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As the global energy demand and crude oil price rise, alternative production routes for the same hydrocarbon products are becoming more and more economically attractive. In this respect, synthetic fuels created from natural gas offer now an alternative to the traditional fuel supply mix. Unfortunately, approximately one third of the world's natural gas reserves are considered stranded and, hence, remain unexploited so far. Today, the established processes for natural gas transformation into synthetic fuels, i.e., natural gas liquefaction and Fischer-Tropsch synthesis, require large investments which are prohibitive for the exploitation of small natural gas reservoirs.

The OCMOL project (www.ocmol.eu) aims at developing an innovative chemical route adapted to the exploitation of small gas reservoirs from both a technical and an economic point of view. The corresponding process is, among others, based on oxidative coupling of methane followed by its subsequent oligomerization to liquids.

Project partners

