

# NEWS

## AEROSPACE:

### *CALIBRATION GASES FOR ISS*

The astronauts on board the International Space Station (ISS) spend much of their time conducting experiments under zero-gravity conditions. Not only does the ISS record physical and astronomical measurements, it also runs medical tests on the astronauts while they orbit the earth. Linde supports Danish Aerospace Company (DAC), a leader in the field of medical instrumentation for space applications, by supplying ECOCYL® specialty gas cylinders for DAC's Portable Pulmonary Functional System. The medical instruments developed by DAC must be calibrated regularly to ensure accurate measurement of physiological parameters such as the astronauts' respiratory function and fitness during flight. "We are delighted that ECOCYL® has not only been approved, but that it was selected from a strong list of contenders in the first place," said Stephen Harrison, Global Head of Specialty Gases and Specialty Equipment at Linde. The aerospace industry sets extremely high standards not only for gas and mix-

ture purities, but also for the actual gas cylinders. As space is at a premium on ISS, compact, lightweight design is also a must – and ECOCYL® excels on that front. The cylinders will soon get a chance to prove their value as they will be heading for ISS in an Ariane 5 rocket that will blast off from the European spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, in summer 2014.



## PETROCHEMICALS:

### *PARTNERSHIP FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ETHANE CRACKERS*

Linde AG has signed an Enterprise Framework Agreement (EFA) with Shell Global Solutions International BV to build ethane cracking units on a global basis. The EFA is for ten years, with an option to be extended. The EFA covers licensing, engineering, procurement and

construction services, as well as the supply of proprietary equipment for ethane cracking units. Under the agreement, Linde has already entered the Front End Engineering and Design (FEED) phase for a world-scale ethane cracker that Shell is currently evaluating.