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**Solomon Associates Embarks on 2009 Worldwide Chemicals Studies
for Olefin and Butadiene Manufacturers**

*Performance improvement company's studies identify opportunities
to improve manufacturing processes and increase margins*

DALLAS (Nov. 6, 2009) – Solomon Associates, the leading [performance improvement company](#) for the global energy industry, today announced that it has embarked on its 2009 chemicals studies, including the Worldwide Olefin Plant Performance Analysis ([Olefin Study](#)) and the Worldwide Butadiene Plant Performance Analysis ([Butadiene Study](#)). The studies enable chemical manufacturers to identify performance gaps as a basis for improving manufacturing processes.

“Olefin and butadiene plants in 36 countries entrust Solomon Associates with their most sensitive operational data, which the company uses to develop proprietary, confidential comparative analyses to help study participants optimize yields, lower production costs, and increase profits,” said [Claire Cagnolatti](#), senior manager of chemicals studies. “Chemical manufacturers representing 70 percent of the world’s olefin production capacity are study participants, and we continue to add manufacturers with each study cycle.”

The chemicals studies include:

Worldwide Olefin Plant Performance Analysis (Olefin Study)

For more than two decades, the world’s olefin manufacturers have relied on the biennial Olefin Study to learn where their biggest performance improvement opportunities lie and how to capitalize on these opportunities. For many plants, the study identifies millions of dollars in annual margin improvement potential based on Solomon Associates’ proprietary gap analysis.

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Worldwide Butadiene Plant Performance Analysis (Butadiene Study)

Started based on industry demand, Solomon Associates' Butadiene Study provides the insight manufacturers need to improve processes across butadiene extraction facilities, including optimizing maintenance and personnel expenditures to maximize reliability and operability, while minimizing lost production.

Interested companies may learn more about Solomon Associates' chemical studies by visiting solomononline.com/chemicals or by contacting Claire Cagnolatti at 972.739.1721 or [claire.cagnolatti \(at\) solomononline.com](mailto:claire.cagnolatti@solomononline.com).

About Solomon Associates

Based in Dallas, HSB Solomon Associates LLC is the world's leading performance improvement company for energy companies seeking to identify and close gaps in operational performance. Combining proven, patented methodologies with objective data analysis, and led by a team steeped in hands-on operational experience, Solomon Associates consistently helps clients with energy-intensive assets achieve greater efficiencies, enhanced reliability, and improved margins. Solomon Associates is part of HSB Group, Inc. To learn more about Solomon Associates, visit www.solomononline.com.