LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 11 JULY 2022

US LNG Plants Attempt to Compensate for Freeport Outage

US LNG exports have increased robustly despite a fire-induced outage at Freeport LNG since the beginning of June, our data show. Whilst overall US LNG exports are up compared to the equivalent four-week period last year, they have been growing much slower to other regions of the world. Notably, Freeport LNG exported relatively little LNG to Europe during the summer last year.

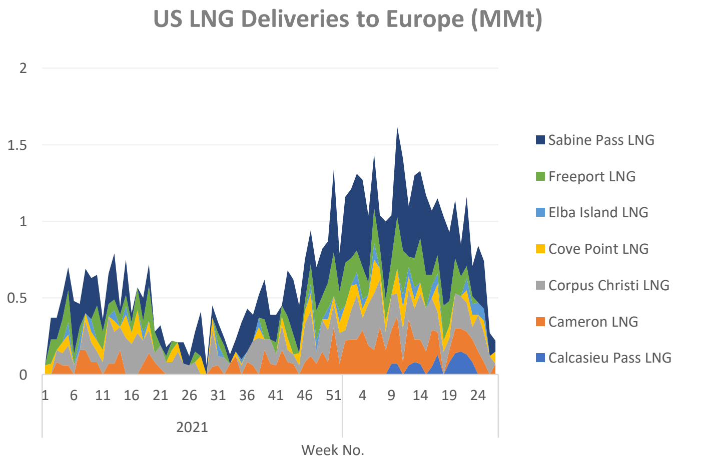
US LNG plants are working hard to compensate for the outage at Freeport LNG and supply additional cargoes to Europe, our data for the past four weeks (weeks 24 to 27, inclusively) show. Overall US LNG exports were up by 0.32mmt whilst exports to Europe increased by 1.25mmt period-on-period.

More LNG to Europe

During the four-week period this year, US LNG plants have shipped 1.25mmt (152pct) more to European buyers than for the equivalent period last year. This was mainly due to exports from Cameron LNG and Sabine Pass LNG, which increased exports to European buyers by 0.30mmt and 0.57mmt, respectively. Corpus Christi LNG, Elba Island LNG and Cove Point LNG have also increased LNG supplies to Europe by 0.19mmt, 0.16mmt and 0.10mmt, respectively. Calcasieu Pass, however, has not delivered gas to Europe during the past four weeks, our data show. Notably, Freeport only exported one cargo of 0.07mmt to Europe during the summer of 2021.

Effects elsewhere

Meanwhile, the Freeport LNG outage has had a more pronounced negative net effect on US LNG exports to other regions of the world. Here, total shipments were down 0.93mmt compared to the equivalent four-week period in 2021. Freeport LNG shipped 1.01mmt at the time, which are now not available to the market. Although this was partially compensated by the ongoing ramp-up of exports from Calcasieu Pass LNG, which has shipped 0.50mmt during the past four weeks, the remaining plants struggled to increase supply to both Europe and the rest of the world. Only Cove Point LNG shipped one additional cargo compared to the 2021 period.



Source: LNG Journal

Incident

The fire incident occurred in pipe racks that support the transfer of LNG from the facility's LNG storage tanks to the terminal's dock facilities. Freeport LNG reported its preliminary observations point to overpressure and a subsequent segment rupture at one of the LNG transfer lines, leading to the rapid flashing of LNG and the release and ignition of a natural gas vapour cloud. Shortly after the incident, natural gas prices slumped in the United States due to reduced feedgas demand whilst it led to a spike in day-ahead gas prices in Europe.

Missing cargoes

Freeport LNG was keen to highlight partial operations could resume 'in approximately 90 days' but without specifying available capacity. Our historical data suggests the 90-day outage outlined by Freeport LNG is likely to cause roughly 47 cargoes being removed from the market.

Large-scale operation

The Freeport plant is the seventh-largest in the world and the second-largest in the United States with 15 million tonnes per annum in liquefaction capacity. Freeport was formed in 2002 to develop, own and operate an LNG terminal on Quintana Island, near Freeport, Texas. The terminal started LNG import operations in June 2008 but was later converted into a gas liquefaction plant, which began export operations in 2019 ◆

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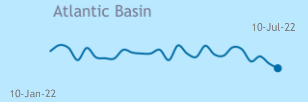
LNG EXPORTS (MMT)

Week-on-Week	0.10	4pct
Six-month change	0.41	-14pct



Week-on-Week	0.16	-6pct
Six-month change	0.41	-14pct

Week-on-Week	0.09	5pct
Six-month change	0.18	-9pct

LNG IMPORTS (MMT)

Week-on-Week	0.86	21pct
Six-month change	0.45	-8pct

Week-on-Week	0.16	7pct
Six-month change	0.78	-24pct

Week-on-Week	0.02	-7pct
Six-month change	0.12	80pct

Expected Deliveries this Week

China to push past Japan with 1.04mmt at current market visibility

Pacific Basin

LNG Imports in the Pacific Basin are likely to amount to 5.23mmt, according to our data at the time of writing, constituting a decrease of 26pct compared to the previous week's total of 5.03mmt. The Pacific's imports this week are likely going to be led by China (1.04mmt), Japan (1.01mmt) and South Korea (0.71mmt) whilst 15 cargoes totalling 1.09mmt had yet to confirm their destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

China

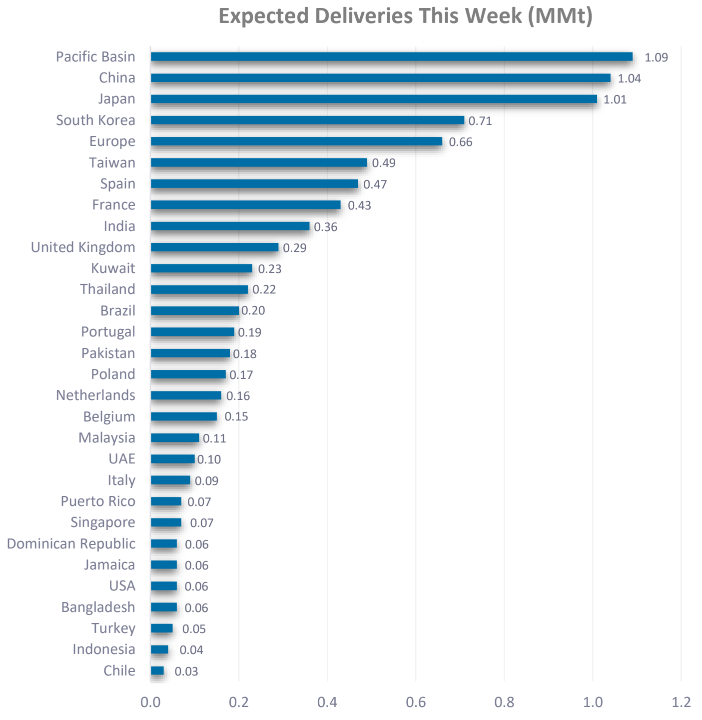
Current market visibility indicated the largest share of LNG destined to arrive in China by Sunday is derived from Australia via five cargoes totalling 0.36mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to China have sailed from Australia Pacific LNG (0.24mmt, 67pct) and NWS LNG (0.06mmt, 17pct), inter alia via the CESI Wenzhou, the CESI Beihai and the Dapeng Moon. Our analysis indicates these deliveries to have been completed by Sunday. Concurrently, our market visibility highlights that the Tianjin - Nangang LNG and Guangdong Dapeng LNG terminals will be China's busiest this week on imports of 0.14mmt (13pct) and 0.12mmt (12pct), respectively. In addition to Australia's shipments, we are also expecting China to receive ten cargoes totalling 0.68mmt from, inter alia, Qatar, Malaysia and Belgium. Our data thus indicate China's expected cumulative LNG imports of 1.04mmt this week are likely to have decreased by 0.37mmt (-26pct) from 1.41mmt last week and decreased by 0.43mmt (-29pct) from 1.47mmt year-on-year.

Japan

The most significant origin of LNG destined to arrive in Japan by volume this week is also Australia via six cargoes totalling 0.36mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to Japan have sailed from NWS LNG (0.11mmt, 31pct) and Australia Pacific LNG (0.08mmt, 22pct), inter alia, via the LNG Dream, the Northwest Snipe and the CESI Qingdao. We are currently expecting these shipments to arrive by Wednesday, with the Futtsu and Higashi-Ogishima terminals set to be Japan's busiest this week on imports of 0.20mmt (20pct) and 0.18mmt (18pct), respectively. In addition to Most of Australia's shipments, we are currently tracking 11 cargoes totalling 0.65mmt led by Malaysia, Nigeria and the UAE, which we expect to arrive in Japan by Sunday. We therefore think Japan's weekly LNG offtake is likely to have decreased by 0.52mmt (-34pct) from 1.53mmt last week and decreased by 0.67mmt (-40pct) from 1.68mmt year-on-year.

South Korea

Meanwhile, the largest share of expected deliveries to South Korea is equally going to be coming from Australia via four cargoes totalling 0.28mmt this week. Most of Australia's volumes have sailed from Gorgon LNG and Prelude FLNG via the Prachi, the GasLog Skagen and the Pan Africa. We expect these South Korea-bound shipments to arrive by Saturday. We are also expecting seven cargoes totalling 0.43mmt from, inter alia, Oman, the United States and Indonesia to arrive in South Korea this week, with the Tongyeong and Pyeongtaek terminals set to be South Korea's busiest on imports of 0.22mmt (31pct) and 0.17mmt (24pct), respectively. Based on our market visibility, we expect the country's weekly imports to have remained broadly steady compared to last week and decreased by 0.25mmt (-26pct) from 0.96mmt year-on-year.



Source: LNG Journal

Atlantic Basin

Demand in the Atlantic Basin is likely to reach 3.11mmt this week, our data indicated at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 29pct from the 2.42mmt of regional imports last week. At least 49pct are destined for Spain (0.47mmt), France (0.43mmt) and the United Kingdom (0.29mmt) whilst 0.66mmt remain without a confirmed destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

France

Our market visibility indicates the most prominent origin of LNG destined to arrive in France this week are the United States, based on four cargoes totalling 0.27mmt. The bulk of these shipments have sailed from Corpus Christi LNG (0.11mmt, 26pct) and Sabine Pass LNG (0.08mmt, 19pct) via, inter alia, the Catalunya Spirit and the GasLog Galveston. Our data peg their delivery horizon at 15 July. Moreover, we are seeing a Cove Point LNG cargo board the Diamond Gas Victoria arriving this week. Apart from the United States' exports, we are also expecting France to receive two additional cargoes totalling 0.16mmt from Qatar and Russia by the end of the week. Concurrently, our market visibility indicates the Montoir-de-Bretagne and Dunkerque Le Clipton terminals will be France's busiest this week on imports of 0.21mmt (49pct) and 0.13mmt (30pct), respectively. Our data thus suggest France's cumulative LNG offtake this week is likely to have increased by 0.02mmt (5pct) week-on-week and by 0.03mmt (8pct) year-on-year.

Spain

Our current market visibility further indicates the most significant supply of LNG to Spain this week is coming from Qatar via two cargoes totalling 0.16mmt. Qatar's volumes have sailed aboard the Al Mayeda and the Al Khor, which were headed for the Cartagena and Barcelona terminals. We are also expecting a cargo each from Yamal LNG in Russia, Norway's Snøhvit LNG, Corpus Christi LNG in the United States, Atlantic LNG and Egypt's Damietta SEGAS LNG. These anticipated deliveries mean Spain is likely to see week-on-week offtakes increase by 0.14mmt (42pct) from 0.33mmt as well as a 0.22mmt (88pct) increase from 0.25mmt year-on-year.

United Kingdom

Meanwhile, our data indicate the largest share of expected deliveries to the United Kingdom is going to be coming from Peru via two cargoes totalling 0.15mmt this week. Peru's shipments sailed from Pampa Melchorita LNG via the Minerva Psara and the GasLog Genoa. These cargoes are due to arrive at the Dragon LNG terminal by Sunday. Moreover, the country is expecting a cargo each from Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex and Nigeria's Bonny Island plant via the Al Aamriya and the LNG River Orashi, respectively. We are thus expecting the Dragon LNG and South Hook LNG terminals to lead on import volumes and see imports of 0.15mmt (52pct) and 0.09mmt (31pct), respectively. As such, our data indicate the United Kingdom's LNG demand this week is going to increase by 0.07mmt (32pct) compared to last week and by 0.29mmt year-on-year, the country not having imported LNG this time last year.

Middle East

Our data also indicate demand in the Middle East is likely to reach 0.51mmt this week via seven cargoes, constituting an increase of 89pct from the 0.27mmt of regional imports last week.

The roster of regional buyers includes Kuwait with expected imports of 0.23mmt via three cargoes aboard the Ras Laffan-derived Al Sadd and Al Kharaitiyat as well as the Bonny Island LNG-sailed Adam LNG. These anticipated deliveries indicate Kuwait is likely to see a weekly demand increase of 0.02mmt (10pct) from 0.21mmt last week and by 0.10mmt (77pct) year-on-year, the country having imported 0.13mmt this time last year.

In addition, our data point to Pakistan's Port Qasim terminal receiving three shipments of 0.06mmt via the Ras Laffan-derived Milaha Qatar, Al Deebel and Maran Gas Asclepius. Accordingly, Pakistan's LNG demand this week is likely to increase by 0.12mmt (200pct) week-on-week as well as by 0.05mmt (38pct) year-on-year.

Finally, our data point to Dubai's FSRU terminal receiving a shipment of 0.10mmt via the Ras Laffan-derived Mesaimeer this week. Accordingly, the UAE's LNG demand this week is likely to be 0.10mmt this week and increase by 0.01mmt (11pct) year-on-year ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently, 16.49mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 14 August

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 16.49mmt, representing a decrease of 1.99mmt (-11pct) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 14 August.

Pacific Basin

Our current market visibility indicates 7.46mmt are destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby Taiwan's Yung-An terminal is in the lead with 0.50mmt and a delivery horizon of 12 August currently set by the Meridian Spirit. Of the 7.46mmt currently in transit, 3.53mmt (47pct) have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 10 August.

At the time of writing, Malaysia LNG topped the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.74mmt currently in transit, followed by Gorgon LNG with 0.72mmt and Pampa Melchorita LNG with 0.71mmt via, inter alia, the Enshu Maru, the Asia Vision and the GasLog Genoa, respectively. The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's leading three plants was 7 August at the time of writing.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, is due to receive 3.58mmt by 1 August, our data indicates. Firmed-up Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.29mmt destined for the United Kingdom's Dragon LNG terminal with a delivery horizon of 1 August.

As with the Pacific Basin, there remain 1.95mmt of in-transit LNG cargoes that have yet to confirm their destinations. Around 1.81mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 26 July.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Sabine Pass LNG was the lead with 1.77mmt, followed by Cameron LNG with 0.85mmt and Bonny Island with 0.84mmt. These cargoes are aboard, inter alia, the BW Magnolia, the Diamond Gas Rose and the Adam LNG. The delivery horizon for all in-transit exports by Atlantic Basin plants was 14 August at the time of writing.

Middle East

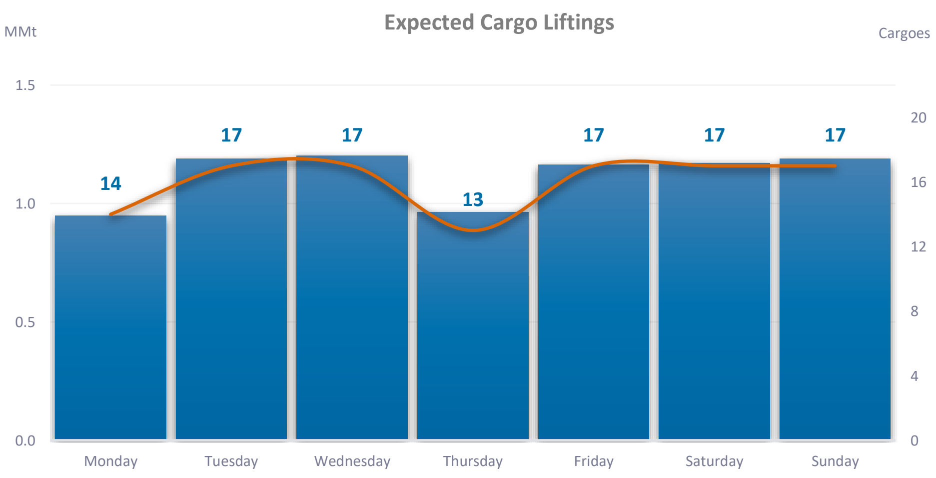
Meanwhile, our data indicate there is a total of eight cargoes - 0.55mmt - currently headed for Kuwait and Pakistan. In addition to the cargoes scheduled for arrival this week as outlined above, Kuwait's Al Zour LNG terminal is expecting one cargo of 0.04mmt via the Bonny Island LNG-derived LNG Adamawa, with a delivery horizon of 25 July at the time of writing.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes underway to destinations outside the Basin, 4.48mmt have a delivery horizon of 31 July, including 3.42mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.55mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.28mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility. Egypt's Idku LNG plant, meanwhile, had one1 cargo of 0.08mmt via the GasLog Wales underway at the time of writing Neighbouring Damietta LNG had two cargoes totalling 0.15mmt underway at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

112 cargo liftings estimated this week

Based on our shipping data and nominal vessel capacities, we are currently expecting 112 cargo liftings amounting to 7.83mmt by the end of this week.



Source: LNG Journal

Pacific Basin

Our data indicate the Pacific Basin will account for 47 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 3.11mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday.

In Australia, we are expecting Gorgon LNG to lead the continent's exports with five cargoes amounting to 0.36mmt, according to nominal vessel capacity. Concurrently, LNG Journal data points to NWS LNG shipping five cargoes (0.32mmt), followed by four cargoes (0.28mmt) from Wheatstone LNG. Meanwhile, Australia Pacific LNG, Queensland Curtis LNG, Pluto LNG, Gladstone LNG and 0 are expected to ship a total of nine cargoes amounting to 0.65mmt by the end of the week.

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to ten cargoes amounting to 0.63mmt. In neighbouring Indonesia, we think this week's exports will amount to six cargoes totalling 0.38mmt from its Tangguh, Bontang and Donggi-Senoro LNG plants. Additionally, based on our market visibility, we are expecting Brunei LNG to ship two cargoes totalling 0.13mmt via the Amadi and the Amali this week.

The remaining LNG export plants within the Pacific, namely Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG at Prigorodnoye on Sakhalin Island and PNG LNG in Papua New Guinea are going to export up to six cargoes totalling 0.36mmt, according to our market visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 40 cargo loadings, with around 2.90mmt exported throughout the Basin.

In the United States, we are expecting a total of 22 cargoes (1.64mmt) to be lifted. These exports are likely to be led by Sabine Pass LNG with 0.50mmt, inter alia via the Castillo de Villalba (0.06mmt), the Golar Celsius (0.07mmt) and the Golar Maria (0.06mmt). Concurrently, Cameron LNG is going to ship 0.38mmt via five cargo liftings, our data suggests, whilst we expect Corpus Christi LNG, Cove Point LNG, Calcasieu Pass LNG and Elba Island LNG to ship a total of 0.75mmt via ten cargo liftings.

In South America and the Caribbean, market visibility indicated two cargo liftings totalling 0.15mmt at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Castillo de Santisteban and the Maran Gas Achilles this week.

On the other side of the Atlantic, we think up to 16 cargoes (1.11mmt) will be lifted by Sunday. In West- and North Africa, we are expecting Nigeria's Bonny Island facility to export five cargoes amounting to 0.36mmt whilst our market visibility further suggests Algeria will ship up to four cargoes amounting to 0.25mmt from its Arzew and Skikda plants by Sunday. We are also expecting Angola's Soyo plant to export two cargoes whilst our data point to an export from Equatorial Guinea's EG LNG. We are, however, not expecting a shipment from Cameroon's FLNG facility offshore Kribi this week.

In the Arctic, we are currently anticipating Norway's Snøhvit LNG to ship a cargo via the Meanwhile, our shipping data suggests Novatek's Yamal LNG is going to load up to three cargoes amounting to 0.23mmt by Sunday.

Middle East

Finally, we are expecting a total of 25 Middle Eastern cargo liftings totalling 1.81mmt by the end of the week, most of which (1.49mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Al Areesh and the Al Deebel. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to three cargoes amounting to 0.19mmt via the Cadiz Knutsen, the Nizwa LNG and the Salalah LNG. In addition, we are expecting ADNOC's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship up to two cargoes totalling 0.13mmt via the GasLog Savannah and the Mraweh. We are, however, not expecting an export from Egypt this week.

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 17 cargoes on Tuesday, followed by 17 on Tuesday, whilst Thursday is looking to be least active with 13 liftings ◆

Estimated Cargo Liftings (MMt)

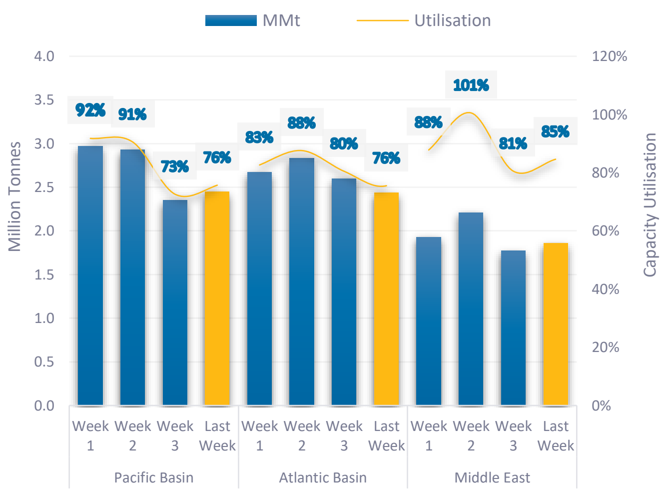
Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	-	0.06	0.08	-	-	0.08	-
	Skikda	-	-	-	0.03	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	0.07	-	0.07	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	0.07	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.07
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.06
	Gorgon LNG	-	0.08	0.07	-	0.08	0.08	0.07
	Ichthys LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NWS LNG	-	0.12	-	-	0.13	0.07	-
	Pluto LNG	0.08	-	-	-	0.07	-	-
	Queensland Curtis	-	-	0.08	-	0.08	-	-
	Wheatstone LNG	-	0.07	-	-	0.07	0.07	0.07
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	0.07	-	-	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	Tilbury LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	0.06	-	-
	Tangguh	0.06	-	-	-	0.06	-	0.14
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.06	-	0.12	0.06	-	0.18	0.07
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	0.07	-	-
	PFLNG Dua	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.06	0.07	-	0.08	-	0.07	0.07
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	-	-	-	0.07	-	-
Oman	Oman LNG	-	-	0.07	-	0.07	0.06	-
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	PNG LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.07	0.07
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.39	0.22	0.21	0.27	0.07	0.26	0.06
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	0.01	0.07	-	-	0.06	-	-
	Yamal LNG	-	0.08	-	-	0.07	0.08	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trin. & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	0.08	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
UAE	Das Island	-	0.06	-	-	-	-	0.07
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	0.08	0.08	-	-	-
	Cameron LNG	-	0.08	-	0.08	-	0.15	0.08
	Freeport LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.06	0.07	0.07	-	0.08	-	0.22
	Corpus Christi LNG	-	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.08	-	0.08
	Calcasieu Pass LNG	0.08	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
	Total	0.95	1.19	1.20	0.96	1.16	1.17	1.19

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 6.75mmt last week

Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Last week's global LNG flows stood at 6.75mmt, having thus increased by 0.03mmt (0pct) from 6.72mmt the week prior.

Pacific Basin

The Pacific ended last week with 2.45mmt in exports, resulting in a 0.10mmt (4pct) trade increase from 2.35mmt recorded for the week before last. This, in turn, translated into capacity utilisation of 76pct, an increase of 3pp. Meanwhile, week-on-week demand in the Pacific region – including domestic re-exports in Malaysia, Indonesia and China – grew by 0.86mmt (21pct) from 4.17mmt to 5.03mmt. As a result, last week's Pacific import capacity utilisation expanded by 11pp to 64pct.

Atlantic Basin

Concurrently, trade in the Atlantic Basin had amounted to 2.44mmt by midnight on Sunday, a 0.16mmt (-6pct) decrease compared to the 2.60mmt recorded for the prior week. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 76pct for last week, a decrease of 5pp week-on-week. The Basin's imports, meanwhile, had increased by 0.16mmt (7pct) to 2.42mmt by Sunday. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 50pct for the week, an increase of 3pp over the week prior.

Middle East

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had seen positive weekly trade growth of 0.09mmt to 1.86mmt by midnight on Sunday. This represented a 5pct increase from the 1.77mmt seen the week before last. As such, regional export capacity utilisation also grew to 85pct for the week, up 4pp over the week before. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern imports saw negative weekly growth, decreasing by 0.02mmt (-7pct) to 0.27mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 44pct for the week, constituting a decrease of 3pp over the prior week.

Pacific Exports – Australia

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter by volume – Australia – shipped 1.45mmt last week, decreasing exports by 0.16mmt (-10pct) from the 1.61mmt shipped the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country thus also reduced LNG shipments slightly by 0.02mmt (-1pct) from 1.47mmt.

Southeast Asia

Meanwhile, the Pacific's second-largest exporter by capacity – Malaysia – shipped 0.44mmt last week, and thereby grew exports by 0.23mmt (110pct) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia saw an increase of 0.08mmt (57pct) to 0.22mmt over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, however, Malaysia's exports still decreased by 0.08mmt (-15pct) from 0.52mmt whilst Indonesia's year-on-year shipments decreased by 0.04mmt (-15pct) from 0.26mmt. Elsewhere in the region, in the north of Kalimantan, there was one LNG shipment of 0.07mmt from Brunei LNG. The plant thus increased exports by 0.02mmt (40pct) from 0.05mmt the week prior whilst on a year-on-year basis, it kept export levels unchanged.

Other Pacific Exporters

The remaining Pacific LNG exports had amounted to 0.27mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.34mmt the week prior, resulting in a 0.07mmt (-21pct) decrease in weekly exports. This was mainly due to Peru's Pampa Melchorita LNG plant not having exported a cargo following 0.06mmt the week prior. Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG, meanwhile, also reduced exports. They were down by 0.01mmt (-8pct) from 0.13mmt the week prior. Meanwhile, Papua New Guinea's PNG LNG kept shipments steady at 0.15mmt. Singapore LNG, however, did not ship LNG last week, having also shipped no LNG the week prior.

Far Eastern Demand

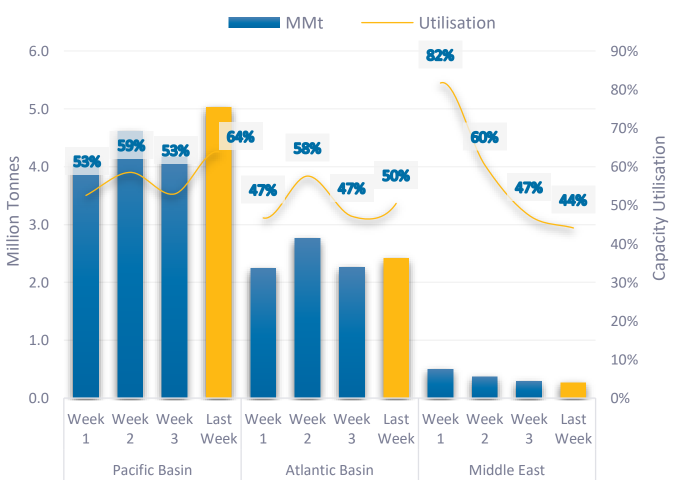
IIn line with higher weekly Pacific exports, Pacific demand increased by 0.86mmt (21pct) last week, which was led by a 0.23mmt (18pct) offtake increase from 1.30mmt to 1.53mmt in Japan. However, the country's demand was down by 0.15mmt (-9pct) year-on-year. Japan's busiest LNG terminal last week was the Himeji facility with 0.25mmt, followed by the Niigata terminal with 0.21mmt. Concurrently, LNG demand in South Korea grew by 0.05mmt (7pct) from 0.75mmt to 0.80mmt last week, which nonetheless meant that on an annual basis the country's offtake was down by 0.16mmt (-17pct). South Korea's offtakes were led by the Incheon terminal with 0.31mmt, followed by the Pyeongtaek facility with 0.20mmt. Moreover, Taiwan saw week-on-week demand growth of 38pct, up by 0.13mmt to 0.47mmt from 0.34mmt the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country's imports were thus also up by 0.06mmt (15pct) from 0.41mmt. In China, weekly imports remained steady at 0.80mmt whilst the country's imports had decreased by 0.06mmt (-4pct) year-on-year. Meanwhile, we recorded a demand reduction in India last week, where offtakes were cut by 0.09mmt (-20pct) to 0.37mmt from 0.46mmt the week prior. Nevertheless, India's imports had also increased by 0.16mmt (76pct) year-on-year from 0.21mmt.

Nevertheless, the roster of smaller Pacific Basin buyers typically consisting of Chile, Singapore, Mexico, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh decreased their collective weekly imports by 0.07mmt (-13pct) to 0.45mmt. Demand growth of 0.04mmt in Chile was overshadowed by demand decreases totalling 0.12mmt in Thailand and Bangladesh. Myanmar and Mexico, however, were not seen in the market.

Atlantic Exports – West Africa

In the Atlantic Basin, West African exporters increased their overall shipped volumes by

Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



0.03mmt (7pct) net last week. Nigeria was leading week-on-week growth with an increase of 0.11mmt (52pct) to 0.32mmt. Meanwhile, Equatorial Guinea kept its weekly exports steady at 0.07mmt. This initial week-on-week increase, however, was tempered by a lack of exports from Cameroon's FLNG facility, down 0.07mmt week-on-week, whilst Algerian shipments were down by 0.01mmt (-9pct) to 0.10mmt. Angola was again not seen in the market.

United States

In the United States, export plants saw the total of shipped LNG volumes expand by 0.10mmt (8pct) to 1.28mmt from 1.18mmt last week. US LNG export performance was mainly due to strong growth in shipments by 0.09mmt (150pct) to 0.15mmt from Calcasieu Pass LNG. The plant had shipped 0.06mmt the week prior. This was followed by an increase in exports of 0.06mmt (60pct) to 0.16mmt at Cove Point LNG, the plant having shipped 0.10mmt the week prior. Concurrently, Freeport LNG remained offline. As such, relatively modest export decreases by 0.01mmt (-2pct) to 0.57mmt at Sabine Pass LNG as well as reductions of 0.02mmt at Corpus Christi LNG and Cameron LNG, respectively, could only temper US LNG export growth last week. Nevertheless, shipments did not outperform their year-on-year equivalent of 1.51mmt, leaving a gap of 0.08mmt (-5pct).

Other Atlantic Exporters

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad saw two exports totalling 0.13mmt. Concurrently, in the Arctic, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.13mmt via four shipments from Yamal LNG. Russian LNG exports in the Atlantic Basin thereby decreased by 0.09mmt (-41pct) from 0.43mmt week-on-week. Snøhvit LNG in Norway shipped two cargoes totalling 0.11mmt last week, up 0.03mmt (37pct) from 0.08mmt the week prior.

European Demand

European buyers slightly decreased imports by 0.03mmt (-1pct) to 2.09mmt last week. Notably, Spain, Italy and Poland sa w a significant combined weekly demand decrease of 0.47mmt (-47pct) to 0.52mmt. Croatia, meanwhile, did not see LNG demand growth last week. As such, even demand growth throughout the remaining European LNG importers could not tip the balance. Whilst offtakes grew robustly by 0.10mmt both in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, they were more moderate in Turkey, France and Belgium, totalling 0.14mmt. Concurrently, demand only saw an uptick in volume terms in Portugal, Lithuania and Greece, which amounted to 0.04mmt in total. As such, even the import of a rare cargo at Malta's Delimara terminal could only help to cushion the overall net decrease. Among European terminals, imports in northern Europe were led by South Hook LNG in the United Kingdom with 0.22mmt whilst in southern Europe, Spain's Huelva LNG terminal was in the lead with 0.22mmt.

Other Atlantic Buyers

Meanwhile, Atlantic buyers in North- and South America, as well as the Caribbean, increased imports by 0.11mmt (79pct) from 0.14mmt to 0.25mmt. This overall week-on-week demand picture evolved as weekly demand in Argentina doubled to 0.18mmt from 0.09mmt the week prior. Brazil also saw higher LNG demand following the import of a cargo of 0.07mmt compared to no offtakes the week prior. The resulting week-on-week increase was only tempered by the lack of demand in Puerto Rico, the country having imported 0.05mmt the week prior. We also did not record LNG offtakes by the remaining importers in the Americas last week.

Middle Eastern Exports

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.54mmt last week and thereby saw week-on-week exports increase by 0.10mmt (7pct) from the 1.44mmt seen the week prior. The country also increased exports by 0.06mmt (4pct) from the 1.48mmt shipped this time last year. Meanwhile, Oman decreased weekly exports by 0.06mmt (-30pct) whilst the UAE increased shipments by 0.06mmt (120pct) to 0.11mmt. On a year-on-year basis, Oman nevertheless increased exports by 0.01mmt (8pct) whilst the UAE's volumes were also up by 0.01mmt (10pct). Egypt, meanwhile, decreased exports by 0.01mmt (-12pct) to 0.07mmt last week. The country nevertheless increased exports by 0.01mmt (17pct) compared to the 0.06mmt shipped this time last year.

Middle Eastern Demand

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week were Kuwait and Pakistan, which together imported 0.27mmt via four cargoes. As such, the region's week-on-week demand had decreased by 0.02mmt (-7pct) from 0.29mmt the week prior. Regional weekly demand thus also came in 0.08mmt (-23pct) below its year-on-year equivalent of 0.35mmt ◆