

## Naphtha

Naphtha is primarily used as a base material for the production of high-grade gasoline by means of the catalytic reforming process. Naphtha is also a valuable feedstock for the <u>petrochemical industry</u> and its most important process, steam cracking. Naphtha is the technical term for petroleum fractions that are rich in cycloalkanes (ring-shaped, saturated hydrocarbons). This colorless (with kerosene smell) or red-brown liquid (with an aromatics odor) intermediate product lies between the light gases of crude oil and the heavier, liquid <u>kerosene</u> and is insoluble in water. A differentiation is made between light (less dense) and heavy (fairly dense) naphtha. Light naphtha boils at between 35°C and 130°C and has a higher paraffin content than heavy naphtha, which boils between 130°C and 210°C and contains a lot of naphthenes and aromatics. Compared to heavy naphtha, which is often further refined, light naphtha is the least processed product of a refinery.

TYPICAL SPECIFICATION			
CHARACTERISTICS	UNIT	SPECIFICATION	TEST METHOD
Density @15.6 ° C	gr/cm³	Max 0.735	ASTM D-4052
Reid Vapour pressure	psia	Max 12	ASTM D-323
Color Saybolt		Min 16	ASTM D-156
Lead Content	Wt. ppm	Max 20	ASTM D-3559
Total Sulphur	wt. ppm	Max 300	ASTM D-3120
I.B.P	° C	Min 30	ASTM D-86
F.B.P	° C	Max 180	ASTM D-86
Paraffins	Wt%	Min 70	GC
Naphthanes + Aromatics	Wt%	Balance	GC
Total Cholorides	wt. ppm	Max 10	IP-AK/81