Site history:
The site was originally built by Tenneco Chemicals in the early 1960s. In 1981 a joint venture (TENN-US) was formed between Tenneco Chemicals and United States Steel Chemicals for the construction of a phthalic anhydride (PA) and a 2-ethyl hexanol (2-EH) plant. These facilities came online in September of 1983. In 1989, the site was acquired by Aristech Chemicals. The site was owned and operated by Sunoco Chemicals between 2001 and 2003. In January of 2004, BASF acquired the site. Under BASF ownership, the 2EH plant was converted to produce 2-propyl heptanol (2PH) and a new plasticizer plant was constructed. In 2016 the 2-PH plant was revamped to make 2-EH, and the plasticizer plant was converted to make dioctyl terephthalate (DOTP). The restart of the site is scheduled for mid-year 2017.

Products/uses:
The site is producing 2-EH, and DOTP plasticizer. 2-EH is used to produce DOTP, and is also used in detergents, coatings, and adhesives. Plasticizers are used to provide flexibility to PVC. Typical applications are in wire insulation, flexible vinyl extrusions, flooring, garden hose, shower curtains, and many other soft vinyl articles. An on-site plasticizers application lab works directly with customers.

Community Outreach
BASF supports many local causes and programs through donations and various volunteer outreach programs. The site is an active participant in the Pasadena Citizen’s Advisory Council and a contributor to the Armand Bayou Nature Center. The Nature Center is dedicated to the preservation of our local habitat and to the education of the public about nature. The site also participates in HOSTS, a program in which employees visit a local elementary school and tutor children in reading skills. The site is partnering with San Jacinto College and Lee College to provide process operator internships and site tours for student groups. The site is a member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association Work. Force Development Committee.

Economic Impact
- Annual Payroll: $13M*
- State and Local Use Taxes: $280K; Property Taxes - $1.4 mil
- Capital Investment: $12.4M

*Year-end 2022 data