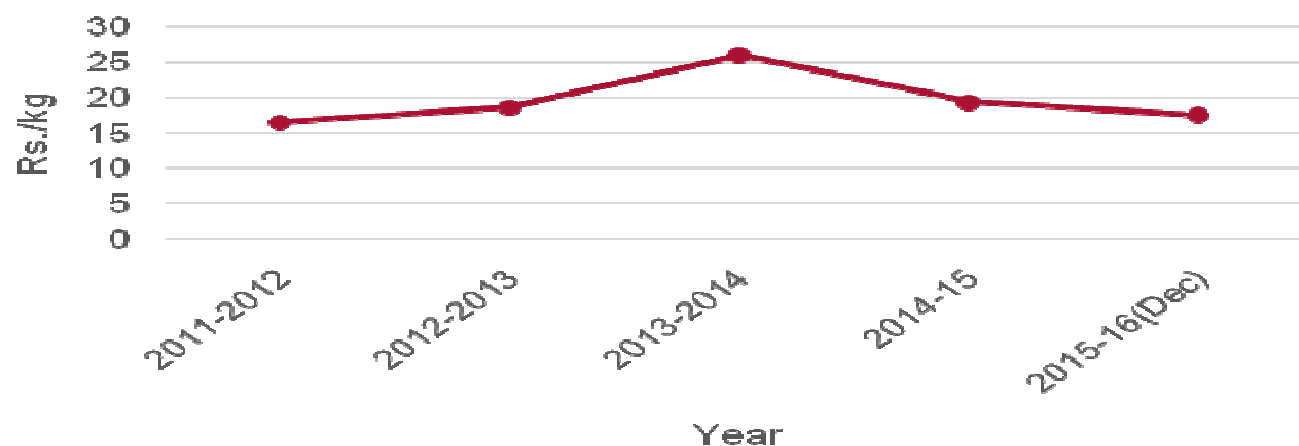
### Major Methanol Plants

- Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited. (GNFC)
- Deepak Fertilizers, Taloja
- RCF in Mumbai
- NFL in Nangal
- Assam Petrochemicals

# Methanol Statistics- India

Year	Installed Capacity(M MTPA)	Production(M MTPA)	Capacity Utilization (%)	Net Import		Consumption (MMTPA)
				MMTPA	Crore	
2015-16	0.474	0.162	34.29	1.667	2771	1.83
2014-15	0.474	0.210	44.24	1.592	3078	1.80
2013-14	0.474	0.307	64.76	1.223	3192	1.53
2012-13	0.474	0.255	53.79	1.214	2600	1.47

Price of per unit Methanol Import



\* Department of Chemical and Petrochemical

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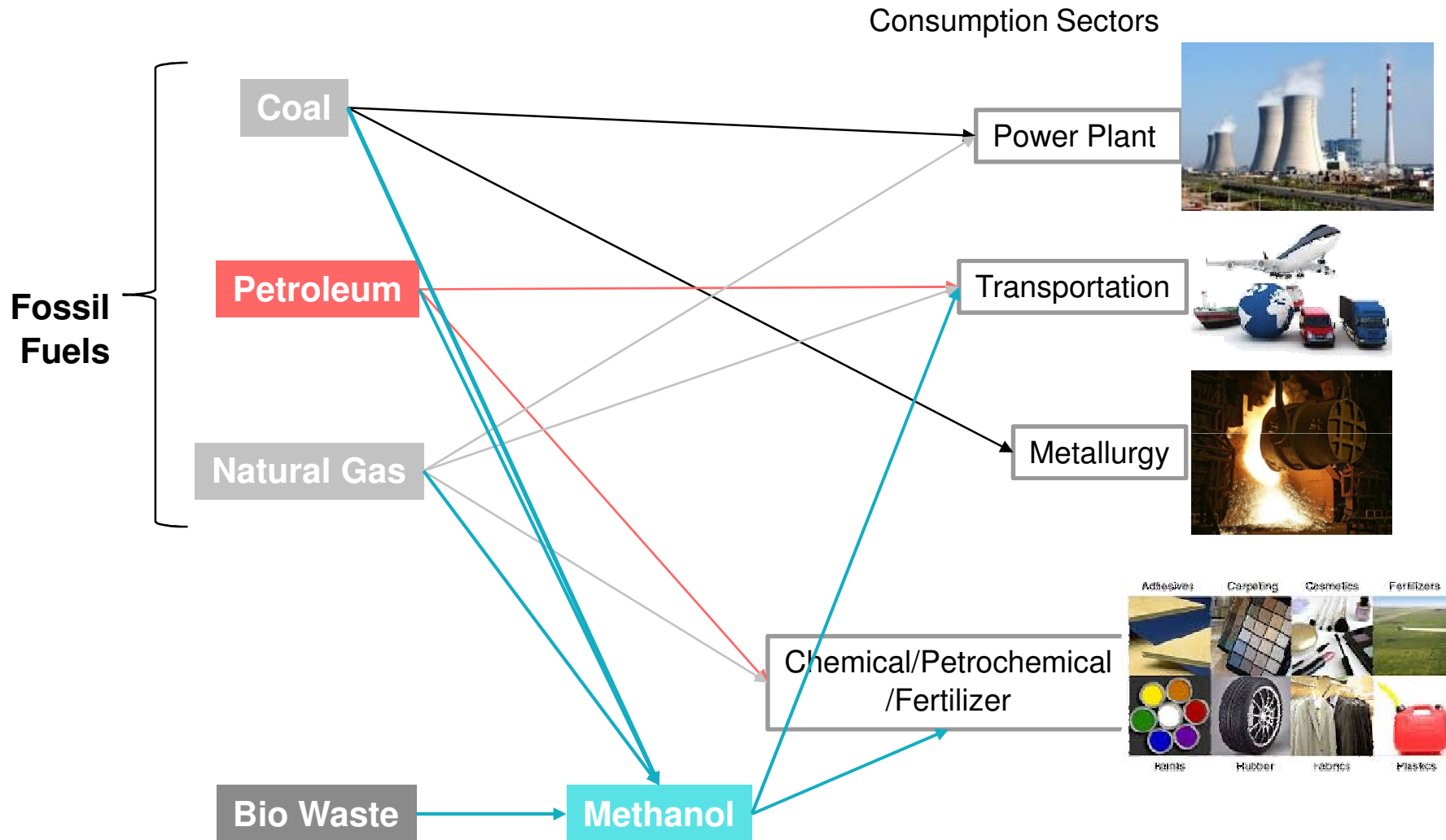
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**Methanol Economy**

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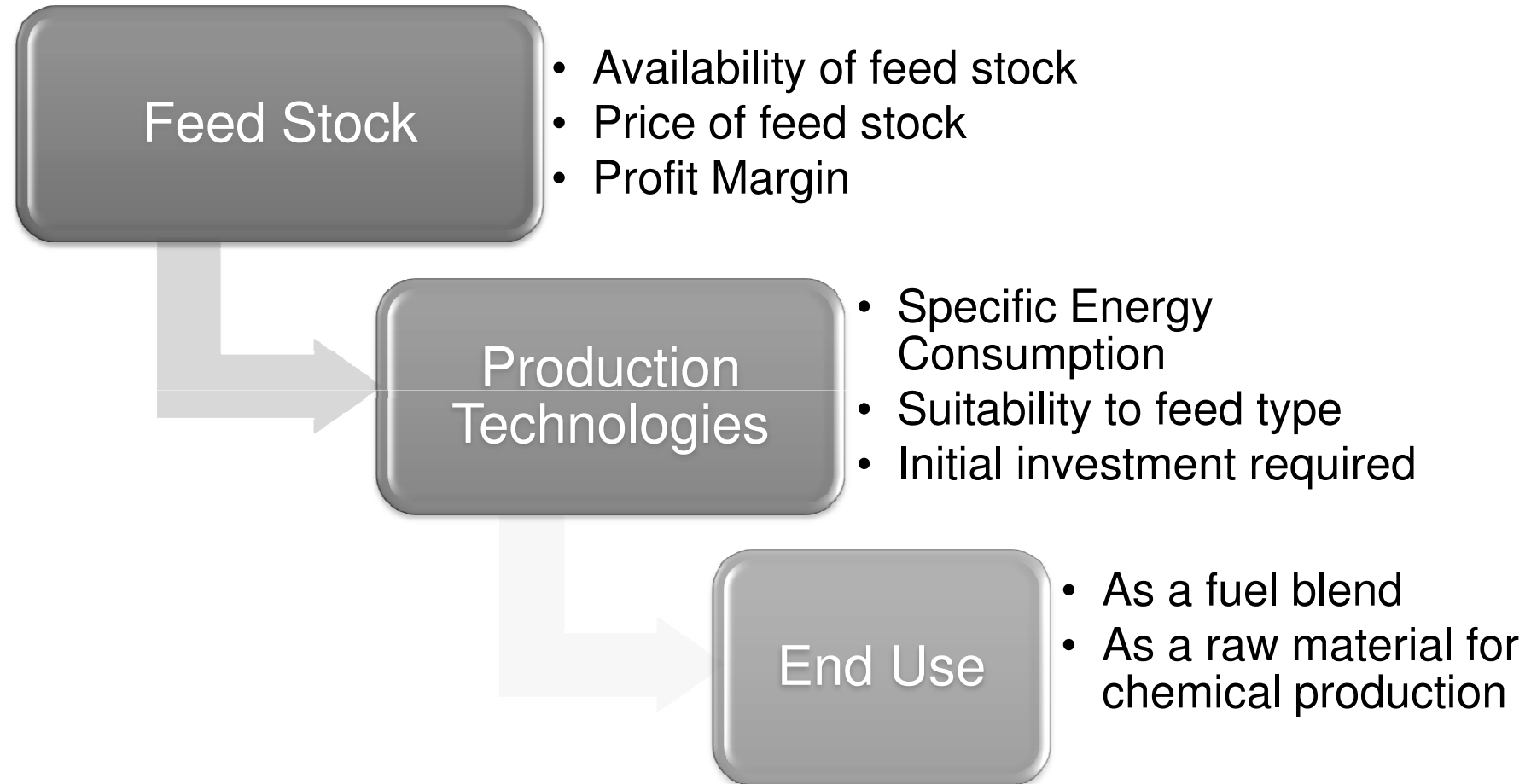
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# Methanol Economy

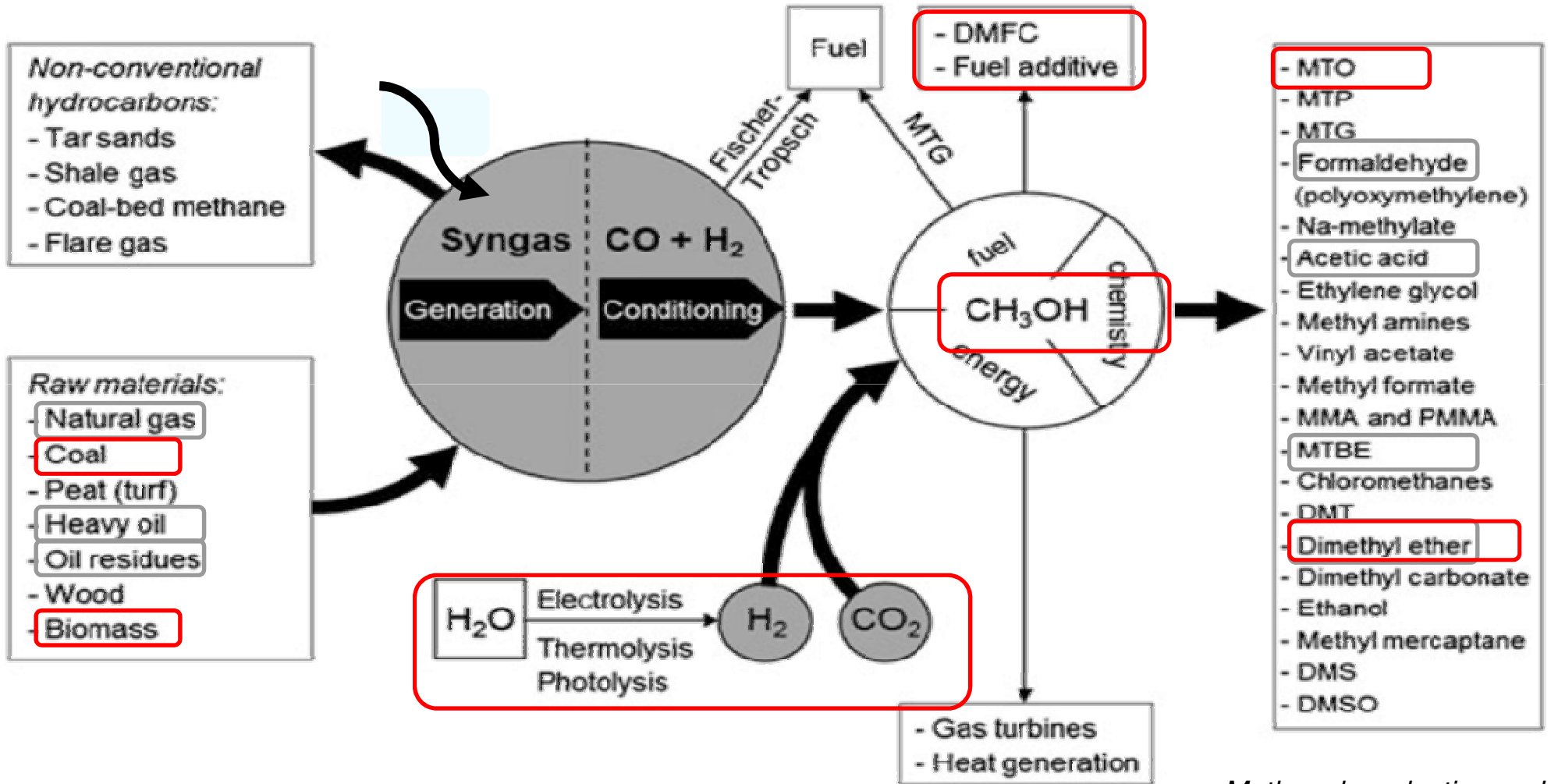


# Components of Methanol Economy

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# Methanol Economy: Product Portfolio



\* Methanol production and use

# Methanol, fuel and feed-stock: The Methanol Economy

$CH_3OCH_3$ , high cetane  
clean burning diesel fuel, LNG  
and LPG substitute.

In Internal  
Combustion  
Engines



High octane (ON= 100)  
clean burning fuel,  
15.8 MJ/liter.  
M-85 Fuel

As Dimethyl  
Ether (Diesel  
Fuel,  
Household  
Fuel)



$CH_3OH$

In Direct  
Methanol  
Fuel Cells



Conversion  
to olefins-  
gasoline,  
diesel, etc.

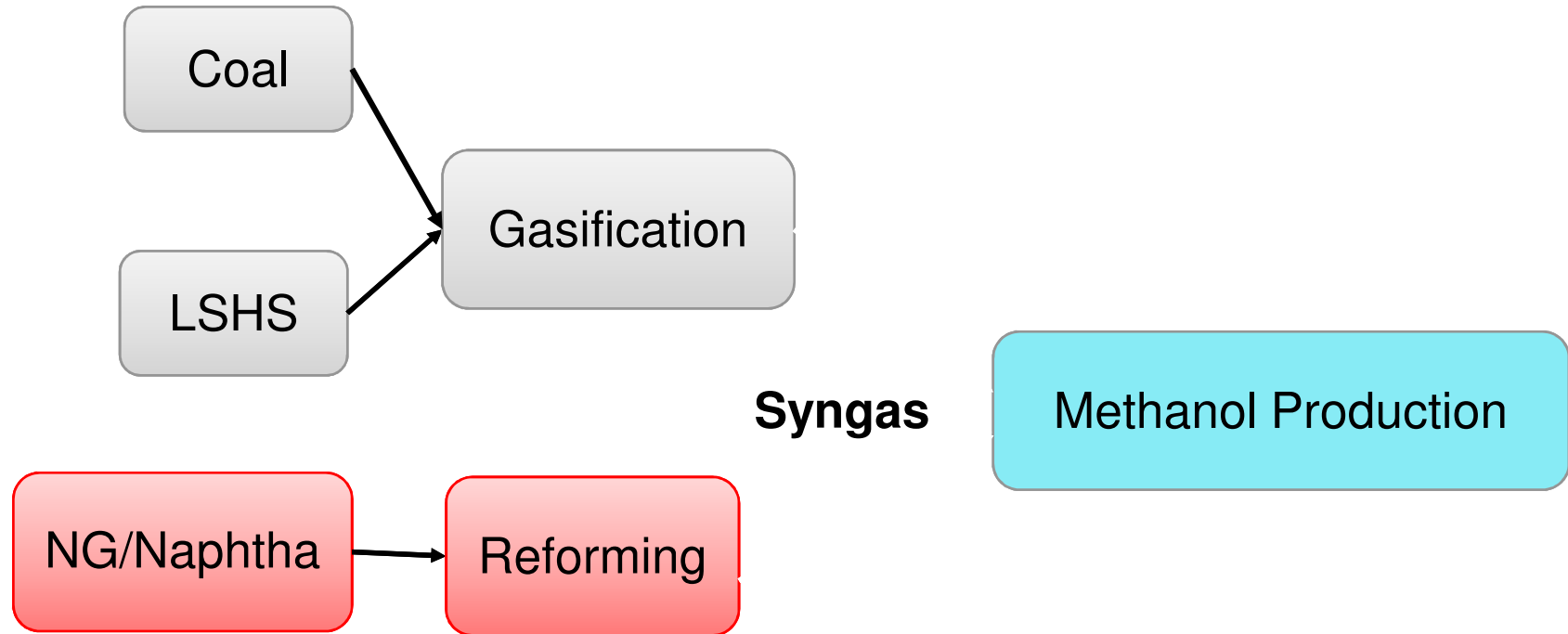
## Methanol Economy . . . . *a fuel and feed-stock beyond oil and gas.*

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- replacing petroleum-based fuels and chemicals with methanol and methanol-derivatives – as a path to sustainable development
- Methanol is a “future proof” molecule that can be made from conventional fossil sources and emerging renewable feedstock.
- Expansion of energy markets for methanol builds demand for sustainably-sourced and locally-produced methanol
  - Methanol and DME fit well within most existing energy infrastructure
  - Methanol can be used in today’s internal combustion engines (blend)
  - DME can be burned in common house hold stoves and water heaters.
  - Likely be easier transition from oil and gas to methanol compared to transition to the Hydrogen Economy or to electric vehicles.
  - In principle, a relatively feasible and affordable path towards replacing oil.



# Production Technology: Production Routes



Existing technologies

# Syngas Production Technologies

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## Steam Methane Reforming (SMR)

Most extensive industrial experience,, Oxygen not required, Lowest process temperature requirement

## Heat Exchange Reforming

Compact overall size and footprint, Application flexibility offers additional options

## Two-step reforming : SMR followed by oxygen-blown secondary reforming.

Size of SMR is reduced, Low methane slip favors high purity syngas,

## POX

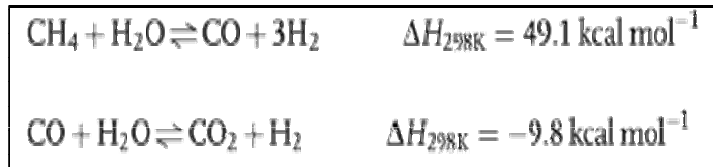
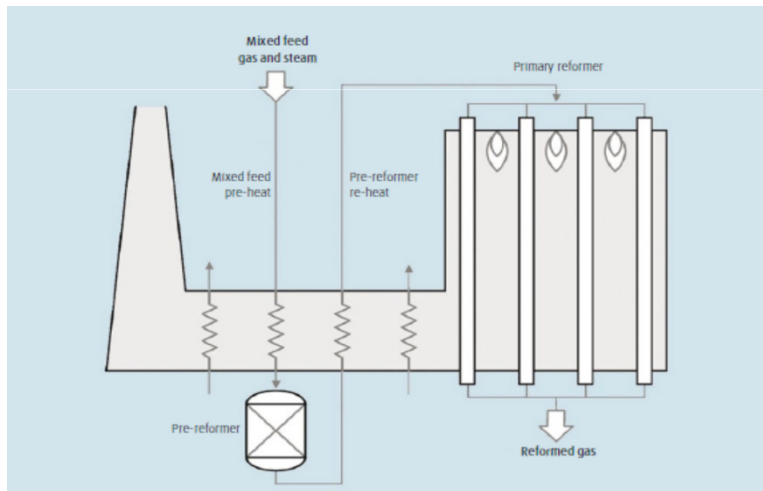
Feedstock desulfurization not required, Absence of catalyst permits carbon formation and therefore, operation without steam, significantly lowering syngas CO<sub>2</sub> content, Low methane slip,

## ATR

Lower process temperature requirement than POX, Low methane slip, Syngas methane content can be tailored by adjusting reformer outlet temperature

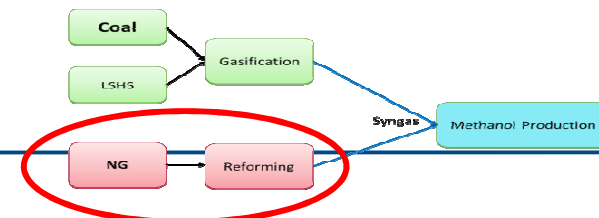
# Syngas Production: NG Reforming

	Feed	Temp. °C	Press. bar	Cat.	Note
Reforming	NG/Naphtha	900	30	Ni based	Requires HT/Lt Shift

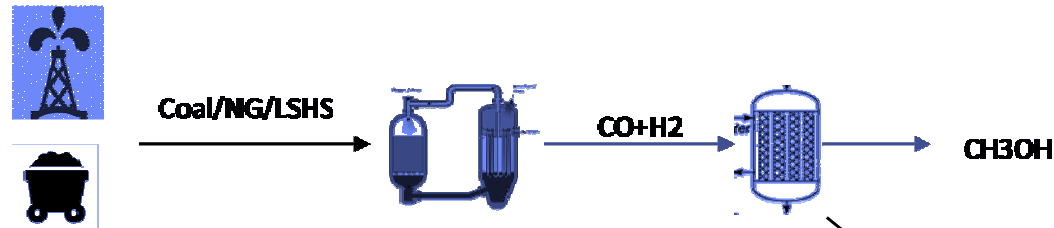


Stoichiometric ratio for MeOH Production:

$$\text{Required } \frac{\text{H}_2 - \text{CO}_2}{\text{CO} - \text{CO}_2} > 2$$



# Methanol Production: Processes

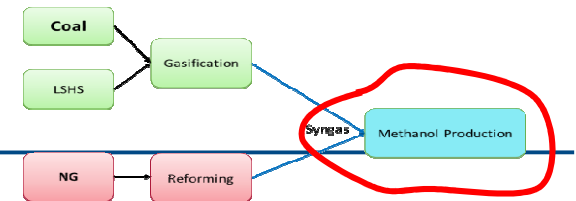
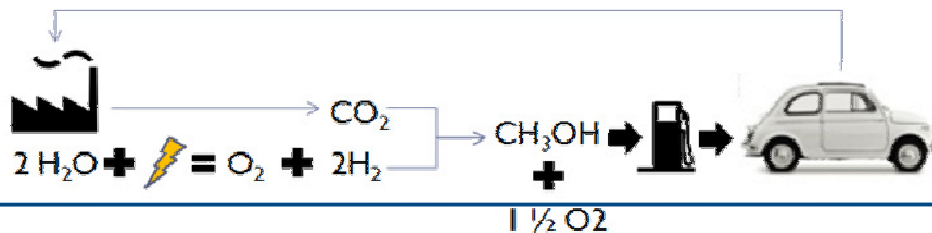
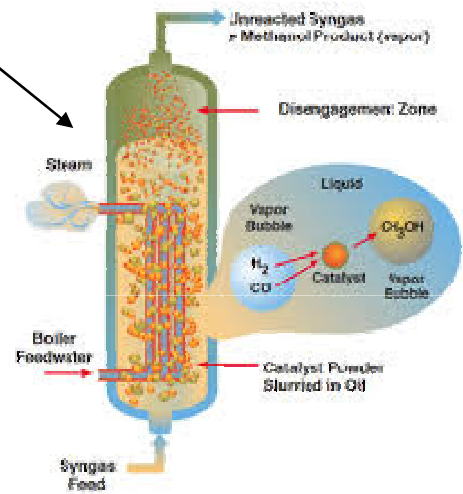


**Production Processes**

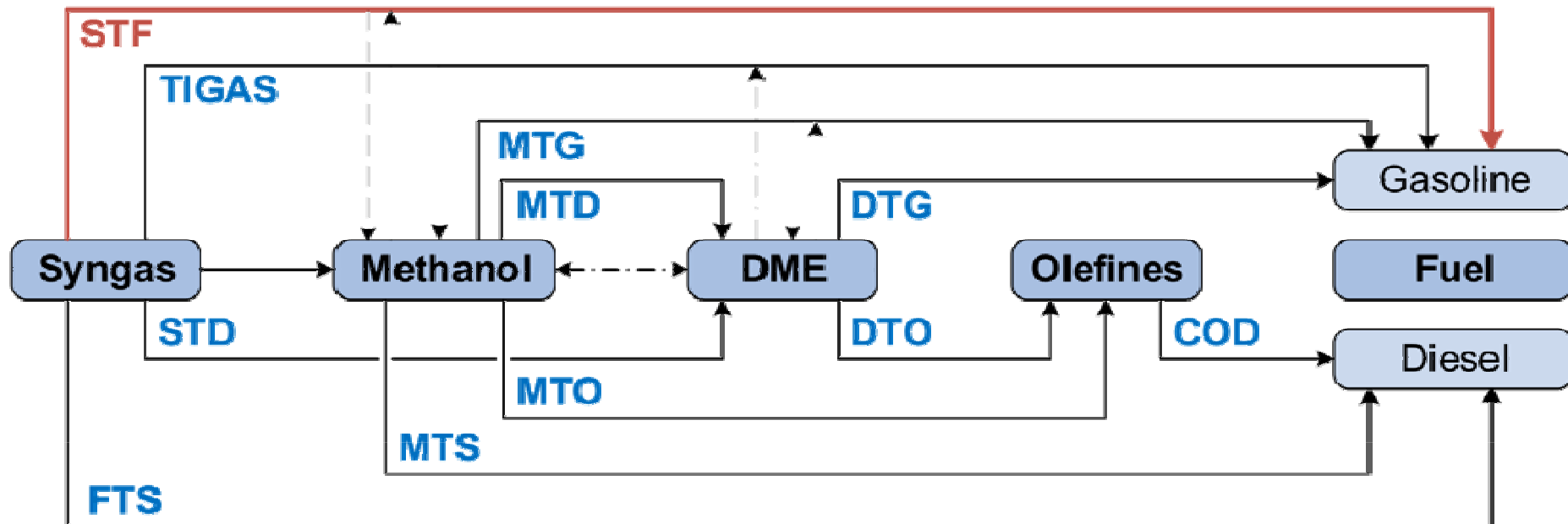
Two Stage Methanol Production

Single Stage (oxidative conversion) Methanol Production

Catalytic hydrogenation of CO<sub>2</sub>



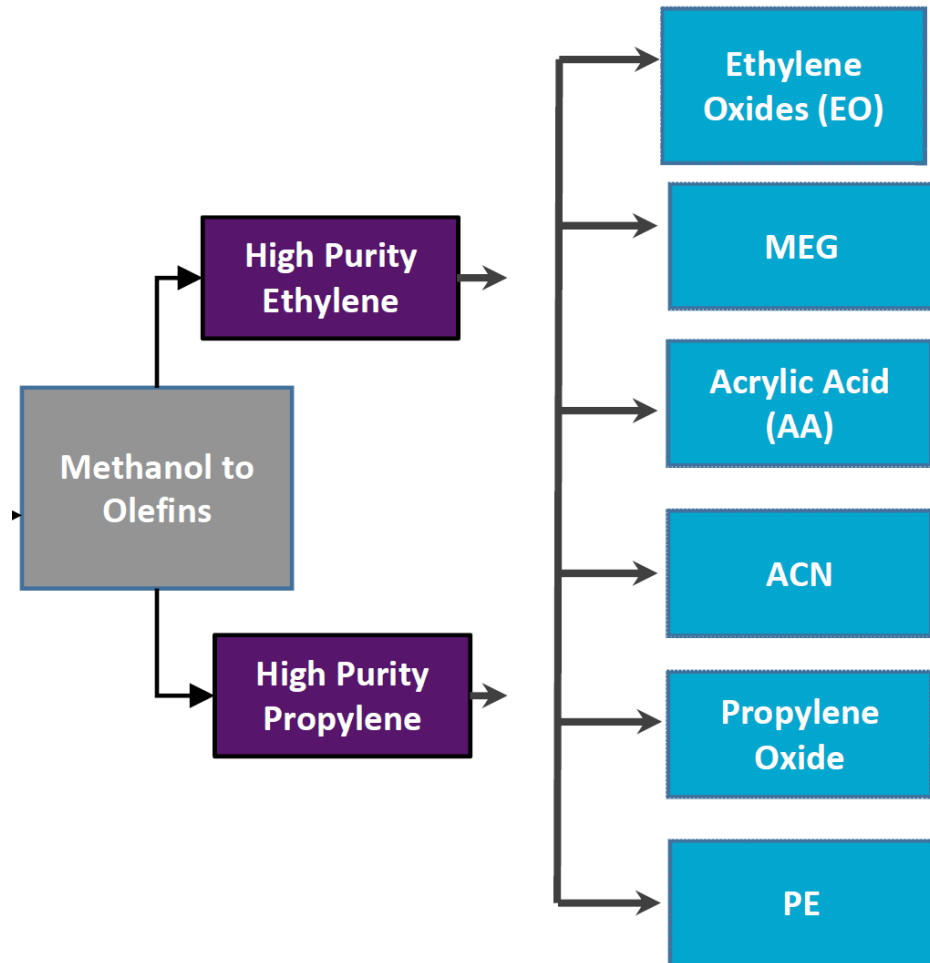
# End Use: Methanol-based fuel production



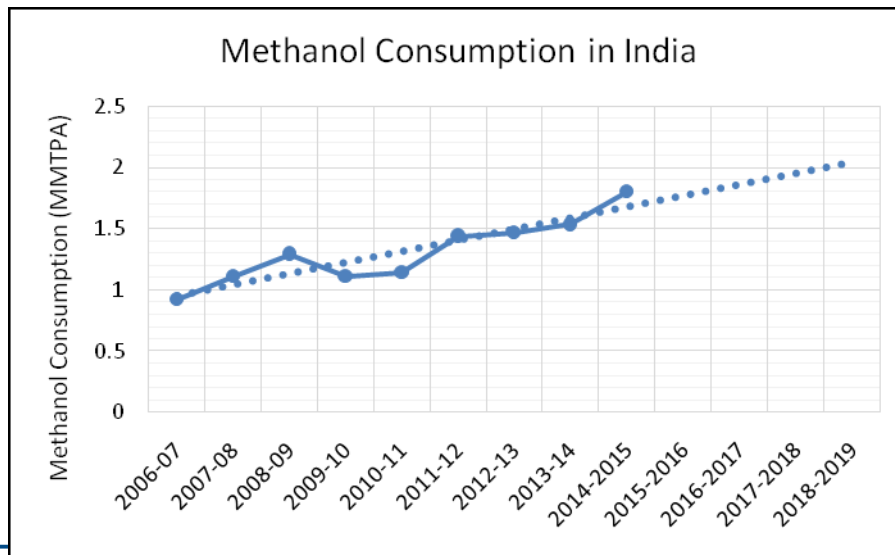
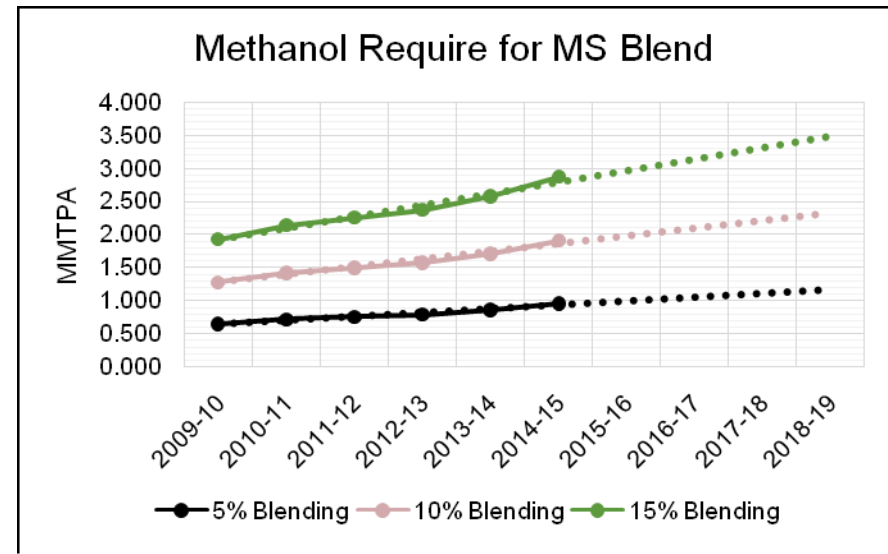
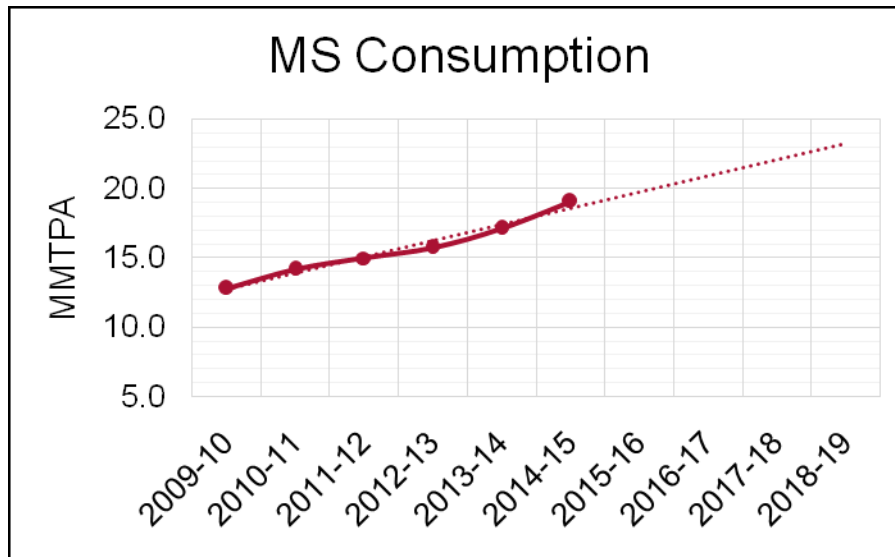
- TIGAS: Topsøe Integrated Gasoline Synthesis
- MTG: Methanol-to –Gasoline
- DTG: Dimethyl ether-to-Gasoline
- DTO: Dimethyl ether-to -Olefins
- **MTO: Methanol-to -Olefins**
- STF: Syngas -to -Fuel
- MTD: Methanol-to -Dimethyl ether
- STD: Syngas -to -Dimethyl ether
- COD: Conversion of Olefins to Distillates
- MTS: MtSynfuels

# MTO

- MTO an alternative process to Naphtha cracking for olefins production (plastics)
- Two main pathways
  - Upstream Integrated (CTO) – olefins produced directly from coal, methanol an intermediate step
  - Merchant (MTO/MTP) – methanol purchased from external suppliers
- China merchant MTO capacity is well established and still growing strongly



# As Gasoline Blend



Projected Methanol required by 2018-19 in MMTPA (low CARG)

For Chemicals	for Fuel Blend			Total Methanol Required		
	5%	10%	15%	5%	10%	15%
2	1.15	2.3	3.5	3.15	4.3	5.5

Based on data from PPAC & "Chemical and Petrochemical Statistics at a glance 201

## End Use: Methanol as MS blend in India

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- Methanol can be produced from variety of feed stocks like NG, Coal, Biomass
- Will reduce dependency on crude
- Indigenous technology for Coal to Syngas under development

### **Advantages as gasoline a blend:**

- Octane No 100 (high compression ratio( 9 to 11) possible-> high efficiency)
- Latent heat is 3.7 times of Petrol. Can be used in engine cooling
- Boiling point 64.7oC
- Can be used in IC engine after slight modification
- Reduced Nox emission, No C – C bond. No soot/particulate matter



## End Use: Methanol as MS blend in India

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- Can be blended with gasoline as an oxygenated additive
- Methanol as fuel for DMFC, which is most potential to replace conventional batteries (Methanol has higher no. of H atom than same vol. liq. Hydrogen)
- Requires dedicated Specification, Norms for India
- Requirement of indigenous technology for Methanol synthesis
- Disadvantages:
  - Reacts with few plastic/polymers (corrosion inhibitors are added)
  - Corrode some metals, including aluminium, zinc and magnesium, toxic
  - Energy density  $\frac{1}{2}$  of gasoline

# End Use: Methanol to DME

## DME as LPG Substitute

- Burns like Natural Gas

Wobbe Index 52 (Natural gas 54)

Boiling point -25°C (Propane -42)

Vapour pressure 0.53 MPa (Propane 0.91)

- Handles like LPG

Completely miscible in LPG

Existing LPG infrastructure - Below 20 % DME.

For neat DME, minor changes in sealing materials and burner tip.

*Same efficiency and emission as LPG from cooking stove to industrial boiler.*



Methane

DME

Propane



## Outstanding Diesel Alternative

- Clean-burning alternative to diesel  
Cetane number 55-60 (Gas oil 40-55)  
No smoke, no sulphur  
NOx : ~ 90% reduction  
CO2 : ~ 95% reduction
- Cost – Relatively moderate  
(with very high conversion efficiency)
- Energy density  
Lower than diesel (must be pressurized to be used in modified diesel engines)

*Significant interest in this diesel substitute in Japan and other parts of Asia.*

Today, 150,000 t/y as aerosol propellant, plus 300,000 t/y for emerging fuel market

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**In Summary**

## In Summary ..... An opportunity for India

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- An ambitious target of reducing **10% import dependence** of oil and gas by 2022 from 2014-15 levels. By Hon'ble PM of India announced
- Methanol can be used as an alternative transportation fuel thereby **reducing import dependence**.
- **Clean cooking fuels**  
India Imports half of its LPG requirement. Thrust on LPG as a fuel will increase import dependence. **DME can be used as a substitute for LPG.**
- A large number of telecom towers, especially in rural areas run on Diesel for 16-20 hours, DME provides a substitute for replacing diesel in telecom towers.
- Biomass/MSW to methanol - A viable option for India- can be dovetailed with Swachh Bharat Mission.
- India's commitment on **Climate Change** at Paris COP21



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**Thank You**

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