The Officials

The Benchmark Publication



Europe Edition (16:30 BST) 17-June-2024, Volume 1, Issue 10 (Europe)

Market Summary

North Sea Hoarders

Where are physical Brent and all the other benchmark components going? Not overly focused on the flat price but on the shipments of the grades. Gunvor pulled from the chains a total of 27 cargoes or over 16-mbbls and the question in traders' minds is, where is all this oil going? We have done some back envelope maths for storing the oil and the numbers make no sense. The expense of loading the oil in a ship, discharging it somewhere and then pray for a stronger structure makes no sense. And most people we know in this trade don't pray anyway. So, we are willing to bet that all the oil has a home somewhere and the most likely home is East, any thoughts please share them with us, Linkedin, phone or email will do.

Brent futures saw strengthening throughout the European window with August futures closing the window at \$83.54/bbl as at 16:30 BST. Trafigura were rumored to be bidding aggressively for some WTI since early in the day.

Market positioning has also shown dramatic reversal from the aggressive short positioning highlighted by the CFTC report the week before last. Outright short positions in Brent fell by 35k lots last week, printing the largest fall since April 2020. Net long positioning rose by 26k lots. This reversal points to increased optimism following the release of a number of robust demand projections that implied a supply deficit.

In the first week of June, gasoline demand in the US was 9mbbls/d, 1.7% lower than the same period the year prior. Some analysts attribute the lacklustre start to driving season to a rotation in consumer demand, from driving to flying. In Asia, as we reported last week refineries have been cutting runs off the back of weak demand. In May, Singapore overall refining margins fell to under \$2.00/bbl, compared to \$5/bbl the same time last year. European gasoline refining margins plummeted to \$10.80/bbl as of June 13, marking the lowest since January. July EBOB cracks continued to weaken falling over \$2.00/mt against the same time last Monday.

See 'In Detail' section overleaf.

Summary				
Physical and Futures		17-Jun-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Brent Aug (fut)	(\$/bbl)	83.540	+1.000	+2.440
WTI Aug (fut)	(\$/bbl)	78.990	+1.010	+2.260
Dubai Aug (phys)	(\$/bbl)	83.200	+0.740	+1.710
Crude Swaps Jul				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	82.875	+0.855	+2.100
DFL	(\$/bbl)	0.620	+0.270	+0.600
WTI	(\$/bbl)	78.790	+0.955	+2.205
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	82.800	+0.740	+1.760



In detail

As at 16:30 BST, August WTI and Brent futures closed at \$78.99/bbl and \$83.54/bbl respectively. The Brent front month futures contract rose by \$1.00 whilst the WTI contracts increased by \$1.01, against the same time on Friday. Our Dubai physical assessment also fell to \$83.28/bbl, up 82 cts. Physical Dubai relative to August Dubai swaps stood at \$0.40/bbl. Strengthening was seen in August WTI futures vs swaps (+5.5 cts). Similarly, August Brent futures relative to swaps were also elevated over the same period (+14.5 cts).

Many recent forecasts (the wrong ones) have pointed to China as the source of optimism for the projected acceleration in crude demand throughout the second half of the year. However, macro indicators continue to offer little evidence for this. China's industrial production grew by 5.6% year-on-year in May 2024, below market expectations of 6% and down from April's 6.7% growth. The slowdown was seen in manufacturing (6% vs. 7.5% in April) and utilities (4.3% vs. 5.8%), while mining activity accelerated (3.6% vs. 2%).

Meanwhile the IEA say the sky is falling, projecting supply capacity will reach 114 mbbls/d by 2030, and will outstrip demand.

As discussed in previous publications, Chinese crude imports in May were strikingly weak relative to previous years. This has been echoed by refinery data. China's oil refinery output in May fell by 1.8% compared to the previous year, reaching 60.52 million metric tons (14.25 million barrels per day), mainly due to planned maintenance and high crude costs. This was a decrease from 14.3 mbbls/d in April and 14.6 mbbls/d in May 2023. Major state-run refineries and large private refiners underwent maintenance, while smaller independent processors slightly increased their operational levels to 55.53% of capacity. Domestic flights decreased by 1.79% year-on-year, though international flights roughly doubled from May 2023.

For the period from January to May, refinery throughput rose by just 0.3% from the previous year to 301.77 million metric tons (14.49 million bpd). China's crude oil production increased by 0.6% in May and 1.8% from January to May, while natural gas production saw a 6.3% rise in May and a 5.2% increase for the first five months of the year.

Weakness in consumer demand also remains embedded in the US, amidst a lethargic start to driving season. In June 2024, the University of Michigan's consumer sentiment index for the US dropped to 65.6, marking its lowest point since November and a decline from 69.1 in May. This figure also disappointed consensus (72%) to the downside. The drop in sentiment was attributed to rising concerns over high prices and weakening incomes, leading to lower assessments of personal finances. The current conditions gauge decreased to 62.5 from 69.6, and the expectations subindex dropped to 67.6 from 68.8. Year-ahead inflation expectations remained steady at 3.3%, while the five-year inflation outlook slightly increased to 3.1% from 3%.

Key movers among July contracts since the close of European markets last Friday were the 0.5% Barges crack (-10.4%), Singapore 180 crack (-6.7%), European Hi5 (+5.6%), Singapore 380 crack (-5.5%) and Asian Pronap (-4.7%).

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Front Month Ou	trights			
July Swaps		17-Jun-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	82.875	+0.855	+2.100
WTI	(\$/bbl)	78.790	+0.955	+2.205
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	82.800	+0.740	+1.760
Distillates				
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	766.470	+4.500	+26.575
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)	825.470	+5.000	+25.070
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)	99.390	+0.640	+3.200
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	98.040	+0.590	+2.470
Gasoline				
RBOB	(c/gal)	241.285	+1.360	+2.230
EBOB	(\$/mt)	808.110	+4.100	-0.730
Singapore 92	(\$/bbl)	88.460	+0.640	-0.400
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	92.610	+0.620	-0.400
Naphtha				
US C5 ENT	(c/gal)	151.900	+1.330	+4.440
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)	657.800	+6.050	+17.440
MOPJ Naphtha	(\$/mt)	674.800	+5.300	+17.690
Fuel Oil				
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)	472.190	+3.050	+6.990
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)	483.190	+3.050	+6.490
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)	490.940	+3.050	+5.740
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)	542.990	+6.920	+16.130
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	586.680	+6.990	+17.590
NGLs				
US Propane LST	(c/gal)	80.010	+0.700	+6.420
NWE Propane	(\$/mt)	533.400	+2.690	+16.500
Saudi Propane CP	(\$/mt)	573.850	+3.640	+8.950
Asian Propane FEI	(\$/mt)	617.850	+2.640	+5.450
US Butane ENT	(c/gal)	94.890	+1.200	+8.300
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	558.850	+3.640	+9.950



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Long Tenor S	Swaps	S						
		Balmo	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Q3-24	Q4-24
Crude								
Brent	(\$/bbl)	83.475	82.875	82.205	81.610	81.075	82.230	80.58
WTI	(\$/bbl)	79.160	78.790	78.145	77.540	76.910	78.158	76.35
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	83.250	82.800	82.160	81.510	80.890	82.157	80.31
Distillates								
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	767.125	766.470	766.125	766.430	763.490	758.125	754.42
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)	823.120	825.470	825.120	825.430	822.490	817.120	813.42
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)	99.490	99.390	99.390	99.320	98.960	98.540	98.080
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	98.290	98.040	98.090	98.070	97.910	97.740	97.530
Gasoline								
RBOB	(c/gal)	242.685	241.285	238.415	220.735	215.875	212.905	211.90
EBOB	(\$/mt)	807.610	808.110	805.110	793.610	750.110	731.360	719.11
Singapore 92	(\$/bbl)	87.960	88.460	88.410	87.960	87.160	86.360	85.76
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	91.760	92.610	92.560	92.060	91.260	90.260	89.66
Naphtha								
US C5 ENT	(c/gal)	151.400	151.900	152.150	152.400	152.400	152.150	151.90
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)	664.300	657.800	651.800	646.800	643.050	639.050	635.05
MOP-Japan Naphtha	(\$/mt)	679.800	674.800	668.550	663.300	658.800	654.300	649.80
Fuel Oil								
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)	475.190	472.190	468.190	461.190	452.190	446.690	442.440
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)	494.190	483.190	476.440	467.690	458.940	453.940	450.44
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)	496.690	490.940	486.190	479.190	471.940	467.440	464.44
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)	544.990	542.990	539.740	536.740	533.740	530.740	527.74
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	589.180	586.680	580.430	575.430	571.680	568.430	565.18
NGLs								
US Propane LST	(c/gal)	78.510	80.010	80.630	80.750	81.630	82.250	82.25
NWE Propane	(\$/mt)	540.400	533.400	531.900	534.900	537.400	539.400	539.40
Saudi Propane CP	(\$/mt)	573.850	573.850	565.850	570.350	578.350	585.350	588.85
Asian Propane FEI	(\$/mt)	623.850	617.850	615.350	618.850	624.350	627.850	625.35
US Butane ENT	(c/gal)	94.390	94.890	95.390	95.390	96.510	96.890	97.14
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	558.850	558.850	556.850	565.350	576.350	582.850	586.35



Front Month S	nreads			
July/Aug	predus	17-Jun-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	0.670	+0.140	+1.110
WTI	(\$/bbl)	0.645	+0.155	+0.160
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	0.640	+0.050	+0.100
Distillates				
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	0.345	+0.385	+2.275
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)	0.350	+0.390	+0.770
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)	0.000	+0.070	+0.170
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	-0.050	+0.020	-0.050
Gasoline				
RBOB	(c/gal)	2.870	+0.015	-0.150
EBOB	(\$/mt)	3.000	-0.500	-1.500
Singapore 92	(\$/bbl)	0.050	+0.050	-0.380
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	0.050	+0.050	-0.380
Naphtha				
US C5 ENT	(c/gal)	-0.250	+0.000	-0.500
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)	6.000	+0.500	+1.750
MOP-Japan Naphtha	(\$/mt)	6.250	+0.500	+1.500
Fuel Oil				
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)	4.000	+0.000	-0.250
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)	6.750	-0.250	-0.250
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)	4.750	-0.250	-1.000
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)	3.250	+1.000	+1.750
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	6.250	+0.750	+1.370
NGLs				
US Propane LST	(c/gal)	-0.620	-0.240	-0.120
NWE Propane	(\$/mt)	1.500	+0.000	+0.000
Saudi Propane CP	(\$/mt)	8.000	+0.500	-3.500
Asian Propane FEI	(\$/mt)	2.500	+0.000	-1.000
US Butane ENT	(c/gal)	-0.500	-0.120	+0.000
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	2.000	+0.000	-1.500



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Front Month Cracks and Diffs			
July	17-Jun-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude		- <u>- </u>	. <u> </u>
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.060	+0.100	+0.320
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	-4.080	+0.100	+0.100
Distillates			
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	20.030	-0.250	+1.480
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	21.900	-0.220	+1.100
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	59.000	+0.500	-1.500
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	-26.000	+0.250	-2.750
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)	-1.350	-0.050	-0.730
Gasoline			
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB) (c/gal)	10.300	+0.200	+2.450
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	14.150	-0.340	-2.190
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	5.600	-0.200	-2.490
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-8.550	+0.150	-0.300
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)	150.310	-2.110	-18.210
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	62.160	+0.040	-20.850
Naphtha			
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-14.990	-0.380	-0.330
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-8.950	-0.150	-0.130
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-7.040	-0.230	-0.100
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	17.000	-0.750	+0.250
Fuel Oil			
3.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	-8.500	-0.350	-0.990
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bbl)	-6.770	-0.350	-1.070
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bbl)	-5.550	-0.350	-1.190
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	7.750	+0.000	-0.750
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	11.000	+0.000	-0.500
0.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	2.650	+0.250	+0.450
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	9.550	+0.280	+0.700
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% barges) (\$/mt)	43.820	+0.200	+1.600
European Hi5 (0.5% barges vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	70.800	+3.800	+9.140
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	103.620	+4.000	+11.230
0.5% barges/gasoil (\$/mt)	-223.610	+2.120	-10.440
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)	-153.780	+2.010	-6.120
NGLs			
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-116.500	+1.000	+17.000
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt)	-201.000	+1.000	+28.000
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	84.500	+0.000	-11.000
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/mt)	44.000	-1.000	-3.500
European Pronap (NWE Propane vs NWE Naphtha) (\$/mt)	-124.220	-3.320	-1.020
Asian Pronap (FEI vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-56.770	-2.530	-12.230



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Long Tenor Cracks / Diffs							
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	Balmo	Ju1-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Q3-24	Q4-24
Crude							
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.210	0.060	0.030			0.060	0.250
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	-4.310	-4.080	-4.050	-4.070	-4.160	-4.067	-4.223
Distillates							
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	19.54	20.03				20.64	21.27
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	21.00	21.90	22.51	23.15		22.52	23.21
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	56.00	59.00				59.00	59.00
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	-25.92	-26.00				-26.06	-24.68
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)	-1.20	-1.35	-1.30	-1.25	-1.05	-1.30	-0.80
Gasoline							
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB)(c/gal)	11.840	10.300		-6.090	1.480	4.170	3.903
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	13.490	14.150				14.097	7.483
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	4.500	5.600				6.063	5.860
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-8.990	-8.550			-2.890	-8.033	-1.633
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)		150.310			107.060	150.143	94.477
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	52.990	62.160	67.990	69.490	67.330	66.547	65.717
Naphtha							
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-15.570	-14.990	-14.230	-13.510	-12.890	-14.243	-12.443
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-8.820	-8.950	-8.950	-8.930	-8.800	-8.943	-8.763
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-7.080	-7.040	-7.060	-7.050	-7.020	-7.050	-7.043
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	15.500	17.000	16.750	16.500	15.750	16.750	15.250
Fuel Oil							
3.5% bgs crack (\$/bbl)	-8.630	-8.500	-8.450	-8.960	-9.840	-8.637	-10.153
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bbl)	-5.630	-6.770	-7.150	-7.940	-8.780	-7.287	-8.997
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bbl)	-5.240	-5.550	-5.640	-6.140	-6.740	-5.777	-6.890
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	2.500	7.750	9.750	11.500	13.000	9.667	13.500
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% bgs) (\$/mt)	19.000	11.000	8.250	6.500	6.750	8.583	7.333
0.5% bgs crack (\$/bbl)	2.360	2.650	2.800	2.930	2.990	2.793	3.007
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	9.340	9.550	9.230	9.040	8.990	9.273	8.957
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% bgs) ($\$/mt$)	44.320	43.820	40.820	38.820	38.070	41.153	37.740
European Hi5 (0.5% bgs vs 3.5% bgs) (\$/mt	69.800	70.800	71.550	75.550	81.550	72.633	83.633
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	95.120	103.620					
0.5% bgs/gasoil (\$/mt)				-229.680			
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)	-152.020	-153.780	-160.030	-164.580	-165.800	-159.463	-165.873
NGLs							
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-131.31	-116.5	-111.77	-114.14	-112.06	-114.137	-111.24
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt	-214.81	-201	-195.27	-198.14	-199.06	-198.137	-198.407
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	83.5	84.5	83.5	84	87	84	87.167
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/	50	44	49.5	48.5	46	47.333	41.667
European Pronap (\$/mt)	-123.72	-124.22	-119.72	-111.72	-105.47	-118.553	-100.137
Asian Pronap (FEI vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-55.77	-56.77	-53.02	-44.27	-34.27	-51.353	-28.27



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Inter-month Crack Spreads			
July/Aug	17-Jun-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude			
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.030	+0.080	+0.120
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	-0.030	+0.010	-0.070
Distillates			
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	-0.590	-0.030	+0.100
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	-0.610	-0.050	-0.110
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	0.000	+0.000	-1.500
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	-0.340	+0.020	-1.030
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)	-0.050	-0.050	-0.220
Gasoline			
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB) (c/gal)	2.000	+0.160	+0.290
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	-0.320	-0.200	-0.430
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	-0.630	-0.100	-0.630
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-0.310	+0.110	-0.200
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)	-3.000	-1.000	-3.250
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-5.830	-0.080	-4.660
Naphtha			
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-0.760	-0.160	-0.370
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	0.000	-0.080	-0.040
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	0.020	-0.080	-0.070
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	0.250	+0.000	-0.250
Fuel Oil			
3.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	-0.050	-0.140	-0.280
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bbl)	0.380	-0.180	-0.280
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bbl)	0.090	-0.160	-0.380
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	-2.000	+0.000	-0.750
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	2.750	-0.250	+0.000
0.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	-0.150	+0.040	+0.050
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	0.320	-0.010	-0.010
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% barges) (\$/mt)	3.000	-0.250	-0.380
European Hi5 (0.5% barges vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	-0.750	+1.000	+2.000
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	-0.500		+1.620
0.5% barges/gasoil (\$/mt)	2.640		-0.530
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)	6.250		+0.110
NGLs			
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-4.730	-1.250	-0.630
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt)	-5.730		+0.370
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	1.000		-1.000
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/mt)	-5.500		+2.500
European Pronap (NWE Propane vs NWE Naphtha) (\$/mt)			-1.750