



The Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, Methanex Egypt and the Engineering and Science Services of the American University in Cairo Develop Egypt's First Professional Process Safety Management Diploma

Cairo, May 5, 2025 – The Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the Engineering and Science Services (ESS) of the American University in Cairo (AUC), and Methanex Egypt signed a landmark tripartite protocol to develop Egypt's first professional Process Safety Management (PSM) Diploma—a significant milestone in the journey to strengthen process safety practices across Egypt's oil, gas, and petrochemical sectors.

The signing ceremony was held at the AUC, in the presence of H.E. Eng. Karim Badawi, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The event was attended by Geologist Alaa El Batal, First Undersecretary and Supervisor for HSE, Energy Efficiency, and Climate at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources; Ahmad Dallal, President of the American University in Cairo (AUC); Dr. Lotfi Gaafar, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at AUC; and Mohamed Shindy, Managing Director of Methanex Egypt, alongside key representatives from the Ministry, the Canadian Embassy, Methanex Egypt, and AUC.

This collaborative initiative brings together the public sector, academia, and industry to introduce a comprehensive and pioneering professional program that will enhance sector-wide capabilities and embed a robust process safety culture within Egypt's energy industry. The diploma aims to equip sector professionals with the technical knowledge and practical skills needed to implement the 24 national PSM standards and guidelines published by the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation through its partnership with Methanex Egypt.

As part of the signed collaboration protocol, Methanex Egypt will provide the diploma development funding and technical support to the development of Egypt's first professional PSM diploma, in collaboration with the Ministry and the AUC. Over the next three years, Methanex Egypt will sponsor 150 candidates from the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, with the expectation of expanding the program in the future. AUC will oversee the academic framework, venue logistics, assessments, and professional certification, while a Technical Committee comprised of representatives from the Ministry, AUC, and Methanex Egypt will oversee the development, planning and delivery of the professional diploma.

Reflecting on the collaboration protocol signing, Mohamed Shindy said: "Signing this protocol marks a significant milestone in our leadership journey to advance Process Safety Management in Egypt. Methanex Egypt is proud to be the driving force behind the technical development of this diploma program, providing the core content and expertise needed to bring the 24 national PSM standards and guidelines we developed to life. Through this initiative, we are not only strengthening our partnership with the Ministry but also investing in future generations for a safer, more resilient future for the entire sector."

Highlighting the importance of signing the collaboration protocol, Geologist Alaa El Batal, Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources First Undersecretary and Supervisor, commented: “The collaboration reflects the Ministry’s strategic direction to institutionalize process safety and elevate operational excellence across the sector. Partnering with Methanex Egypt and AUC is an important step in building a knowledge-based workforce capable of upholding safety at every level”.

Dr. Lotfi Gaafar, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at the AUC, commented: “We are honored to join forces with the Ministry and Methanex Egypt on this important initiative. By combining our academic strengths with industry expertise, we are helping to shape a safer and more sustainable future for Egypt’s energy sector.”

Since 2018, Methanex Egypt has played a leading role in advancing Process Safety Management (PSM) across Egypt’s oil, gas, and petrochemical sector through its collaboration with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. This partnership has delivered key milestones including the joint development of [24 national PSM standards and guidelines](#), the launch of Egypt’s first [official PSM website](#), the publication of the 24 documents overview [“Towards Safer Processes in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Industries” Book](#), and a series of knowledge sharing sessions aimed at building sector-wide capability. Methanex has also fostered industry-wide dialogue through its annual PSM conference, reinforcing its commitment to knowledge exchange and continuous improvement. These collective efforts rooted in Methanex’s commitment to the principles of Responsible Care have positively impacted over 330 companies in the sector, driving a safer, more sustainable, and resilient energy future for Egypt.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

About Methanex Egypt:

The Egyptian Methanex Methanol Company S.A.E. is the Egyptian joint venture operation of Methanex Corporation, a Vancouver-based, publicly traded company and the world’s largest producer and supplier of methanol to major international markets. Methanex holds a 50% interest in the joint venture, together with the Egyptian government partners: Egyptian Petrochemical Holding Company (ECHEM), which holds 12%; Egyptian Natural Gas Holding Company (EGAS), which holds 12%; Egyptian National Gas Company (GASCO), which holds 9% and the Arab Energy Fund, which holds 17%.

Methanex Egypt’s state-of-the-art methanol production facility is located in Damietta, Egypt on the Mediterranean Sea and is among the most energy efficient methanol plants in the world. The plant has a production capacity of up to 1.3 million tonnes of methanol per year, supplying both the local and global markets.

Methanex Egypt has been a key driver in advancing Process Safety Management (PSM) across Egypt's oil, gas, and petrochemical sector. In collaboration with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the company has led several initiatives to institutionalize PSM and enhance industry-wide capabilities.

- Joint development of 24 national PSM standards and guidelines:
<https://psmegt.com/psm-standards-guidelines/>
- Launch of Egypt's first official PSM website: <https://psmegt.com/>
- Publication of the "Towards Safer Processes in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Industries" book summarizing all 24 documents: <https://psmegt.com/psm-book/>
- Hosting a series of knowledge-sharing sessions to build awareness and technical competence:
<https://psmegt.com/rollout-sessions/>
- Organization of the annual PSM Conference to foster industry-wide dialogue:
<https://psmegt.com/conferences/>

About the Engineering and Science Services (ESS) of the American University in Cairo:

Established in 1983, Engineering and Science Services (ESS) has been dedicated to serving and developing engineering and science-related industrial communities. ESS offers a wide variety of services designed to meet the current and future needs of the engineering and scientific community.

With more than 40 years of experience, ESS has earned a reputation as one of the biggest and leading providers of training and consultation services for practitioners in the Engineering and scientific field across Egypt and the Middle East. Capitalizing on its diverse programs and services, thousands of public and private sector organizations have become regular recipients, including the banking sector, real-estate developers, petroleum, construction, and steel industries.

In a fast-developing world, ESS proudly supports individuals and businesses to achieve professional growth through its paradigm-shifting professional development service. ESS delivers a transformational professional education opportunity, training, and consultation services delivered through a team of highly qualified instructors from academia and industry- equipped with the latest educational tools, laboratories, and computer facilities.