

DETAILED TECHNICAL AGENDA – 6th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DAY 1 – MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2025

09:00–09:15 ► Organizer Opening Remarks


09:15–09:30 ► Opening Note by Title Sponsor (Sulzer & Shell)

09:30–10:30 ► Session 1: Masterclass 

① *Diagnostics remain the most direct lever for energy and carbon reduction. This masterclass highlights why looking inside towers may be the most powerful act of the energy transition.*

Distillation Diagnostics: The Forgotten Child of the Energy Transition

Henry Z. Kister, Fluor Corp.

 *Case studies from crude towers, FCCU fractionators, ethylene C₂ splitters, sour water strippers, and specialty chemical columns show how simple diagnostics and operator insights delivered massive energy and carbon savings-often larger than those achieved by headline “green” technologies.*

#Troubleshooting #War Story

10:30–11:00 ► Morning Coffee & Networking Break 

11:00–12:00 ► Session 2: Refining Distillation & Energy Optimization I

① *Revamp and diagnostic strategies that improve reliability and efficiency in refinery CDUs and VDUs.*

Upgrading Atmospheric & Vacuum Units at IOCL Refinery

Unmesh Bhagwat, Giuseppe Mosca, & Manishkumar Rohit, Sulzer Chemtech & Indian Oil Corp. Ltd.

 *Retrofit with advanced internals improved hydraulics and capacity. #Revamp #Improvement*

Gamma Ray-Based Diagnosis of Operational Disturbances in Vacuum Distillation Column

Vinay Bhawe, Board of Radiation & Isotope Technology

 *Gamma scans pinpointed internals damage. #Troubleshooting #Diagnostics*

11:50–12:00 ► Panel Discussion

12:00–13:00 ► Session 3: Design and Operational Diagnostics of Complex Distillation Systems I

① *Divided wall columns and cryogenic splitters offer major savings but demand precise design and execution.*

Design and Performance Evaluation of Large 6-pass C3 Splitter columns

Abdul Rashid Ansari, Sulzer

 *Results from one of the world’s largest splitters under severe duty. #Optimization #Improvement*

Divided Wall Columns: Optimizing Energy Efficiency, Sustainability, and Industrial Performance in Distillation Processes

Sandeep Yadav, Koch-Glitsch

 *20% energy savings and reduced plot space in petchem unit. #Optimization #Innovation*

12:50–13:00 ► Panel Discussion

13:00–13:10 ► 6th Annual Conference Group Photo 

13:10–14:10 ► Lunch & Networking Break 

Legend ① Session description  Micro-abstract #Focus Areas

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14:10–15:40 ► Session 4: Bulk Chemical Separations

① *Acetone, methanol, and ethanol revamps that show how bulk chemical separations link refining with downstream growth.*

Capacity Expansion of an Acetone Product Column with Uncompromised Product Purity

Sujyot Suratran and Vedant Danak, Sulzer & Deepak Phenolics Ltd.

Hydraulic redesign with advanced trays boosted throughput by ~150%. #Revamp #Improvement

Revamping of Methanol Refining Column Trays for Enhanced Capacity

Vijay Sharma, Fluor Daniel India Pvt. Ltd.

Tray retrofit improved capacity by 15–20% under CO₂ recycle operation. #Revamp #Optimization

Paques: Advancing Integrated Condensate Polishing and Inorganic Treatment Solutions for Distillery Effluent Management in India

Abhishek Tripathi, Paques Environmental Technology India Pvt. Ltd.

Proprietary system cut COD by 80–90%, recovering biogas for reuse. #Sustainability #Innovation

15:25–15:40 ► Panel Discussion

15:40–16:10 ► Afternoon Coffee & Networking Break ☕

16:10–17:10 ► Session 5: Absorption & Treating Technologies I: Intensification & L-L Extraction

① *Innovative compact absorbers and advanced modeling methods for treating processes.*

A Breakthrough Mass Transfer Rate-Based Approach for L-L Simulation

Hari Vamsi Duggirala, Three Ten Initiative Technologies LLP

Commercially available method models liquid treaters #Simulation #Innovation

Case Study for Process Intensification and Compact Design for Advanced Absorption Applications

Deepak Kumar Jha, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Compact absorber design cut footprint, maintained efficiency #Innovation #Optimization

17:00–17:10 ► Panel Discussion

17:10–17:55 ► Session 6: Open House - 1

① *A marquee feature of this conference. In addition to follow-up discussion from the day's proceedings, the Open House will focus on high-purity separations, fouling and polymerization, azeotropes and complex mixtures, and reliability in revamps and aging assets - with emphasis on CDU/VDU revamps, bulk chemical separations, and treating intensification presented earlier in the day. Propelled by live audience questions, the discussion will draw on insights from plant engineers, technology providers, and advisory committee members.*

17:55–18:10 ► Session 7: Quiz - 1 🎯

① *Interactive knowledge quiz with audience participation to conclude the day.*

18:10–18:20 ► Closing Remarks

Legend ① Session description ✍ Micro-abstract #Focus Areas

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World Oils

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2025

09:00–09:10 ► Organizer Opening Remarks

09:10–10:10 ► Session 8: Specialty Chemical Separations

① *High-value separations in fatty alcohols, lube oils, and rubber additives where precision design drives margins.*

Liquid-Liquid Extraction Technology (OptimEXT™) for Impurity Removal from DAE, Lube Oil

Uday Sane, Sulzer

Advanced extraction improved selectivity, throughput in specialty chemicals. #Revamp #Innovation

Integrated Zeolite-Assisted Fractional Distillation for the Separation of Isomeric Unsaturated Fatty Alcohols

Dr. Pravin Borase, Tojo Vikas International Pvt. Ltd.

Zeolite-assisted distillation separated C12–C18 fatty alcohols. #Innovation #Optimization

10:00–10:10 ► Panel Discussion

10:10–11:10 ► Session 9: Absorption & Treating Technologies II - Gas Treating & CO₂ Capture

① *Amine systems and advanced internals are critical for both conventional treating and new CO₂ capture units.*

Enhancing Post-Combustion Carbon Capture with Innovative Mass Transfer Technology

Dr. Anand Vennavelli, Koch-Glitsch

Packing innovations reduced absorber size, solvent circulation rates. #Sustainability #Innovation

Trays or Packing – What is the Right Choice for your Amine Regenerator Column?

Ayan Dasgupta, Fluor Daniel India Pvt. Ltd.

Comparative analysis shows trade-offs in pressure drop, fouling, OPEX. #Optimization #WarStory

11:00–11:10 ► Panel Discussion

11:10–11:40 ► Morning Coffee & Networking Break ☕

11:40–12:40 ► Session 10: Design and Operational Diagnostics of Complex Distillation Systems II

① *From superfractionators to cryogenic deethanizers, internals and diagnostics sustain reliability under severe duty.*

Distilling the World of Column Internals – Ranjit Hirode, Shell

Case studies highlight advanced internals for severe-service columns. #Innovation #Improvement

Integrated Gamma Scanning and Test-Run Methodology for Deethanizer Column Performance Optimization

Luis Torres, STEMROCK

Integrated scanning and diagnostics improved propane recovery. #Troubleshooting #WarStory

12:30–12:40 ► Panel Discussion

12:40–13:40 ► Lunch & Networking Break 🍽️

Legend ① Session description ✍️ Micro-abstract #Focus Areas

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13:40–14:40 ► Session 11: Refining Distillation & Energy Optimization II

① *Revamps in CDU and FCC fractionators aimed at throughput and energy efficiency.*

Novel CDU-VDU Configuration for Enhanced Performance and Energy Optimization: A Big Step towards Net Zero

Ramanayya Gorle, Engineers India Ltd.

Design change reduced steam and power usage significantly. #Optimization #Sustainability

Maximizing FCCU Throughput at BPCL-Kochi Refinery: A Case Study on Fractionator Packing Replacement

Rajasekhara Babu Manika, BPCL-Kochi Refinery

FCCU revamp delivered higher throughput and improved reliability. #Revamp #Improvement

14:30–14:40 ► Panel Discussion

14:40–15:10 ► Afternoon Coffee & Networking Break ☕

15:10–15:55 ► Session 12: Open House - 2

① *A marquee feature of this conference. Building on the day's presentations, the Open House will revisit high-purity separations, fouling and polymerization, azeotropes and complex mixtures, and reliability in revamps and aging assets - this time through the lens of specialty chemicals, CO₂ capture and treating, advanced diagnostics, and FCC optimization. Propelled by live audience questions, the session will benefit from contributions by plant engineers, technology providers, and advisory committee members.*

15:55–16:10 ► Session 13: Quiz – 2 🎯

① *Interactive knowledge quiz with audience participation to conclude the day.*

16:10–16:20 ► Closing Remarks & Adjournment

Legend ① Session description ✍ Micro-abstract #Focus Areas

👤 Who Should Attend

Refineries & Petrochemical Plants - CDU/VDU, FCCU, and treating/amine specialists focused on energy optimization, revamps, and reliability.

Chemical & Specialty Chemical Producers - engineers handling high-purity separations, fouling/polymerization systems, azeotropes, and specialty product columns.

EPC & Technology Companies - licensors, design houses, and mass-transfer internals suppliers engaged in revamp, scale-up, and new column designs.

Diagnostics & Service Providers - experts in gamma scanning, test-runs, asset integrity, and digital/advanced control solutions.

Academia & Research - researchers developing next-generation internals, simulation models, and intensified separation technologies.

Delegate Registration: ₹26,000 / USD 550 + GST

<https://distillationconclave.com> | +91-9676611950 | prcentral@distillationconclave.com

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