

11th June 1949.

Mr. GUSTAV EGLOFF,
Universal Oil Products,
CHICAGO, Ill.(U.S.A.)

Dear Mr. Egloff,

Many thanks for the publications you were good enough to let me have and which I perused with great interest. Under separate cover I am forwarding you some reprints of our works.

I wrote you already on the 15th March 1949, asking you to kindly point out to me any new cracking process existing in the States which you could recommend for producing a high yield of olefines suitable for developing in Italy a petrochemical industry. Fearing that this letter might not have reached you I submit to your kind attention the problems we are facing.

Italy's Chemical Industry had attained previous to the war a remarkable level and is now most desirous to get up to date and to develop further its synthetical processing on the basis of the new raw materials now available. While we are lacking of coal we could draw thanks to our geographical position, at favourable conditions our supplies of crude oil from the Near East. It is therefore obvious that our chemical industry should give all its attention to the crude oil as raw material for organic synthesis.

Owing to the relatively rather high consumption of fuel oil and the low consumption of gasoline in Italy, there is not any notable cracking plant and none is expected to be erected in the near future. The existing reforming plants or those under construction cannot guarantee a regular and constant supply of olefines and therefore we are on the look-out for a special cracking process with a very high yield in olefines. Following the technical advice received from the Universal Oil during my stay in your City in 1947 we would eventually consider steam cracking at high temperature (1400-1500°F).

I would be grateful to you if you could state the name and address of some suppliers in the States of suitable equipment. An autothermic cracking with oxygen instead of air has also been mentioned to me at that time and I should thank you for letting me know whether this processing, which has also been studied in Italy by the A.N.I.C. Company, has further been developed in the States. The "Catarole" processing of the Br. Company Petrocarbon Ltd., Manchester has also been taken into consideration. This process, starting from 180°-260° fractions, has also good yields of benzol, toluol and other aromatics. We are however somewhat doubtful of the suitability of this process, because it yields high amounts of heavier aromatics of scarce practical interest.

I would be glad to receive your precious advice and should like to know the best American progress in the cracking processes for the production of olefines and I hope you will excuse me for having taken advantage of your valuable time.

If you have the opportunity of coming to Europe I would be very glad to meet you and should you come during the summer months, my wife and I would be very glad to have you at our home in Champoluc, a small village 5500 feet high, near the Monte Rosa where I have a cottage. With best personal regards

Yours sincerely,

Wolff

F.A. Trim
Rappresentative
UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

Bush House
Aldwych
London W.C. 2

4th July, 1949

Prof. F. Natta
Piazza L. da Vinci 32
Milano, Italy

Dear Sir,

I note from a letter of our Chicago Office dated June 27th that they have written you in regard to Olefin Production

My point in writing is to call your attention to this office which is at your service in fostering any projects you may have in mind, and I should be glad if you would call upon me for any assistance I might be able to give you.

I shall also make a point of trying to contact you, for the purpose of having a discussion, on my next visit to Italy.

Very truly yours

Firmato: F.A. Trim

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 South Michigan Avenue - Chicago 4, Illinois U.S.A.

June 27, 1949

Prof. Ing. Giulio Natta
Piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32
Milano

Dear Prof. Natta:

Subject; Olefin Production

We have delayed answering the questions in your letter to Dr. Egloff, dated March 15, 1949, until we had done more development work on two processes for the production of olefins. We have been doing development, process, and engineering work on the autothermic process and a thermal process using tubular cracking for the production of olefin and expect shortly to have direct comparisons on these for yields, operating costs and plant costs. We do not have sufficient information to make any comparisons with the Catarole Process or ~~is~~ of the Fischer Process.

We note from your letter that you are interested in the production of 20,000 - 30,000 metric tons/year of olefins from Middle East oils. We are accordingly attaching for your information Tables III and IV, which give the yields of the two processes when making 15,000 metric tons/year of ethylene with 96% purity, together with other olefins. These products would be made by cracking a Middle East "naphta" of the following specifications:

API	46.5	
Floesch	109°F	
IBP	337°F	
5%	356	
10%	370	
50	393	S = 0.15 to 0.20%
50	415	
70	442	K = 12.05
90	489	MW = 172
BP	546°F	



ISTITUTO DI CHIMICA INDUSTRIALE
DEL POLITECNICO
VIA LEONARDO DA VINCI, 32 - MILANO

MILANO, January 28, 1954
TELEF. 292-125 - 292-126

Dr. Gustav Egloff
Universal Oil products Company
30 Algonquin Road
Des Plaines, Illinois, U.S.A.

Dear Doctor Egloff,

I thank you very much for your kind letter of January 22, and for the very interesting information you sent me about the characteristics of Platforming catalists. I am very grateful to you and I beg you to thank Dr. Haensel on my part.

In regard to what you asked me for, about Dr. Parravano: I was well acquainted not only with Dr. Parravano's father, but also with the doctor himself.

During the war, he worked in my laboratory studying selective idrogenation of acethylene in ethylene. Doctor Parravano is a young man with a great will and perseverance in his work and he has also a good theoretic preparation. After the war, he worked in U.S.A. with Prof. Taylor at Princeton. His scientific publications particularly the ones concerning new model of polymerization initiators and catalysis, offer a certain interest.

It is many years since I saw Dr. Parravano but I read several of his works published in scientific reviews.

Hoping to meet you soon in Europe, also before the World Petroleum Congress, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

(Prof. G. Natta)



ISTITUTO DI CHIMICA INDUSTRIALE
DEL POLITECNICO
VIA LEONARDO DA VINCI, 32 - MILANO

MILANO, December 14, 1953
TELEF. 292-125 - 292-126

Doctor Gustav Egloff
30 Algonquin Road
Des Plaines, Illinois, U.S.A.

Dear Doctor Egloff,

I thank you for your kind wishes that my wife and I reciprocate very cordially for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I take the opportunity of asking you for some information that probably you can give me, because I know you gave much attention to Platforming use in aromatising hydrocarbons.

In Europe we studied ethylenes aromatisation that gives, with chrome oxides catalysts, highest yields of para-xylene. The yields are the following, referring to aromatised ethylenes;

55% para-xylene
26% orto-xylene
19% ethylbenzene

The aromatisation catalysts, tested up now, have the disadvantage of giving low yields of aromatisation in each pass and need frequent regenerations.

Do you think that Platforming catalysts can be used to aromatise ethylenes?

If the Universal Oil Products Company had studied olefines aromatisation, I should be very grateful to you if you could send me some information on this matter.

Awaiting your kind reply,
I remain,

Very truly yours,

(Prof. G. Natta)

March 24, 1953

Dr. Gustav Egloff
Universal Oil Products Co.
310 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago 4, Illinois, U.S.A.

Dear Doctor Egloff,

I heard only today the conferment of the Washington Award for 1953 upon you. I am very pleased to hear that, and am sending you my best compliments and wishes for the high and highly merited honor that has been conferred upon you.

With my best personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely

(G.Natta)

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

30 ALGONQUIN

ROAD



DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

January 22, 1954

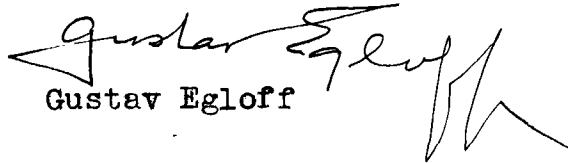
Dr. G. Natta,
Istituto Di Chimica Industriale
Del Politecnico,
Piazza Leonardo Da Vinci, 32,
Milano, Italy.

Dear Dr. Natta:

Dr. Parravano, who is now in the United States, is looking for a position of permanency here. Will you be good enough to advise your opinion as to his abilities, etc., so that I can recommend him, as I do not know too much about him. I met his father years ago, in Rome, and I am sure that the son must have good qualifications.

With kindest personal regards until we meet again - perhaps during the World Petroleum Congress, in June 1955, if not sooner,

Most sincerely yours,


Gustav Egloff

GE:EP

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

30 ALGONQUIN ROAD



DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

January 22, 1954

Dr. G. Natta,
Istituto Di Chimica Industriale
Del Politecnico,
Piazza Leonardo Da Vinci, 32,
Milano, Italy.

Dear Dr. Natta:

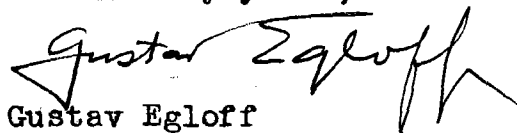
Please pardon the delay in answering your letter of December 14, relating to the suitability of Platforming catalysts in aromatizing ethylhexene. I discussed the matter with Dr. Haensel, who is the inventor of the process, and I quote as follows:

Dr. Haensel said that he did not think the Platforming catalyst was particularly suitable because it produced too much isomerization. When ethylhexene is passed over Platforming catalyst, the equilibrium mixtures of C₈ hydrocarbons consist of 20% ortho xylene, 45% meta xylene, 20% para xylene and 15% ethylbenzene, which compares unfavorably with the results obtained by Professor Natta and given in the letter. Dr. Haensel further stated that one of the reasons that the chromium oxide catalyst apparently acted better was that it underwent periodic regeneration and did not have so high an average activity as the Platforming catalyst, at least along the line of isomerization.

Dr. Haensel is carrying on experiments on the aromatization of the various hydrocarbons. He does not favor recommending Platforming catalysts for this particular reaction at the present time.

Hoping the above information is of service to you, and with the Season's best greetings,

Most sincerely yours,


Gustav Egloff

GE:EP

AIR MAIL

Handwritten notes:
Gustav Egloff
1/22/54

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

30 EAST ALGONQUIN ROAD



DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

April 13, 1953

Dr. G. Natta,
Istituto Di Chimica Industriale
Del Politecnico,
Piazza Leonardo Da Vinci, 32,
Milano,
ITALY.

Dear Dr. Natta:

Although belated, I do wish to express my deepest appreciation for your note of congratulation upon my being given the Washington Award for 1953. It was a delight to hear from you. Under separate cover, I am sending you a copy of the address I presented on the occasion of the Award, which you may find of interest.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Most sincerely yours,

GE:EP

Gustav Egloff

Original Air Mail
Copy Regular Mail ✓

COPY

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

30 ALGONQUIN ROAD



DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS, U.S.A.

April 13, 1953

Dr. G. Natta,
Istituto Di Chimica Industriale
Del Politecnico,
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With kindest regards and best wishes,

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Gustav Egloff'.

Gustav Egloff

GE:EP

Original Air Mail
Copy Regular Mail

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE



CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

November 6, 1951

Prof. Dott. Ing. Giulio Natta,
Piazza Leonardo Da Vinci 32,
Milan, Italy.

Dear Professor Natta:

Many of us missed you and Mrs. Natta at the various chemical meetings held in New York in September, and wondered why you were not there. A number of other chemists had difficulty in obtaining visas, and a good many of us felt that serious errors had been committed in this regard.

I still look forward with keenest anticipation to a visit from you, and when you do, let us know so that we may assist you in any way we can while in the United States.

It was a pleasure, indeed, to learn that you liked the Dacron shirt, and likewise your friends. It is a very remarkable fabric.

I very much hope to see you again, if not in the United States, certainly in Italy. Until then, and with best good wishes to Mrs. Natta, who was especially kind to me while in Milan,

Most cordially and sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gustav Egloff".

Dr. Gustav Egloff

GE:EP

Original Air Mail
Copy Sea Mail

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE



CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

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Most cordially and sincerely yours,

GE:EP

Dr. Gustav Egloff

Original Air Mail
Copy Sea Mail ✓

C O P Y

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE



CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

July 10, 1951

Professor Ing. Giulio Natta,
Piazza Leonardo Da Vinci 32,
Milano, Italy.

Dear Professor Natta:

At the request of Dr. Egloff, we are
sending you herewith a Dacron shirt. We trust
this will arrive safely.

Yours very truly,

E. V. Pherigo

E. V. Pherigo
Secretary to Dr. Egloff

EVP

17th October 1951

Dr. G. Erloff
Universal Oil Products Company
310 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago 4, Illinois - U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Erloff,

please excuse me delaying so long in thanking you for your very kind sending of Iacron shirt. I have been very pleased with your present and all my friends have admired very much the new tissue, which is still little known in Italy.

The more pleased I have been in receiving this gift, as in this laboratory we are actually interested in reactions of hydrocarbon oxidation and, among the various reactions studied, there is the oxidation of paraffins to carboxylic acid, the starting material for Iacron.

I hoped to be able to come to America for the Chemical Congress, but, for reasons unexplainable to me (as I do not belong to any political party and have anticommunist ideas) American Consulate has not conceded the visa to my passport.

This surprised very much not only me but also all my friends and acquaintances, and it is not been possible to me to know the reason for which the visa has not been conceded. Perhaps, this is due to the fact that in 1947 I have been in Poland, and the Consulate functioning might have considered this as a reason for not conceding the visa, according to American law.

Many friends of mine in America, among them Dr. Fisher of the National Research Council, took interest for me to the State Department of Washington, but without success.

I hope to see you again, will you have the opportunity to come to Europe.

Again many thanks and best greetings

Yours very sincerely

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE



CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

May 7, 1950

Dr. Giuseppe Zilli,
Savoy Plaza Hotel,
5th Avenue & 59th Street,
New York City, New York.

Dear Dr. Zilli:

Thank you for your letter of May 4, advising that you are in New York. I had already heard from Professor Natta that you were enroute to the United States.

It will be a pleasure, indeed, to see you and discuss your problems on Tuesday, May 15. In the event that for any reason I am not in, will you please ask for Dr. Deanesly.

I am leaving on May 19 for Europe, but do hope to see you before leaving. I plan seeing Professor Natta in Milan about June 11.

Looking forward to your visit with keenest anticipation,

Most sincerely yours,

GE:EP

Gustav Egloff

Original Air Mail
Copy Regular Mail

Copy - Professor Giulio Natta

C O P Y

DR. ING. GIUSEPPE ZILLI

May 4, 1951

Savoy Plaza Hotel
5th Ave. & 59th St.
New York, N. Y.

Dr. Gustav Egloff
Universal Oil Products Co.
310 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Egloff:

The writer who is visiting the U. S. is in possession of a letter of introduction to you from Prof. Natta of Milano (Italy).

It would be a pleasure to meet you and I would appreciate to be informed when it is more convenient for you to arrange an appointment in Chicago during this month of May.

Please address your letter to me at the Savoy Plaza Hotel (Room 2131 - 'Phone Eldorado 5-2600) New York, N. Y.

Thanking you in advance and with best personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

GIUSEPPE ZILLI (Signed)

UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

310 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE



CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

August 8, 1949

Dr. Giulio Natta
Piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32
Milan, Italy

Dear Dr. Natta:

Thank you very much for sending me a set of reprints of your studies. They look most interesting. I am passing them around our organization for their knowledge also.

When do you plan coming to the United States? We look forward to your visit.

You may be interested in the attached copy of my address on "Review of Present Status and Trends of Oil Chemistry" to be presented before the United Nations Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources at Lake Success, New York on August 29.

Until we meet again,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gustav Egloff".

Gustav Egloff

GE:MP
Enc.

24 th April 1951

Mr. Gustav Egloff
Universal Oil Products
Chicago Illinois U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Egloff,

I had much pleasure in knowing that you will come to Italy in the early part of June. My wife and I shall be very glad if you will come to lunch or dinner with us, during your stay in Milan. We also hope to see you in Holland at the Petroleum World Congress.

I wish to inform you that Dr. Zilli of the Montecatini Co. is leaving today for U.S.A. to develop a plan of production and utilisation of olefines to the Montecatini factory of Ferrara, which will be built up with the cooperation of E.O.A.

I shall be very grateful to you, if you will be able to receive Dr. Zilli, eventually kindly assist him in the visits to U.S.A. plants of Chemical applications of olefines and give to him some advices on the various proceedings.

Hoping to see you in Europe soon

Yours sincerely

(Giulio Natta)

Milan, August 23, 1949.

Sr.

N. A. K E I G H T L E Y
Universal Oil Products Co
310 South Michigan Avenue
G H I C A G O, Illinois USA

Dear Mr. Keightley:

I thank you for your kind letters of August 2 and 3 and an awaiting with interest the data about the thermic and autothermic processes you promised us.

As I am leaving on August 31 for Argentina and shall not be back to Europe before the middle of October, please forward copies of your letters to Soc. Montecatini: Direzione Tecnica Progetti e Studi - Via Albania 18, Milano (Italy).

In the meantime, I wish more fully to explain to you what our problem is and what our conditions are, to complete the information already forwarded to you and to your European representative Dr. Frin.

1. - The cracking plant is likely to be erected at a place far away from any petroleum refining plant and, therefore, we are interested in obtaining exclusively products utilisable in the chemical industry. As returning liquid products to the refining plant is not easy, we would recycle them or use them as a fuel. On the contrary, we would be interested in extracting the aromatics present, if their separation turns out to be economical commercially.

2. - The yields indicated by you for the thermic cracking of kerosene are highly interesting, also regarding the yields of light aromatics.

I should like you to confirm to us if the yields of pure benzene are 1% and those of toluene 9% of the charge, as we feel from the data of Table IV, paragraph II of your letter of June 27. Would you possibly also inform us of what would be the approximate cost of installation as well as of running a plant for separating pure aromatics (benzene and toluene). Moreover, we should like to know if the nonaromatic liquid products, after extracting aromatics, may be sent again to cracking in the same plant (possibly together with C_3 - C_4 saturated fractions).

Milan, August 23, 1949

3. - As for the separation of the different olefins (ethylene) propene), we are in the opinion that under the conditions prevailing in Italy processes of fractionating at low temperature (Linde system) present advantages over those generally used in America at high pressure.

Montecatini have much experience in low temperature fractionating as they own two plants for the extracting of ethylene) from coke oven's gas.

Please inform us separately of the approximate cost of plant installation and data to determine the cost of running a plant for the fractionating of olefins from cracking-gases with the process envisaged by you.

4. - From your letter of June 27 we would understand that with the autothermic process olefin yields are very high, about 80% of the batch. Please inform us if these yields refer to a commercial plant in operation, or if they are data obtained from a pilot plant, in which latter case please tell us the capacity of said pilot plant. We would prefer if possible to adopt a process already experienced with a commercial plant.

We are worried about the higher costs of installation and operation and the lower yields in ethene extraction as to be foreseen with the autothermic process with air owing to the presence of relevant quantities of nitrogen. We therefore would ask you separately to point out to us in this case what the approximate costs are for the cracking plant and for the olefin separation plant, as well as any data that may enable us to compute the cost of running such plants.

5. - In your letter of August 2 you say that an autothermic cracking plant with oxygen would be little advisable owing to the cost of oxygen production. As to this point I would inform you that we are developing a project for the production of synthesis gas from partial combustion of methane with oxygen and that our forecast for that plant is a potentiality of 130-150,000 m³/daily of oxygen. I think that it may be suitable to erect a bigger oxygen plant (for example of 180,000 m³/daily) and in such case the cost of the surplus oxygen production would become comparatively low (about 0.6 \$ a m³).

Nilan, August 23, 1949.

Is therefore are asking you to consider whether under these particular conditions the autothermic process with oxygen might turn out to be preferable over other processes.

Awaiting your news, I thank you for your kind attention. Please accept my best regards

Yours sincerely

F.to Prof. Natta

Milan, August 23, 1949.

Mr.

N. A. K N I G H T L E Y
Universal Oil Products Co
310 South Michigan Avenue
C H I C A G O, Illinois USA

Dear Mr. Knightley:

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Milan, August 23, 1949.

We therefore are asking you to consider whether under those particular conditions the autothermic process with oxygen might turn out to be preferable over other processes.

Awaiting your news, I thank you for your kind attention. Please accept my best regards

Yours sincerely

F.to Prof. Natta

F.A. Trim
Representative
UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY

Bush House
Alwych
London W.C. 2

4th July, 1949

Prof. G. Natta
Piazza L. da Vinci 32
Milano, Italy

Dear Sir,

I note from a letter of our Chicago Office dated June 27th that they have written you in regard to Olefin Production. My point in writing is to call your attention to this office which is at your service in fostering any projects you may have in mind, and I should be glad if you would call upon me for any assistance I might be able to give you.

I shall also make a point of trying to contact you, for the purpose of having a discussion, on my next visit to Italy.

Very truly yours

Firmato: F.A. Trim

14.9.1949

Prof. Dr. Gustav Egloff
Universal Oil Products Company
310 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago 4 -Illinois

Dear Professor Egloff,

Prof. Natta is going to Buenos Ayres and he charged me to reply to his letters.

I thank you very much for your reprint that I found very interesting.

I think Prof. Natta will be also very interested on the argument.

Very truly yours

(Prof. N. Agliardi)