Polyurethane feedstocks: is the golden age over?

Three phases in the polyurethane feedstocks cycle

- **2016 to H1 2018 ‘The golden age’**
  - Low excess capacity
  - High number of plant outages
  - Strong demand growth
  - Record high prices
  - High margins

- **H2 2018 to 2020 ‘The slump’**
  - High excess capacity
  - Reduced plant outages
  - Weak demand growth
  - Weak economic growth
    - US-China trade war
    - Political uncertainty
    - The coronavirus
  - Record low prices
  - Low margins (negative margins)

- **2021 and beyond ‘Time for reflection’**
  - Cancellation of US capacity projects
  - Chinese plants to come on-stream?
  - Will the PO technologies developed by the Chinese companies be successful?
  - Recovery in global economy?
  - Return to high level demand growth?
  - In the next phase of the cycle will there be a return to the golden age or will the slump to continue?

Whether a polyurethane feedstocks producer or an end use consumer, the Global Polyurethane Feedstocks Market Advisory Service can enable you to navigate the uncertainty in the years ahead as we move into the next phase of the cycle.

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