



2009 Minerals Yearbook

SYRIA

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY OF SYRIA

By Mowafa Taib

Crude oil and phosphate rock were Syria's main contributions to the world supply of minerals in 2009. Syria produced about 1.9% of the world's phosphate rock output and was the world's ninth ranked producer of phosphate rock. Other raw and processed mineral commodities produced in Syria included cement, gypsum, industrial sand (silica), marble, natural crude asphalt, nitrogen fertilizer, phosphate fertilizer, salt, steel, and volcanic tuff (Jasinski, 2010).

Minerals in the National Economy

The global economic downturn of 2009 had affected the Syrian economy and caused a 28% decrease in the value of exports because of a decrease in the volume of international trade and a 2.7% decrease in remittances of Syrian expatriates because of the slowdown of the regional economies in 2009. Nevertheless, Syria's real gross domestic product (GDP) grew at a rate of 4.0% in 2009 compared with 5.2% in 2008. Crude oil production was decreased by about 3.6% to 376,000 barrels per day (bbl/d) from 390,000 bbl/d in 2008. The volume of gross crude oil exports, however, which averaged 250,200 bbl/d in 2009, was a decrease of 16% compared with the export volume in 2005. Net petroleum exports averaged 148,000 bbl/d and were marketed exclusively by the state-owned marketing company Sytrol mainly to European countries, including France, Germany, and Italy. Revenue from the hydrocarbon sector accounted for 4.6% of the GDP compared with 5.2% of the GDP in 2008. The value of crude oil exports decreased by 36% to about \$3.5 billion from \$5.5 billion in 2008. The value of crude oil and refined oil products decreased by 43% to \$3.2 billion from about \$5.6 billion in 2008. The decrease in the value and volume of crude oil exports was attributable to increased local consumption of petroleum products and to a decrease in international oil prices (Bank Audi S.A.L., 2010, p. 1, 12; International Monetary Fund, 2010, p. 17-18; Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, 2010, p. 19, 57; U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2010).

Government Policies and Programs

On February 14, 2009, the Government passed law Nos. 14 and 15, which reorganized the state-owned petroleum companies. Law No. 14 created the General Corporation for Refining and Distribution of Petroleum Products. The new agency included Baniyas Refinery Co., Homs Refinery Co., Syrian Company for Distribution and Storage of Petroleum Products, and Syrian Company for Gas Distribution. Law No. 15 created the General Petroleum Corp. (GPC), which included Syrian Gas Co., Syrian Petroleum Co. (SPC), and Syrian Petroleum Transportation Co. The mission of the GPC was to establish policies related to the development, exploration, and investment in the hydrocarbon sector and to monitor international oil companies' projects in the country (Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, 2009a, b).

In 2009, the General Establishment of Geology and Mineral Resources (GEGMR) mapped an area of 3,410 square kilometers, drilled 12,718 meters, and analyzed 6,611 samples. The GEGMR had been promoting the development of the country's mining sector by focusing on upgrading phosphate rock production at the As-Sharqiyah and the Khunayfis Mines; building phosphate-based fertilizer plants and phosphate washing and drying units; developing natural crude asphalt mining at the Al-Bishri and the Kafrayya Mines; rehabilitating the marble plants in Damascus and Latakia; increasing the production of volcanic tuff; and starting a bentonite and zeolite mining industry (General Establishment of Geology and Mineral Resources, 2010, p. 11).

In 2009, GEGMR issued 944 licenses for quarrying for building material throughout the country; 17 of these licenses were for cement production. GEGMR invited international companies to invest in the mining of natural crude asphalt from the Al-Bishri deposit to produce petroleum products, generate electricity, and make asphalt mixes for road pavement. The General Company for Phosphate and Mines (GCMP) called on consulting companies to provide technical, feasibility, and environmental studies for the treatment and beneficiation of phosphate rock tailings at the Khunayfis and the As-Sharqiyah Mines. In 2010, GPC invited bids for crude oil and natural gas exploration on eight onshore blocks and eight offshore blocks as well as a bid round to develop seven oilfields in the country.

Damascus Securities Exchange (DSE) was reopened in 2009 after 40 years of closure, which was the period when the country was experimenting with a socialist economy. As of yearend 2009, the majority of companies listed on the DSE were financial institutions (Roscoe, 2010, p. 39).

Production

In 2009, production of asphalt increased by 57% and gross natural gas output increased by 5% compared with that of 2008. Notable decreases in the output of minerals in 2009 compared with 2008 included gypsum output, which decreased by 30%; phosphate rock, by 23%; marble slabs, by 25%; industrial sand (silica), by 15%; and salt, by 12% (table 1).

Structure of the Mineral Industry

State-owned companies that were administrated by the Ministry of Industry or the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources (MoPMR) carried out the majority of mining activity in Syria. These companies included the General Company for Marble and Asphalt (GEMA), the General Company for Phosphate and Mines, the GPC, the General Organization for Cement and Building Materials (GOCBM), General Fertilizers Co., and the General Company for Iron and Steel Products (Hadeed Hama). Several private local and international investors were involved in the process of building new greenfield cement

plants, including Al-Badia Cement Co. J.S.C., Al Rajhi Cement, and Lafarge Cement Syria S.A. Private finished steel producers included Al Wahib Group, Arabian Steel Co. (ASCO), Hmisho International Steel S.A., International Company for Steel Rolling (ICSR), Joudco Steel Ltd., and Syria Steel and Iron Co. (SALB) (table 2).

Commodity Review

Metals

Iron and Steel.—Syria's imports of steel products, which included crude, semifinished, and finished steel, had been increasing in recent years because of the inability of the existing plants to meet the increased demand of the construction sector for reinforcement bar (rebar). The country imported 2.2 million metric tons per year (Mt/yr) of steel products in 2009 compared with 2.0 Mt/yr in 2008 and 2.8 Mt/yr in 2007. Steel products were imported mainly from Ukraine, which accounted for 44% of Syria's steel imports, by volume, followed by Russia, which accounted for 13% of the total steel imports, by volume (Arab Steel, 2010).

Apollo Metalex Pvt. Ltd. of India moved forward with upgrading Hadeed Hamas's scrap melting plant. The \$34 million project was expected to increase the plant's capacity to 288,000 metric tons per year (t/yr) of billet from 70,000 t/yr by 2010 (Arab Steel, 2009).

Joudco Steel produced 132,000 metric tons (t) of rebar at its plant in Latakia compared with 133,000 t in 2008. All but 575 t of the company's output was sold on the local market. The company was building a new 75,000-t/yr-capacity plant in Adra Industrial City northeast of Damascus for the production of hot-rolled billets. The new billet plant, which was a joint venture with an unnamed foreign investor, was expected to be completed by yearend 2010 (Arab Steel, 2010).

In 2009, Hmisho Steel, produced low- and medium-carbon-content rebar from its newly built mill in Latakia. The company built a new billet plant with an electric arc furnace (EAF), a ladle furnace, and a four-strand billet continuous-casting machine at Adra Industrial City. The capacity to produce 500,000 t/yr of steel was supplied by Daniel Centro Metal Co. of Italy. In October, International Company for Steel Rolling commissioned production of its rolling mill plant, which is located in Hisyah Industrial Zone near Homs. The plant had the capacity to produce 300,000 t/yr of rebar (Hmisho Steel S.A., 2010; International Company for Steel Rolling, 2010).

Industrial Minerals

Cement.—Cement production in Syria, which totaled about 5.5 million metric tons (Mt) in 2009, was expected to double following the completion of projects currently under construction. The country's cement consumption in 2010 was expected to exceed 8 Mt. Lafarge Cement Syria, which was owned by Lafarge S.A. of France (85%) and Mas Economic Group (15%), continued building a new greenfield plant at Manbej, which is located 160 kilometers (km) northeast of Aleppo and 25 km south of the border with Turkey.

The 3-Mt/yr-capacity plant was expected to be completed by June 2010. Lafarge had a plan to build a second cement plant near Damascus (Lafarge Cement Syria S.A., 2010).

Al-Badia Cement Co. JSC, which was a joint venture of Muhaidib & Sons Group of Saudi Arabia, Ciment Francais (a subsidiary of Italcementi Group of Italy), and other investors, moved forward with the construction of a new 3.2-Mt/yr-capacity plant at Abu Ash-Shamat, which is located 80 km northeast of Damascus. The plant was being built by CBMI Construction Co. Ltd. of China and was expected to commence first-phase production of 1.6 Mt/yr in late 2010.

Rajhi Cement (a subsidiary of Al Rajhi Group of Saudi Arabia) signed a contract with Chengdu Design and Research Institute of Building Materials Industry Co. Ltd. of China to build a 1-Mt/yr cement plant in Syria (AME Info, 2008; China Cement Net, 2009).

In 2009, GOCBM, which operated eight state-owned cement plants in Syria, produced more than 5 Mt of clinker, which was 125,000 t more than output of 4.9 Mt in 2008, or an increase of 3%. Tartus Cement and Building Material Co. produced about 1.4 Mt of clinker; the Syrian Cement Manufacturing and Building Material Co. in Hama, 1.3 Mt; Arabian Cement Co., 824,000 t; Al Shahaba Cement and Building Material Co., 685,000 t; Adra Cement and Building Material Co., 657,000 t; and Rastan Cement and Building Material Co., 114,000 t. A cement plant that was operated by the Military Housing Establishment of the Ministry of Defense produced 293,000 t of cement. GOCBM was in the process of upgrading and expanding the capacity of the Tartus plant to 1.85 Mt/yr from 1.23 Mt. Pharon Commercial Investment Group of Saudi Arabia financed the \$50 million expansion plan in return for 400,000 t/yr of the plant's future production. Pharon Group was expected to upgrade the Adra cement plant to increase its capacity to about 1.5 Mt/yr from 845,000 t/yr in return for 461,000 t/yr of post-expansion production. Ehdas Sanat Co. of Iran completed building a new cement plant in Hama for GOCBM; the plant, which was initially scheduled for completion in 2007, had a capacity of 1.1 Mt/yr of cement (Syrian Arab News Agency, 2010).

In 2009, Guris Raqqa Cement Co., which was a subsidiary of Guris Construction and Engineering Co. Inc. of Turkey, completed the construction of a 1.5-Mt/yr-capacity clinker mill in Raqqa in northeastern Syria at a cost of \$50 million. Guris also owned Al-Hasakeh Cement L.L.C. in the Yurubbiya Free Zone in northeastern Syria. Al-Hasakeh Cement was established in 2007 as a clinker production and milling plant as well as a cement sales outlet (Guris Construction and Engineering Co. Inc., 2010).

Phosphate Rock.—About 2.4 Mt of washed and unwashed phosphate rock was sold mainly to foreign fertilizer manufacturers in 2009. Phosphate rock production in the country decreased significantly for the second year in a row by 0.76 Mt in 2009 compared with that of 2008, which in turn was a decrease of about 0.5 Mt compared with that of 2007. Phosphate rock production was 35% less than the GCPM's production target for 2009. The company attributed the significant decrease in production to reduced demand by international markets, insufficient mining equipment, and

technical difficulties (General Establishment of Geology and Mineral Resources, 2010, p. 17).

In May 2010, the Governments of India and Syria signed a memorandum of understanding to establish a joint-venture company to develop phosphate rock production facilities in Syria, which would increase production to 10 Mt/yr from the current production of 2.2 Mt/yr. The new company would upgrade the phosphate rock mines in Alsharqiya and Kunayfis, transportation equipment, and the phosphate rock export terminal at Tartus Port. The joint venture would also build a phosphoric acid plant at a phosphate rock mine site. India was expected to import most of the phosphate rock, phosphoric acid, and phosphate fertilizer produced by the new company (Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, 2010a).

Stone, Dimension.—The General Institute for Geology of the MoPMR estimated that the country's dimension stones reserves were more than 50 Mt. In 2009, there were 32 active dimension stone quarries in the country. The GEMA operated 5 quarries directly and contracted 11 quarries; the remaining quarries were operated by private companies. A sector study conducted by the Syrian Enterprise Business Center and funded by the European Union identified 25 types of dimension stones in Syria, 5 of which were chosen for promotion at international markets. These designated types were the Bedrousi, the Rhaibani Light Biege, the Mussyaf, the Palmyra White, and the Palmyra Yellow (Damiani and Giovannangeli, 2008, p. 8).

Mineral Fuels

Natural Gas.—Syria's natural gas reserves were estimated to be about 280 billion cubic meters. The country's gas production totaled 6.0 billion cubic meters, which was unchanged from the production level in 2008. The Government imported 728 million cubic meters of natural gas from Egypt by way of the Arab Gas Co. in 2009 (BP p.l.c., 2010, p. 24; Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, 2010b).

In November, the Syrian Gas Co. commenced production at the South Central Area gas treatment plant. The plant processed natural gas produced at the Abu Rabah, the Al Fayed, and the Qumqum gasfields. The plant, which was built by Stroytransgaz of Russia, was expected to produce about 2.5 billion cubic meters per year. Natural gas from the South Central Area plant would be used by the Adra cement plant, power stations, and fertilizer plant. Petrofac Ltd. of the United Kingdom moved forward with the construction of 1.4-billion-cubic-meter-per-year natural gas processing plant in central Syria. The plant would begin processing natural gas from the Hayan gasfield in the fourth quarter of 2010. In August, the Governments of Syria and Turkey signed a memorandum of understanding to connect the gas networks of both countries, which would enable Syria to buy between 0.5 billion cubic meter and 1.0 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year from Turkey for 5 years beginning in 2011. In July, the GPC signed an agreement with Total S.A. of France to develop the Al-Tabia gasfield, which was located in the Dayr az Zawr Province in northeastern Syria (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2010).

Petroleum.—In 2009, production of crude oil and condensates in Syria averaged about 376,000 barrels per day (bbl/d), which

was about the same level of output achieved in the previous 3 years. Syria's proved petroleum reserves as of yearend 2009 were estimated to be 2.5 billion barrels. State-owned SPC produced more than 191,000 bbl/d of crude oil and condensates, and the international companies working in Syria, including Al-Furat Petroleum Co., Dier Ezour Petroleum Co., Dijla Petroleum Co., Hayan Petroleum Co., Oudeh Oil Co., and Sino Syrian Al Kawkab Oil Co., produced about 180,000 bbl/d combined. The country's two petroleum refineries had the capacity to refine 240,000 bbl/d of crude oil. The Baniyas refinery had the capacity to refine 133,000 bbl/d of petroleum products, and the Homs refinery had the capacity to refine 107,000 bbl/d (Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, 2010b; U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2010).

The GPC was working with a number of international companies on crude oil and natural gas exploration to halt the downward trend in the country's crude oil production. These companies included Gulfsands Petroleum p.l.c. of the United Kingdom (Block 26), HBS International Egypt Ltd. (Block 22), INA Industrija Nafta of Croatia (Block 10), IPR Mediterranean Exploration Ltd. of the United States (Block 24), Loon Energy Corp. of Canada (Block 9), Morrell Broom Co. (Block 11), Royal Dutch Shell plc of the Netherlands (Blocks 57 and 58), Sayuz Co. of Ukraine (Block 12), Stratic Energy Corp. of Canada (Block 17), and Suncor Energy Inc. of Canada (Al Shaer and Al Sharefa gasfields, and Block 2) (General Petroleum Corp., 2010; Gulfsands Petroleum p.l.c., 2010).

The Government planned to upgrade the country's two refineries at Baniyas and Homs and to build two new greenfield refineries (one at Al-Furqlus east of Homs and another at Abu Khashab in Dayr az Zawr Province) to satisfy the increase in local demand for refined petroleum products, which was projected to increase by 5% annually for the next 20 years. The Al-Furqlus refinery project was a joint venture of the Governments of Iran, Syria, and Venezuela, and Al-Bukhari Group of Malaysia. It would have the capacity to refine 140,000 bbl/d of petroleum products and would cost about \$3 billion to build. A second new greenfield petroleum refinery was planned at Dayr az Zawr in northeastern Syria. It would be built and financed by China National Petroleum Co. (CNPC) and would have a 100,000 bbl/d refining capacity and cost \$2 billion to build. An economic feasibility study for the Dayr az Zawr refinery was expected to be completed in 2010.

Outlook

In May 2010, Syria was granted observer status at the World Trade Organization (WTO) after the United States lifted its opposition to Syria's application to join the WTO. The Government announced that it expects to sign a partnership agreement with the European Union by the end of 2010. The Government, based on the assumption that the country's crude oil reserves are sufficient to supply 300,000 bbl/d for the next 40 years, was focusing on developing other sources of energy, such as natural gas and shale oil and promoting private sector involvement in power generation activity in the country through financing and operating the first independent powerplant company. Private investment in the cement and steel sectors

is expected to address the chronic shortages of cement and rebar commodities in the local markets. Phosphate rock and phosphate fertilizer production is likely to increase significantly following the entry of Indian fertilizer production companies to the phosphate production market of Syria (Alexander's Gas & Oil Connections, 2009; Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, 2010a, b).

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TABLE 1
SYRIA: PRODUCTION OF MINERAL COMMODITIES¹

(Metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
METALS					
Steel: ^c					
Crude thousand metric tons	70 ^r	70 ^r	70 ^r	70 ^r	70
Manufactured ^{e, 2} do.	800 ^r	800 ^r	800 ^r	1,000 ^r	1,000
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS					
Asphalt thousand metric tons	NA	NA	56 ^r	50 ^r	79
Cement, hydraulic do.	4,700	4,804	5,104	5,336	5,497
Gypsum do.	467 ^r	444 ^r	448 ^r	573 ^r	403
Nitrogen:					
N content of ammonia ^e	120,000	120,000	120,000	165,000 ^r	180,000
N content of urea ^e	91,000	91,000	91,000	91,000	110,000
Phosphate:					
Phosphate rock, mine output:					
Gross weight thousand metric tons	3,500	3,664	3,678	3,221 ³	2,466
P ₂ O ₅ content do.	1,080	1,130	1,135	966	740
P ₂ O ₅ equivalent:					
Phosphatic fertilizers ^e	130,000	130,000	130,000	120,000	120,000
Phosphoric acid ^e	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Salt	110,000	133,000	81,000	88,600	78,263
Sand and gravel:					
Industrial sand (silica) thousand metric tons	1,300	1,300	1,702	1,621	1,382
Stone:					
Dolomite, refractory grade ^e thousand metric tons	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Gravel and crushed rock ^e do.	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Marble materials do.	NA	NA	780	885	664
Marble blocks thousand square meters	340	340	350	198	202
Volcanic tuff thousand metric tons	650	650	810	901	958
Sulfur					
Byproduct of petroleum and natural gas	36,074	43,000	40,650	40,491	32,375
Sulfuric acid:					
Gross weight ^e	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000	360,000
S content ^e	117,000	117,000	117,000	117,000	117,000
MINERAL FUELS AND RELATED MATERIALS					
Gas, natural:					
Gross ^e million cubic meters	8,300	8,600	7,825	7,574 ³	7,948
Dry do.	5,300 ^r	5,200 ^r	5,800 ^r	6,000 ^{r, 3}	6,000
Natural gas plant liquids ^e thousand 42-gallon barrels	3,650	3,650	3,650	3,650	3,650
Petroleum:					
Crude do.	157,315	146,000	138,850	139,081 ³	137,576
Refinery products:					
Liquefied petroleum gas do.	1,716 ^r	1,680 ^r	1,680	1,680	1,680
Gasoline do.	12,958	12,921	12,921	12,958	12,958
Naphtha do.	7,456	7,080 ^r	7,080 ^r	7,080 ^r	7,080
Kerosene and jet fuel do.	3,248	3,248	3,248	3,248 ^r	3,248
Distillate fuel oil do.	29,346 ^r	29,346	29,346 ^r	29,346	29,346
Residual fuel oil do.	32,887 ^r	32,887 ^r	32,887	32,887	32,887
Asphalt ^e do.	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Other do.	1,000 ^r	1,000 ^r	1,000 ^r	3,500 ^r	3,500 ^r
Total do.	91,111 ^r	90,662 ^r	90,662 ^r	93,199 ^r	93,199

^eEstimated; estimated data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown. ^rRevised. do. Ditto. NA Not available.

¹Table includes data available through December 31, 2010.

²Mostly from imported crude and semimanufactured steel.

³Reported figure.

TABLE 2
SYRIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2009

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Asphalt		General Company for Marble and Asphalt (GEMA) (Government, 100%)	Al Bishri, Dayr az Zawr and Kafriyah, Latakia	100
Cement		Tartous Cement and Building Materials Co. ¹	Tartus	1,802
Do.		Al-Shahaba Cement and Building Materials Co. ¹	Aleppo	923
Do.		Arabian Cement Co. ¹	do.	898
Do.		Adra Cement and Building Materials Co. ¹	Adra	845
Do.		Syrian Manufacturing Cement Co. ¹	Hama	1,100
Do.		Rastan Cement and Building Materials Co. ¹	Rastan	131
Do.		Military Housing Cement Group (Government, 100%)	Musselemieh	336
Do.		Al-Badia Cement Co. J.S.C.	Jebel Kohla near Abu As-Shamat	3,200 ²
Do.		Lafarge Cement Syria (Lafarge S.A., 85%, and Mas Economic Group, 15%)	Manbej north of Aleppo	3,000 ²
Do.		Guris Raqqa Cement Co. (Guris Holdings, 100%)	Clinker mill at Raqqa	1,500
Do.		Al-Hasakeh Cement L.L.C. (Guris Holdings, 100%)	Clinker mill at Al-Hasakeh	1,000
Gypsum		General Company for Marble and Asphalt (Government, 100%)	Ar Reqqah, Jayrud, Lattakia,	573
Marble materials		do.	Zobar, Lattakia and Sabboura,	90
Natural gas	million cubic meters	Syrian Gas Co. (Government, 100%)	Processing plant at Deir ez-Zor	4,750
Do.	do.	A-Furat Petroleum Co. (Syrian Petroleum Co., 50%; Petro Canada, 19%; Royal Dutch Shell plc, 31%)	Processing plant at Omar	2,400
Do.	do.	Syrian Gas Co. (Government, 100%)	Abu Rabah, Al-Fayed north, Qumqum, Bilas, Al-Rasm and Abu Al Dhuhr	1,825
Do.	do.	do.	Arak	13,770
Do.	do.	do.	Dubayat	14,872
Do.	do.	do.	Processing plant at Palmyra	2,200
Do.	do.	do.	Processing plant at Jebissa	1,060
Do.	do.	do.	Processing plant at Suwaidiyah	240
Nitrogen:				
Ammonia ³		General Fertilizers Co. (Government, 100%)	Homs	237
Urea		do.	do.	280
Fertilizers		do.	do.	200
Petroleum:				
Crude	thousand 42-gallon barrels	Al-Furat Petroleum Co. (joint venture of Syrian Petroleum Co., Syria Shell Petroleum Development B.V., Himalaya Energy Services BV)	Al Izba, Al Ward, Galban, Jarnof/Saban, Maleh/Azraq, Omar/Omar North, Sijan, Tanak, Thayyam	43,800
Do.	do.	Syrian Petroleum Co. (Government, 100%)	Jebissa, and Swaidiyah-Karatchok	73,000
Do.	do.	Deir Ezzor Petroleum Co. (Syrian Petroleum Co., 50%, and Total Fina Elf S.A., 50%)	al-Mazraa, Attala North Jafra, Qahar	10,950
Do.	do.	Sino Syrian Al Kawkab Oil Co. [Syrian Petroleum Co., 50%, and China Petroleum and Chemical Corp. (Sinopec), 50%]	Oudeh	3,650
Do.	do.	Oudeh Oil Co. [Syrian Petroleum Co., 50%, and Dublin International Petroleum (Syria) Ltd., 50%]	do.	7,300
Do.	do.	Dijla Petroleum Co. (Syrian Petroleum Co., 50%, and Gulfsands Petroleum, p.l.c., 50%)	Khurbet East	18,250
Refined	do.	Banias Refinery Co. (Government, 100%)	Banias	59,090
Do.	do.	Homs Refinery Co. (Government, 100%)	Homs	58,578
Phosphate:				
Phosphate rock		General Company for Phosphate and Mines (GCPM) (Government, 100%)	Alsharqiya (A and B Mines)	2,000
Do.		do.	Khunayfis	850
Phosphatic fertilizers		General Fertilizers Co. (Government, 100%)	Homs	450
Phosphoric acid		do.	do.	165
Salt		General Company for Phosphate and Mines (GCPM) (Government, 100%)	Dayr az Zawr	72

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2—Continued
 SYRIA: STRUCTURE OF THE MINERAL INDUSTRY IN 2009

(Thousand metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Commodity		Major operating companies and major equity owners	Location of main facilities	Annual capacity
Steel:				
Billet		General Company for Iron and Steel Products (Hadeed Hama) (Government, 100%)	Hama	70
Rolled		Hmisho Steel S.A.	Latakia	500
Do.		Orient Co.	Aleppo	300
Do.		Arabian Steel Co. (ASCO)	Jableh	300
Do.		International Company for Steel Rolling	Hessya	300
Do.		Syria Steel and Iron Co. (SALB)	Adra	250
Do.		Joudco Steel Ltd.	do.	150
Do.		Al Wahib Group	Tartus	100
Do.		Middle East Steel Industries	Yabroud	140
Do.		General Company for Iron and Steel Products	Hama	78
Sulfur	metric tons	Homs Refinery Co.	Homs	40,000
Do.	do.	do.	Processing plant at Suwaidiyah	7,410
Do.	do.	Syrian Petroleum Co. (Government, 100%)	Processing plant at Jebissa	7,300
Sulfuric acid		General Fertilizers Co. (Government, 100%)	Homs	560
Volcanic tuff		General Company for Marble and Asphalt (Government, 100%)	Quarries at Daraa, Assowaida, Al Hasakah, and Arraqah	1,000

Do., do. Ditto.

¹Subsidiary of the General Organization of Cement and Building Materials (GOCBM), which is 100% Government owned.

²Under construction.

³Expressed in nitrogen equivalent.

