

## **INAUGURAL CEREMONY MARKS OPENING OF TÜPRAŞ ' NEW REFORMER UNIT BY HILMI GÜLER, THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

*In Tüpraş Refinery in Izmit, the Diesel Desulphurization and The New Reformer Unit which provides production of sulphur free diesel and high-octane fuel, was inaugurated with a ceremony attended by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Dr. Hilmi Güler, the Koç Holding Chairman Mustafa V. Koç, and the Spanish Ambassador Luis Felipe Fernandez De La Pena on Thursday November 8, 2007.*

Diesel containing 10 ppm (10 gr sulphur per tonne) which is below the current EU standard of 50 ppm (50 gr sulphur per tonne) was produced with the activation of the Izmit Refinery Diesel Desulphurization and the New Reformer Unit, one of the important milestones of the Master Investment Plan of \$2.2 billion that Tüpraş is undertaking in order to align its production with the EU standards. The new technology enabled producing cleaner and environment -friendly low-sulphur diesel and higher-octane gasoline. The activation of the unit increased the production capacity of Tüpraş by 2.5 million tonnes per year for low-sulphur diesel fuel and by 1 million tonnes for gasoline



Together with the activation of the new unit, the Izmit Refinery which is situated in the Marmara Region where 36% of the petroleum products are consumed, has become able to produce according to the EURO V standards meeting the EU environmental norms that will be applied by 2009 and has reached the most developed refinery levels in the Mediterranean Region increasing the Nelson Complexity Index – index of development level of refineries - to 7.8.

When there is a transfer from usage of high -sulphur diesel fuels to low-sulphur diesel fuels in our country, the sulphur dioxide emissions will be reduced from 84 thousand tonnes to 120 tonnes decreasing by approximately 700 percent and the greenhouse gas emissions of motor vehicles will reduce dramatically. The investments that will

diminish the sulphur dioxide emissions of diesel cars down to negligible levels are vital for the environment. Accordingly, with the increased uptake of cleaner fuels , the current fleet of motorcars will be replaced by the new-generation cars and an additional saving in fuel will be secured thereof.



The investment was realised with \$390 million including a \$190 million foreign loan and will create a total added value of \$1 billion; \$150 million for our company and \$780 million for our state. Spanish Tecnicas Reunidas, as the main contractor, and Alarko -Akfen Consortium have been involved in the project.