

☆RIM PETROCHEMICALS INTELLIGENCE DAILY

★No.2902 Jul 30 2019

Copyright(C) 2019 Rim Intelligence Co. All rights reserved.

--TOKYO, 18:30 JST Jul 30 2019 <Assessment Closing Time>

◎RECX-22 index

RECX-22 index for Tuesday was 93.91, down 0.24 points from the previous day.

-----Introduction of Rim reports-----

Please access the URL below for a lineup of Rim reports. You can view sample reports as well as detailed explanations on the contents:

<https://eng.rim-intelligence.co.jp/first/report>

Lineup:

Bunker Oil	Crude/Condensate	Products	
LPG	Petrochemicals	Polyolefins	
LNG	South Asia Gas (Weekly)	Daily Data	Rim Data File

For inquiries on the above, please contact:

Tel: +81-3-3552-2411

Email: info@rim-intelligence.co.jp



◎Aromatics (\$/MT)					
○-Physical and Forward Prices					
	INDEX	H1 Aug	H2 Aug	H1 Sep	H2 Sep
○-Benzene					
FOB Korea	- 666/ 670+	—	658/ 660	666/ 670	666/670
FOB East Japan	- 657/ 660-	653/ 655	653/ 655	661/ 665	—
FOB West Japan	- 662/ 665-	658/ 660	658/ 660	666/ 670	—
CFR Japan	- 675/ 678-	671/ 673	671/ 673	679/ 683	—
China Domestic*	-5,180/5,210-				
China Domestic^	655^				
○-Styrene Monomer					
FOB Korea	1,048/1,058	1,055/1,065	1,055/1,065	1,040/1,050	—
CFR China	1,068/1,078	1,075/1,085	1,075/1,085	1,060/1,070	—
China Domestic*	-8,500/8,520-				
China Domestic^	1,072^				
○-Toluene					
FOB Korea	655/ 665	—	655/ 665	655/ 665	655/665
○-Iso MX					
FOB Korea	+ 742/ 744+	—	745/ 747	742/ 744	742/744
CFR Taiwan	+ 753/ 755+	—	756/ 758	753/ 755	753/755
○-PX					
FOB Korea	+ 818/ 821+	—	831/ 834	818/ 821	818/821
CFR N. E. Asia	+ 838/ 841+	—	851/ 854	838/ 841	838/841

*Yuan/mt, ^\$/mt, calculated from China Domestic.

◎Olefins (\$/MT)			
	CFR N. E. Asia	CFR S. E. Asia	FOB Korea
Ethylene	+ 860/ 900 +	+ 770/ 810 +	+ 860/ 900 +
Propylene	950/ 980	870/ 900	900/ 930
Butadiene	1,140/1,180	1,090/1,130	1,090/1,130

◎China Domestic (Yuan/MT)	
	East China
Propylene	- 7,700/ 7,800 -
Propylene (Shandong)*	+ 7,900/ 7,950
Butadiene	+ 9,300/ 9,400 +
SBR	10,150/10,250
BR	10,300/10,400

*Shandong prices refer to ex-tank assessments in the Shandong area.

◎Polymers (\$/MT)				
	CFR China	CFR S. E. Asia	China Domestic*	USD^
LDPE (Film)	990/1,010	1,010/1,030	8,350/8,450	1,014
LLDPE (Film)	910/ 930	930/ 950	7,800/7,850	944 -
HDPE (Film)	980/1,020	980/1,020	8,650/8,750	1,050
HDPE (Yarn)	980/1,020	980/1,020	8,900/9,000	1,080 -
PP (Homo) - BOPP	1,050/1,070	1,080/1,100	—	—
PP (Homo) - Yarn/INJ	1,040/1,060	1,070/1,090	8,700/8,750	1,053
PP (Block Co) - INJ	1,060/1,080	1,090/1,110	—	—

*Yuan/MT, ^USD calculated from China Domestic.



◎PVC and Feedstocks (\$/MT)		
	CFR China	
PVC	850/860	
Ethylene Dichloride	300/320	
Vinylchloride Monomer	680/700	

◎Intermediates (\$/MT)		
Phenol (CFR NEA)	900/ 950	
Bisphenol-A (CFR China)	1,100/1,150	
Acrylonitrile (CFR China)	1,480/1,520	
Caprolactam (CFR NEA)	1,400/1,420	

◎PET and Feedstocks (\$/MT)			
		China Domestic [^]	
PTA (EX-Bonded Warehouse)	710/730	+ 5,470/5,520 -	
Monoethylene Glycol (CFR China)	550/560 +	+ 4,555/4,680 +	
PET(Bottle, FOB NEA)	930/980	—	

[^]Yuan/MT.

◎Weekly & Monthly Average**				
	22. Jul - 26. Jul	Jun Ave.	22. Jul - 26. Jul	Jun Ave.
○-Benzene				
FOB Korea	656/ 663	621/ 625		
FOB E-Japan	649/ 656	616/ 620		
FOB W-Japan	654/ 661	621/ 625		
CFR Japan	667/ 674	634/ 638		
China Domestic*	5,170/5,208	4,721/4,755		
○-Styrene Monomer				
FOB Korea	1,036/1,047	1,026/1,038		
CFR China	1,056/1,067	1,046/1,058		
China Domestic*	8,536/8,556	8,781/8,807		
○-Toluene				
FOB Korea	655/ 665	597/ 606		
○-Iso MX				
FOB Korea	724/ 726	687/ 689		
CFR Taiwan	752/ 754	708/ 710		
○-PX				
FOB Korea	819/ 821	814/ 816		
CFR N. E. Asia	839/ 841	834/ 836		
	CFR N. E. Asia		CFR S. E. Asia	
Ethylene	850/ 870	785/ 823	760/ 780	697/ 734
Propylene	962/ 978	902/ 921	882/ 898	822/ 841
Butadiene	1,108/1,156	1,092/1,123	1,058/1,106	1,042/1,073
	FOB Korea			
Ethylene	850/ 870	751/ 787		
Propylene	916/ 929	871/ 891		
Butadiene	1,058/1,106	1,042/1,073		



	China Domestic*			
Propylene	7,720/ 7,820		7,082/ 7,153	
Propylene (Shandong)	7,720/ 7,800		7,311/ 7,387	
Butadiene	9,140/ 9,240		8,482/ 8,579	
SBR	10,090/10,190		10,611/10,811	
BR	10,380/10,480		11,258/11,400	
	CFR China		CFR S. E. Asia	
	22. Jul - 26. Jul	Jun Ave.	22. Jul - 26. Jul	Jun Ave.
LDPE (Film)	990/1,010	950/ 990	1,010/1,030	989/1,019
LLDPE (Film)	906/ 928	895/ 925	932/ 950	972/1,000
HDPE (Film)	978/1,020	974/1,013	978/1,020	998/1,022
HDPE (Yarn)	978/1,020	969/1,008	978/1,020	1,018/1,042
PP (Homo) - BOPP	1,050/1,066	1,050/1,075	1,080/1,100	1,074/1,094
PP (Homo) - Yarn/INJ	1,036/1,052	1,026/1,055	1,066/1,086	1,054/1,074
PP (Block Co) - INJ	1,060/1,076	1,073/1,098	1,090/1,110	1,093/1,113
	China Domestic*			
LDPE (Film)	8,350/8,450		8,074/8,174	
LLDPE (Film)	7,800/7,850		7,589/7,668	
HDPE (Film)	8,650/8,750		8,371/8,471	
HDPE (Yarn)	8,900/9,000		8,821/8,921	
PP (Homo) - Yarn/INJ	8,700/8,750		8,271/8,347	
	CFR China		China Domestic*	
PVC	850/ 860	866/ 876		
Ethylene Dichloride	300/ 320	377/ 397		
Vinylchloride Monomer	720/ 740	696/ 716		
Phenol	900/ 950	988/1,032		
Bisphenol-A	1,100/1,150	1,258/1,278		
Acrylonitrile	1,480/1,520	1,918/1,962		
Caprolactam	1,400/1,420	1,485/1,514		
PTA	720/ 740	712/ 729	5,850/5,910	5,705/5,767
Monoethylene Glycol	537/ 540	534/ 539	4,409/4,448	4,342/4,371
PET (Bottle, FOB NEA)	930/ 980	978/1,022		

◎Contract Prices**

	May	Jun	Jul
Bz ACP (CFR NEA, \$/mt)	635	630	635
Yen/mt conversion	76,200	74,400	73,700
Bz USCP (FOB USGC, cts/gal)	233	234	267
\$/mt conversion	697	700	798
PX ACP (CFR NEA, \$mt)	-	-	-

Bz ACP is released by JX. Bz USCP and PX ACP are agreed prices between makers and end-users.

◎Feedstocks**

	Index		
Naphtha CFR Japan (\$/mt)	+ 509.00/511.25 +		
Yen/mt conversion	38,606 +		
Naphtha CFR Japan prices are from Products reports			
	Jan-Mar 19	Apr-Jun 19	Jul-Sep (Implied)
Naphtha Domestic CP (Yen/kl)	41,200 -	45,400 +	41,100 -



Calculated from statistics from Ministry of Finance of Japan.
 Forecasts calculated based on Naphtha CFR Japan prices.

	Propane	Butane
RIM Asia Index (\$/MT)	411.50 +	401.50 +
China PDH Margin (\$/mt)	304 -	

RIM Asia Index are from LPG report.
 PDH Margin calculated based on CFR China propane and CFR NEA propylene prices.

◎Reference Prices (\$/MT)**

	Sep	Oct	Nov
Japan Mogas-Tocom(Yen/kl)	56,100 +	53,880 +	52,580 +
Yen/mt conversion	77,917 +	74,833 +	73,028 +

Japan Mogas-Tocom prices are settlement prices for each month from TOCOM.

	East	West
Japan Mogas-RIM(Yen/kl)	+ 60,500/61,500 +	+ 59,500/60,500 +
Yen/mt conversion	84,722 +	83,333 +

Japan Mogas-RIM prices are from Japan Products report.

	WTI (Aug)	Brent (Aug)	Paper Dubai (Jul)
Tokyo Spot Crude(\$/bbl) / Jul30 16:00	57.25 +	64.10 +	63.41 +
\$/mt conversion	436 +	485 +	459 +

Tokyo Spot Crude WTI, Brent and Paper Dubai prices are from Crude/Condensate report.

	Nymex WTI (Sep)	ICE Brent (Sep)
Crude Futures Settlement(\$/bbl)/ Jul29	56.87 +	63.71 +
\$/mt conversion	434 +	482 +

Crude Futures settlement prices are settlement prices from Nymex and ICE.

	Yen/\$, TTM	Yuan/\$
Exchange rate	108.89 +	6.8862 +

◎Spread/Aromatics (\$/MT)**

	BZ	TL	MX	SM	PX	Nap
Benzene	—	8	-75 -	-385	-152 -	158 -
Toluene	-8	—	-83 -	-393	-160 -	150 -
ISO MX	75 +	83 +	—	-310 +	-77	233 -
SM	385	393	310 -	—	233 -	542 -
P-Xylene	152 +	160 +	77	-233 +	—	309 -
Naphtha	-158 +	-150 +	-233 +	-542 +	-309 +	—

Calculated from the price difference between each product and its feedstock.

◎Spread/Olefins (\$/MT)**

	Ethylene	Propylene	Butadiene	Naphtha
Ethylene	—	-85 +	-280 +	370 +
Propylene	85 -	—	-195	455 -
Butadiene	280 -	195	—	650 -
Naphtha	-370 -	-455 +	-650 +	—

Calculated from the price difference between each product and CFR Japan Naphtha.

◎Spread/Polyolefins & Intermediate VS Feedstocks (\$/MT)**

LDPE (Film)	102 -	PP/Homo (BOPP)	95	SM	254 -	EDC	55 -
LLDPE (Film)	84 -	PP/Homo (Yarn/INJ)	85	Phenol	-173	VCM	188
HDPE (Film)	85 -	PP/Block Co (INJ)	57	PTA	158 -	PVC	158



	MEG	27 -	
Calculated from the price difference between each product and its feedstock.			

©Spread/Aromatics vs Naphtha & WTI & Gasoline**				
	Naphtha	Nymex WTI	Mogas-Tocom	JPN Mogas-RIM
BZ FOB Korea (\$/MT)	158 -	234 -	-48 -	-104 -
Yen/mt	17,191 -	25,533 -	-5,178 -	-11,289 -
TL FOB Korea (\$/MT)	150 -	226 -	-56 -	-112 -
Yen/mt	16,320 -	24,661 -	-6,049 -	-12,160 -
MX FOB Korea (\$/MT)	233 -	309 +	27 -	-29 -
Yen/mt	25,358 -	33,699 +	2,989 -	-3,123 -
Calculated from the price difference between each product and CFR Japan Naphtha, Nymex WTI, Mogas-tocom and Japan Mogas-RIM.				

**These are reference prices and not price assessments.

©TRANSACTIONS

Benzene			PX		
Sep	FOB KOREA	670	Sep	CFR NEA	838
			Sep	CFR NEA	841
			Sep	CFR NEA	841
MX					
Aug 2H	FOB KOREA	746			

©AROMATICS

○Benzene

Benzene prices on an FOB Korea basis on Tuesday slid \$9/mt from the previous day to \$658-660/mt for second-half August loading as the China domestic market softened. For September loading, prices were at \$666-670/mt with the mid-value unchanged. For September loading, a deal was done at \$670/mt. After that, bids and

offers were in the range of \$658-660/mt for second-half August loading and \$666-670/mt for September loading. On a CFR China basis, bids and offers were in the range of \$660-680/mt for August delivery and \$655-675/mt for September delivery.

China domestic benzene prices decreased Yuan 60/mt to Yuan 5,180-5,210/mt.

○Styrene Monomer

Styrene monomer (SM) prices on an FOB Korea basis for August and first-half September loading were stable at \$1,055-1,065/mt and \$1,040-1,050/mt respectively. On a CFR China basis, prices for August and first-half September delivery posted no change at \$1,075-1,085/mt and \$1,060-1,070/mt respectively. China domestic prices fell Yuan 45/mt

to Yuan 8,500-8,520/mt. As many imported cargoes that had been traded so far were arriving, SM stocks in East China rose. Under this situation, discussion levels for spot cargoes dropped to Yuan 8,500-8,520/mt. On a CFR China basis, talks remained thin. In paper trade, discussions were heard at \$1,040-1,055/mt for August delivery.

○Toluene

Toluene prices on an FOB Korea basis for second-half August and September loading on

Tuesday were unchanged at \$655-665/mt amid thin activity.

○Mixed Xylene

Isomer grade mixed xylene (MX) prices for second-half August on Tuesday moved up \$5/mt from the previous day to \$745-747/mt on an FOB Korea basis and \$756-758/mt on a CFR Taiwan basis. For September, prices climbed \$7/mt to \$742-744/mt on an FOB Korea basis and

\$753-755/mt on a CFR Taiwan basis. The market increased along with a rise in derivative paraxylene (PX) prices. On an FOB Korea basis for second-half August loading, a deal was concluded at \$746/mt. For September loading, offers were cast at \$744/mt.

○Paraxylene

Paraxylene (PX) prices for second-half August on Tuesday rose \$7/mt from the previous day to \$851-854/mt on a CFR Northeast Asia basis and \$831-834/mt on an FOB Korea basis. For September, prices increased \$7/mt to \$838-841/mt on a CFR Northeast Asia basis and \$818-821/mt on an FOB Korea basis. A rise in PTA futures on the Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange sent the market

higher. Further, some PX makers in Northeast Asia had adjusted their production due to a previous fall in profitability. This was also said to make buying interest stronger. On a CFR Northeast Asia basis for September delivery, one deal was done at \$838/mt and two deals were done at \$841/mt. For October delivery, bids and offers were cast at \$835/mt and \$841/mt respectively.

◎OLEFINS

○Ethylene

In ethylene markets in Asia on Tuesday, CFR Northeast Asia and FOB Korea prices increased \$20/mt from the previous day to \$860-900/mt. CFR Southeast Asia prices moved up \$20/mt to \$770-810/mt. The market was bolstered by perceptions of tight supply/demand.

On a CFR Northeast Asia basis, buying interest was seen in cargoes to be delivered from the end of August to September. On the other hand, available cargoes were not seen. Under this situation, some market sources saw that supply/demand balance was on a tightening trend. On the supply side, several naphtha crackers in Southeast Asia and Taiwan were scheduled to undergo maintenance from August onwards. Further, cargoes that were brought to Asia from outside the region, such as the Middle East, were not seen. Available cargoes from Malaysia and Korea were also limited due to recent

troubles. On the demand side, the derivative ethylene glycol (EG) market was firm. Buying inquiries from other derivative makers were also strong. Under these circumstances, buying ideas were heard at \$860/mt. Traders showed views that buyers might participate in talks at \$880/mt. On the other hand, selling ideas were heard above \$900/mt. A deal for the end of August delivery was reportedly done at \$875/mt by last weekend.

On a CFR Southeast Asia basis, firm discussions were not heard. Thailand's PTTGC closed a buy tender on Jul 30 for 3,500-5,000mt to be delivered on Aug 11-13. Regarding this tender, traders showed views that deals might not be concluded as there were no available cargoes. Apart from this, an Indonesian end-user said that it had procured August delivery cargoes in the form of term cargoes and it did not need to buy cargoes on a spot basis.

○Propylene

In propylene markets in Asia on Tuesday, CFR Northeast Asia prices held steady at \$950-980/mt. CFR Southeast Asia and FOB Korea prices remained unchanged at \$870-900/mt and \$900-930/mt

respectively.

In Northeast Asia, amid limited availability, both sellers and buyers showed no hurry to engage in trade and activity was subdued. Talks were

expected to be no September cargoes going forward but supply was perceived to be tight as propylene facilities in Taiwan and Southeast Asia would enter maintenance. Further, although several new facilities in China were expected to start up, operating conditions were uncertain and supply/demand might not necessary loosen.

In the China domestic market, East China prices slid Yuan 200/mt from the previous day to Yuan 7,700-7,800/mt as derivative prices could not catch up with propylene prices and buying interest receded. Shandong prices rose Yuan 50/mt to Yuan 7,900-7,950/mt. Market sentiment strengthened as

the operating rate of Tianjin Bohai's propane dehydrogenation (PDH) plant was said to have dropped by half.

In Japan, a new polypropylene facility was expected to start trial operations in second-half August. This generated views that propylene supply/demand in Japan might tighten.

In Southeast Asia, propylene supply appeared to be tight due to facility maintenance and buying interest was strong. One trader mentioned that some end-users might be willing to pay higher than current market levels but firm bids were not heard.

○Butadiene

In butadiene markets in Asia on Tuesday, CFR Northeast Asia prices were stable at \$1,140-1,180/mt. CFR Southeast Asia and FOB Korea prices showed no change at \$1,090-1,130/mt.

In Northeast Asia, availability was not seen and firm discussions were not heard. One trader mentioned that buyers might be willing to pay \$1,150/mt for prompt cargoes for August delivery but for September delivery, buying ideas were at \$1,050-1,100/mt. But amid tight supply, no deals were reported and prices remained at similar levels to the previous day. Last week, a cargo for second-half September delivery was apparently sold into Korea at \$1,120-1,130/mt. Of the 6,000mt

sold, 1,000mt were said to have been traded on a spot basis.

In the China domestic market, East China prices climbed Yuan 100/mt from the day before to Yuan 9,300-9,400/mt. Sailboat Petrochemical's methanol-to-olefin (MTO) unit was shut down and Sinopec's butadiene inventories were low. As a result, supply was perceived to be tight. Under such circumstances, selling ideas on a delivered basis rose to Yuan 9,800/mt and deal levels were heard at Yuan 9,500-9,600/mt, equivalent to Yuan 9,300-9,400/mt on an ex-tank basis.

In Southeast Asia, spot demand was seen but talks were slow to progress as availability was thin.

◎Operating Status

2019 Olefin Production Unit Maintenance/Startup Schedule					
Country	Producer	Capacity	Start	Finish/Duration	Status
JAPAN	MITSUI CHEMICAL	612	3-Jul	3-Aug	Planned
CHINA	LUXI CHEMICAL(MTO)	120	23-Jul		Startup
KOREA	HANWHA TOTAL	1095	26-Jul	3days	Restarted
KOREA	HANWHA TOTAL	310	7-Aug		Expanded Part
CHINA	SAILBOAT CHEMICAL	380	End Jul	10 days	Unplanned
INDONESIA	CHANDR ASRI	600	1-Aug	45 days	Planned
TAIWAN	FPCC NO.2	1035	15-Aug	30-Sep	Planned
MALAYSIA	PETRONAS CHEMICALS	600	Mid Aug	50 days	Planned

Capacity as Ethylene '0000mt/year, PDH and RFCC as Propylene Source: Rim survey

©POLYMERS

The CFR China polyolefin market held steady on Tuesday. Although recent weakness in polyolefin futures on the Dalian Commodity Exchange generated bearish sentiment, prices remained at similar levels to the previous day. For Middle East cargoes, sources reckoned that deals were possible at \$910-930/mt for linear low density polyethylene

(LLDPE) Film and \$980-990/mt for high density polyethylene (HDPE) Film.

On a CFR Southeast Asia basis, prices were stable. For delivery to Vietnam, one polyolefin maker sold LLDPE Film at \$950/mt and received buying interest for HDPE Film at \$980/mt.

©PVC and RAW MATERIALS

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) prices on a CFR China basis were unchanged at \$850-860/mt on Tuesday. Many sellers had finished sales of planned volumes of August cargoes and availability was not seen. As a result, no fresh talks were heard.

For delivery to India, as reported, buying interest for August cargoes was strong. One reason was that PVC exports from Brazil, where production had declined, to India was reduced. A Northeast Asian seller would carry out additional sales soon, as was

reported on Jul 25. Although the seller had finished selling planned volumes of August cargoes, it could sell a small quantity of additional cargoes in view of strong demand from end-users but the price was expected to be higher than August cargoes that were already sold. Further, several sources felt that the market for September cargoes might rise since demand was likely to increase after the monsoon season.

©PET and RAW MATERIALS

○Purified Terephthalic Acid / Monoethylene Glycol

Purified terephthalic acid (PTA) prices for cargoes ex-banded warehouses in China remained unchanged at \$710-730/mt. China domestic prices rose Yuan 5/mt from the previous day to Yuan 5,470-5,520/mt, boosted by gains in PTA futures on the Zhengzhou Commodity Exchange. Spot cargoes were traded at Yuan 5,470-5,520/mt.

Ethylene glycol (EG) prices on a CFR China basis climbed \$3/mt to \$550-560/mt while China domestic prices increased Yuan 73/mt to Yuan 4,555-4,680/mt, lifted by falling inventories along the east coast of China. Deals were concluded at \$550-560/mt on a CFR China basis and Yuan 4,555-4,680/mt in the China domestic market.

©OTHERS

○Naphtha

Open-spec naphtha prices in Asia were in the range of \$509.00-511.25/mt, up \$9.25/mt from a day before due to firm Brent crude futures.

In Brent crude oil futures trades on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) early in the evening in Asia, the Sep contract rose by \$1.04/bbl to \$64.12/bbl. Open-spec naphtha prices for H1 Sep arrival were at \$511.75-512.25/mt, H2 Sep arrival at \$510.75-511.25/mt, and H1 Oct arrival at \$509.00-509.50/mt.

On a timing spread, a H1 Sep/H1 Oct spread was in backwardation of \$2.75/mt, widening by 50cts/mt from a day before. A Sep Brent/H1 Sep naphtha spread was at \$31/mt in favor of naphtha, slackening by \$2/mt from a day before.

Early in the evening in Asia, Aug NWE naphtha prices were \$495.50-497.50/mt, up \$7.50/mt from a day before. Prices for Sep and Oct were at \$492.75-494.75/mt and \$490.75-492.75/mt. A H1 Sep Asia/Aug NWE spread was at \$16/mt in favor of Asia, widening by \$2/mt from a day before.



Liquefied Petroleum Gas

The CFR Far East market showed slight movements on Tuesday. While supply/demand lacked tightness, the premium to the September CP shrank in the prices for second-half September delivery to Japan. Further, with the spread between propane and butane in the CFR Far East market reflected in the August CP, the spread between propane and butane prices as premium levels to the CP was erased.

CFR Japan

Propane prices for second-half August delivery held intact \$391-397/mt while butane prices inched down by \$1/mt from a day earlier to \$381-387/mt. Relative to the August CP, the premium for propane was unchanged at \$21-27/mt while that for butane shrank by \$1/mt to \$21-27/mt.

Propane and butane prices for first-half September delivery rose by \$2/mt and \$1/mt from a day earlier to \$399-400/mt and \$389-390/mt respectively. Relative to the September CP, the premium for propane was steady at \$27-28/mt while that for butane down by \$1/mt to \$27-28/mt.

Propane and butane prices for second-half September delivery decreased by \$1/mt and \$2/mt from the previous day to \$403-404/mt and \$393-394/mt respectively. Relative to the September CP, the premium for propane and butane weakened by \$3/mt and \$4/mt respectively to \$31-32/mt.

OUS Summary

WTI crude futures on the NYMEX extended gains for three consecutive days on Monday. The front-month September contract ended at \$56.87 per barrel (bbl), up 67cts from last Friday. The contract was 65cts higher than one week ago.

The UK Department of State announced that the UK destroyer "Duncan" arrived near the Strait of the Hormuz to protect British-flagged tankers. There were escalating geopolitical risks over Iran, which raised concerns over tightening crude supply from the region and triggered buying in the crude oil market. In addition, the dollar fell against the euro, making prices of dollar-base commodities like crude oil undervalued, which was also regarded as a supportive factor.

North Sea Brent crude futures on the ICE advanced for a third straight day. The September contract ended at \$63.71/bbl, up 25cts from last Friday. The contract was 45cts higher than one week ago.

The August natural gas contract on NYMEX closed at \$2.141 per million British thermal units (mmBtu) on Monday, down 2.8cts from last Friday, amid selling tied to an expected drop in demand for air-conditioning as weather forecasts stated that temperatures would be below seasonal norm until this weekend in the US Midwest, prime gas consuming area.

The September WTI contract was at \$57.25/bbl as of 17:00 Tokyo time on Tuesday, up 38cts/bbl from the closing price on Monday.

In the US benzene market on a Delivered Duty Paid (DDP) basis on Monday, bids and offers for August were heard at 250cts/gal and 254cts/gal respectively. For September, bids and offers were heard at 242.75cts/gal and 247.5cts/gal respectively. For October, bids and offers were heard at 234cts/gal and 243cts/gal respectively. In Europe on a CIF Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp (ARA) basis on the same day, discussions were in the range of \$730-740/mt for September and \$720-730/mt for October.

Market News

Japan June chemical industry statistics: METI

To view content, please click on link below.

<https://eng.rim-intelligence.co.jp/news/select/category/Statistics/article/158993>



○Japan June Petrochemical export/import: MOF

To view content, please click on link below.

<https://eng.rim-intelligence.co.jp/news/select/category/Statistics/article/158995>



Editorial and Subscription Inquiry:

[Tokyo office] Tel:(81) 3-3552-2411, Fax:(81)3-3552-2415,
e-mail:info@rim-intelligence.co.jp

[Singapore office] Tel:(65)-6345-9894, Fax (65)-6345-9894,
e-mail:hagimoto@rim-intelligence.co.jp

[Beijing office] Tel:(86)10-6498-0455, Fax:(86)10-6428-1725,
e-mail: guanhong@rimbj.com

[Indian office] Tel:(91)-98795-50717,
e-mail:kamlesh@rim-intelligence.co.jp

[Shanghai office] Tel:(86)-21-5111-3575,
e-mail:rim_sh@rim-intelligence.co.jp

Rim reports are available via internet e-mail:

Rim reports are copyrighted publications. No portion of the reports may be photocopied, reproduced, retransmitted, put into a computer system or otherwise redistributed not only to parties outside the organization of the subscriber but also to other departments or branch offices within the same organization as the subscriber. If a breach of copyright is found, penalty may be imposed. While information in the reports is expected to be accurate, RIM bears no responsibility for any consequences arising from the subscriber's use of such information. Further, if events beyond our control such as natural disasters or unforeseen circumstances are to occur or likely to occur, giving rise to operational problems, publications may be halted temporarily.

(C) 2019 RIM INTELLIGENCE CO.