

## Why join the (petro-) chemical industry

Chemistry is a fascinating science whichever way you look at it: from individual atoms, to chemical compounds or the interaction between substances – every element is useful and of the utmost importance. Chemistry covers a wide range of areas from petrochemicals and mineral processing to biotechnology.

Products derived from chemicals allow people to lead a modern life. Chemicals are actually present everywhere: in tyres, smart phones, pharmaceuticals, PC tablets, shoes etc. They enhance product lifecycles and increase the durability, flexibility and convenience of products.

Furthermore, chemistry is often called the “central science” because it allows other industries to become more sustainable. Windmill blades, solar panels, electric vehicles, and modern insulation materials for buildings wouldn’t exist without chemicals, and the transition to a sustainable low carbon economy would not be possible without chemical products and their enabling function.

To face current global challenges, the contribution of the chemical industry is also essential. The world’s population will grow from currently seven to nine billion people by 2050. Everyone will need clean water, food, transport, pharmaceuticals and housing. This cannot be achieved in a sustainable and resource-efficient way without chemistry.

The chemical industry plays a major role in the economy of most European countries. It contributes significantly to economic and social welfare. The industry also spends a lot of money on research and innovation in order to develop the products of tomorrow while at the same time improving its environmental footprint. The petrochemical industry employs directly 300,000 people and supports around 1.2 million jobs.

So joining the chemical industry means working for an industry that builds the future by exploring new ways of thinking and developing better products for humankind. You can be part of it and make a difference whatever your position – laboratory assistant, researcher, technician or engineer, from blue collar to white collar worker.

Joining a chemical company also means working for an industry that continuously invests in training and education, and offers highly skilled, well-paid jobs with a high retention rate and life-long learning opportunities. The chemical industry offers a great diversity of jobs and mobility in your career paths – from research and plant operation to management, logistics, marketing and sales. You can work in different fields: design, manufacturing, machinery, research and development in products ranging from cosmetics and cleaning products to pharmaceutical ingredients, energy technologies such as fuel cells, batteries, and material science. By developing these new products, you can help make the world a better place.

The chemical industry also cares about equal opportunities for all, regardless of educational or cultural background or gender and nationality. The industry has a large global presence allowing you to work in

## POSITION PAPER

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different countries around the world. Studying chemistry also offers the advantage that the unemployment rate for young graduates in chemistry is very low.

Are you ready to take up the challenge?

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