

AFRICA OIL+GAS REPORT

Nigerian Refiners Waltersmith and Aradel Expand Refined Product Portfolios

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Nigerian refiner Waltersmith Petroman is planning to add jet fuel to its product slate, while fellow Nigerian refiner Aradel has reported a notable increase in refined output. The developments signal continued momentum in Nigeria's domestic refining sector, where independent and modular refiners are pushing to broaden their commercial offerings beyond basic petroleum products.

Waltersmith Petroman, operating out of the Niger Delta region, has been one of the more prominent modular refinery success stories in Nigeria. The planned addition of jet fuel to its product range represents a meaningful step up in refining complexity and commercial ambition. Jet fuel production requires tighter process controls and quality specifications than many other refined products, meaning this move would indicate growing operational maturity at the facility. Aviation fuel supply in Nigeria has historically been dominated by imports, so any domestic production capacity adds strategic value to the local supply chain.

Aradel's reported jump in refined output adds further weight to the narrative of a strengthening independent refining base in Nigeria. While the article does not specify the volumes involved or the product mix driving Aradel's increased output, the trend is consistent with broader efforts by Nigerian independents to capture more value from domestic crude rather than exporting raw barrels. Nigeria's chronic fuel supply challenges and the broader policy push for in-country refining have created commercial space for these smaller operators to grow.

Taken together, the two developments point to a refining sector that is becoming more diversified and commercially sophisticated. The traditional dominance of the state-owned NNPC refineries — long hampered by underutilisation and maintenance issues — is increasingly being supplemented, and in some segments challenged, by private-sector actors willing to invest in operational capability. This shift has implications across the downstream value chain, from crude sourcing and logistics through to product distribution and storage infrastructure.

For the broader energy services and infrastructure ecosystem, growing refinery activity at independent Nigerian operators creates demand for equipment, maintenance services, technical upgrades, and storage and distribution solutions. As these facilities scale up production and add product complexity, the requirements for reliable engineering support, instrumentation, and process optimisation services increase in parallel. The trajectory of both Waltersmith and Aradel will be worth monitoring as Nigeria's downstream sector continues to evolve.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

Norwegian service companies with downstream process technology, instrumentation, or maintenance expertise should monitor Waltersmith and Aradel as potential clients as these refineries scale up and add product complexity. The move into jet fuel production at Waltersmith in particular may create openings for specialised process engineering or quality management services. Near-term positioning through local Nigerian partners or agents would be the most practical entry point.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Service:** Process engineering and instrumentation firms can explore supply of quality control and blending technology as Waltersmith adds jet fuel production capability.
- **Pipeline:** Expanded refinery output volumes at both operators will increase demand for product offtake logistics, storage, and pipeline connectivity solutions in the Niger Delta.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Growing domestic refining demand reinforces the commercial case for continued upstream crude production in Nigeria, sustaining the project pipeline for offshore production infrastructure.

- **LNG:** Increased refinery activity from independents signals broader Nigerian energy sector investment confidence, relevant context for LNG infrastructure planning and gas monetisation strategies in-country.

[Original source: Africa Oil+Gas Report →](#)

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