
Lemont Refinery
Welcome to the CITGO Lemont Refinery. Beginning operation as a small oil processing plant in the early 1920s, expansion and modernization projects over the years have increased crude oil throughput capacity at Lemont to 167,000 barrels per day, positioning the facility as a major strategic supplier of transportation fuels, particularly in the Upper Midwest.

The Lemont Refinery is owned and operated by CITGO Petroleum Corporation, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A., the national oil company of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. CITGO is a refiner, transporter and marketer of transportation fuels, lubricants, petrochemicals, refined waxes, asphalt and other industrial products.

Vision: To be the world's benchmark energy corporation.

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<td>Original refinery constructed near Lemont, 35 miles SW of downtown Chicago</td>
<td>Refinery purchased by Globe Oil &amp; Refining Co.; capacity expanded to 38,000 barrels per day.</td>
<td>Refinery acquired by Pure Oil Co.; crude capacity expanded to 53,000 barrels per day.</td>
<td>Refinery expanded; crude capacity upped to over 100,000 barrels per day.</td>
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<td>PDVSA's U.S. affiliate PDV America acquires 100% refinery ownership; PDVSA-owned CITGO contracted to operate the facility; crude capacity now over 150,000 barrels per day.</td>
<td>UNO-VEN joint venture created between Union Oil (now known as Unocal) and Petróleos de Venezuela (PDVSA).</td>
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The Lemont Refinery manufactures primarily transportation fuels, including several grades of motor gasoline, diesel fuel, aviation turbine fuel and home heating oil. Over 80 percent of the plant’s production, in fact, is CITGO-branded gasoline and diesel fuel. A less visible, but equally important, aspect of Lemont output comes in the form of “specialty” products, including high quality hydrocarbon solvents and premium grades of petroleum coke.

Many of the solvents produced at Lemont find their way into paints, adhesives and coatings. Considering that hydrocarbon solvents such as mineral spirits are the key ingredient in simple oil-based paints, and that Lemont supplies about 16 percent of the total U.S. solvents market, the odds are high that you have used a product produced at the Lemont Refinery.

Although complex from an engineering standpoint, the refining processes employed at Lemont are very straightforward and involve three basic steps. First is distillation, where crude oil is boiled and the vapors collected at different boiling points, then condensed into separate components called fractions. Next is chemical reaction of these fractions in the presence of heat, pressure and chemical catalysts to separate or alter the components into more refined products. The remaining step is finishing and blending where the components are either blended into finished products (such as gasoline), or shipped as raw materials for another industry (such as solvents, petrochemicals or plastics).
Safety is not just a goal at CITGO; it is a key corporate value. That’s why CITGO invests millions of dollars each year in safety education, standards compliance and fire protection to ensure the safety of its employees, contractors and communities. These investments have resulted in an impressive workplace safety record. The Lemont Refinery has attained a position of industry safety leadership, and has been recognized year after year by the National Petrochemical and Refiners Association (NPRA) with numerous safety awards, such as the Distinguished Safety Award in 2001 for being the safest refinery in the nation.

CITGO believes that all work related safety and health incidents and injuries are preventable. At the Lemont Refinery we commit ourselves daily to continuous improvements in safety and health by providing extensive resources to achieve safety excellence. We integrate safety, health, and environmental considerations into operations, engineering and business processes.

We operate our businesses safely and as good stewards of the environment. If it is not safe, we will not do it. We will comply with environmental regulations and serve as guardians of our natural resources. We recognize that safety, the health of our employees and environmental stewardship are every employee’s responsibility.

Another area in which CITGO people take considerable pride is their role as leaders in environmental stewardship. Every CITGO facility has site-specific programs to comply with state and federal regulations. In addition, the company has adopted its own programs to further reduce levels of environmental emissions. For example, water used in our refinery operations is specially treated to remove oil and suspended solids. Secondary treatment utilizes biological agents to further purify the water before it is returned to the environment.
The employee-driven Community Action Team personifies the spirit of volunteerism at Lemont. Contributing their time and effort to neighborhood clean-up and beautification projects, collections of food and clothing for area human service agencies, and meeting other needs in local communities, the Community Action Team transports its tools, equipment and contributions in a trailer emblazoned with its “Energy to Share” motto.

We understand that we operate as a privilege in the communities where we operate, not as a right. We promote the spirit of volunteerism and encourage employees to take active roles in our communities.

The United Way and the national Muscular Dystrophy Association are the primary recipients of financial contributions from the Lemont Refinery. The more than 500 Lemont employees contribute an average of $150 annually to the United Way, and CITGO matches those contributions fifty cents on the dollar. These dollars stay in the community, helping local operations of such organizations as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, American Heart Association, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Palmer Drug Abuse Program. CITGO is also a major national sponsor of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). CITGO employees, marketers and retailers have raised over $44 million for “Jerry’s Kids” since 1986, standing as one of MDA’s largest corporate benefactor. The Lemont Refinery participates in the MDA’s annual fundraiser by hosting a golf outing, which has raised in excess of $100,000 in recent years.

The CITGO Lemont Refinery benefits surrounding communities as a major employer, taxpayer and good neighbor. In addition to its full time workforce, the refinery provides jobs for hundreds of contract employees. CITGO funnels over $34 million back into the local economy each year through its workforce payroll, and supports schools and local governments through more than $5 million in annual property taxes.
Committed For the Long Term

Backed by the security and reliability of Venezuelan oil reserves, the largest in the Western Hemisphere, the Lemont Refinery is part of a system capable of processing more than three million barrels per day. Add the fact that CITGO and its predecessor companies have been in business continuously for more than 90 years, and what do you get? An organization committed to long-term success, that's what.

Undeniably, the strength of this multi billion-dollar organization comes from the skills, creativity and dedication of its people. Not only do they make the difference between CITGO and other energy companies, they are the difference.

Fairness
We reward employees on the basis of their performance and contribution to the corporation. We recognize diversity as a core strength. We recognize the unique value of each employee, and foster an inclusive environment that enables each of us to fully participate and contribute.

For more information on CITGO, see the company’s website at www.CITGO.com.

For more information on the Lemont Refinery, contact Human Resources at (630) 257-7761.