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Microsoft

An era begins

The Business Internet is transforming the chemical industry

E-business and the Business Internet are already transforming the work lives of 10 percent of the nation's chemical plant professionals, and another 35 percent expect to feel the shock waves of change in the very near future.

Those percentages, revealed in a recent survey by Chemical Processing magazine, indicate the Business Internet is here and growing prodigiously. What the numbers don't say is that the Business Internet is bringing fundamental change.

Ask yourself: "How is e-business affecting you and your company?"

What should you be doing in e-business now, next year and the year after?

Given the many options, what are the greatest leverage points for creating value?

How do you get started?"

Those questions—and others—are answered in this first issue of "e-solutions," a publication on how the Business Internet is transforming and redefining manufacturing sectors.

Plant Services magazine, Software Strategies magazine and Chemical Processing magazine have worked together to produce this first issue, which is devoted to the underpinnings of the revolution taking hold in the chemical industry. Intermingled are case studies featuring Lyondell Chemical Company, Mobil Oil Company, Criterion Sciences and Eastman Chemical Company.

The Business Internet is creating virtual companies; overhauling cost structures; lowering the cost of information transactions; renewing the focus on core competencies; rebuilding customer relationships; tightening connections with suppliers, and accelerating creation of strategic partnerships and alliances.

So how are chemical companies preparing? Most are just beginning their journeys. Some are at the starting point, while others have just caught the wave.

The Business Internet is emerging as the enabler that will help the chemical industry take a quantum leap forward toward what Bill Gates refers to as "Business @ the speed of thought." Don't get left behind!



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