

《中国独立炼油厂参与全球石油交易》

China's independent refineries are becoming more assertive in global oil trading, procuring large volumes of crude and buying it directly from the market.

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The country's so-called "teapot" refineries received some of the first import licenses last year as Beijing moved to boost investment in the energy industry, which has long been dominated by state oil companies Sinopec and PetroChina.

?????"?"??(Sinopec)????(PetroChina)????????

The teapots — which, despite their nickname, can be substantial buyers, together representing about a third of China's total oil refining capacity — have moved quickly to strike deals with some of the world's largest crude exporters and are finding ways to procure oil that bypasses international trading houses.

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Last month Shandong Chambroad Petrochemicals Company bought a spot cargo of crude oil directly from Saudi Aramco, the state oil company of Opec's de facto leader and the world's largest exporter of crude.

????????????(Shandong Chambroad Petrochemicals Company)????????????(Saudi Aramco)????????????????????????OPEC?????"?"????????????????

Now, the company — one of 11 independent refineries permitted to import crude — will be the first teapot to trade on the Dubai Mercantile Exchange as it looks to hedge its imports and buy physical cargoes from Oman.

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This approach by Shandong Chambroad, say some industry participants, suggests a shift away from the use of middlemen, whether it is big international oil traders or China's domestic oil industry giants.

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The DME said the exchange will be approaching more independent Chinese refineries in the coming weeks and plan to hold a roundtable in the country in mid-May "to assist other local participants".

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