LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT

01 AUGUST 2022

New FSRU Capacity in Europe Gains Momentum

Whilst much of the attention concerning the ongoing expansion of Europe's LNG import capacity has been focussed on Germany, projects elsewhere in the EU have also gained momentum. Historically, relatively little gas has been imported via FSRUs in Europe, but this is likely to change as capacity expansions in the Netherlands, France and Germany are underway.

Our shipping data showed the Exmar-owned FSRU barge Eemshaven LNG (ex S188) arrived at the Damen shipyard in Rotterdam on Monday. The vessel is preparing for deployment as part of a roster of new FSRUs slated to expand European LNG import capacity as quickly as possible before the start of winter.

EemsEnergyTerminal

Gasunie contracted the Eemshaven LNG from Belgian shipping company Exmar at the end of March, after which it also signed the New Fortress Energy-controlled Golar Igloo in May for five years. The two vessels will provide floating regasification capacity of roughly 8 billion cubic metres (bcm) for the Gasunie subsidiary EemsEnergyTerminal. The project's capacity has been sold to French utility ENGIE, Czech energy conglomerate ČEZ and hydrocarbon major Shell. Originally, more than 15 parties had registered their interest in contracting capacity at the terminal.

Doubling capacity

The terminal is expected to see first gas by mid-September. In addition to the optimisation of the Maasvlakte Gas terminal in Rotterdam, the two vessels will help to double Dutch LNG import capacity.

Shifting FSRU from China

TotalEnergies is also working to install an FSRU at the French port of Le Havre by 4Q 2023, pending regulatory approvals. On-site preparation is scheduled to begin by the end of this year with the TotalEnergies-controlled FSRU Cape Ann likely to arrive in September 2023. The vessel is currently stationed at the Tianjin LNG terminal in China but has been underutilised, according to our data and calculations.

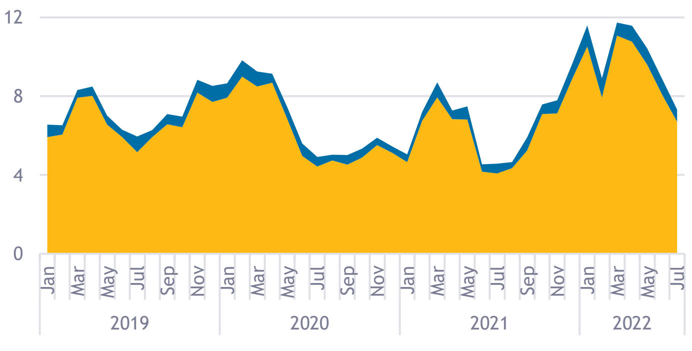
Expanding role

To date, European LNG imports via FSRUs have played a relatively minor part, typically accounting for less than 10pct of total LNG imports in a given month. With the installation of up to eight new floating terminals by end-2023, which would mean more than doubling the number of FSRU terminals in Europe (including Turkey), the proportion of gas reaching European consumers via FSRU is set to rise.

Germany scrambles for capacity

Germany has been chasing FSRU capacity as the country is seeking avenues to gradually disengage from Russian pipeline gas. The German government plans to spend as much as €3 billion on FSRU import capacity over the next decade. In its 'Progress Report on Energy Security' in March, the Finance Ministry said the government had signed options with German LNG trader Uniper and utility RWE to operate the first two FSRU terminals. Current plans envisage their start of operations before the end of this year - one at Wilhelmshaven and one at Brunsbüttel. Another terminal at Lubmin, owned and operated by Deutsche ReGas, has signed a TotalEnergies-controlled FSRU and plans to start operations by mid-December. Germany is currently the only major European gas consumer without direct access to the LNG market but is planning to employ up to five FSRUs by the end of 2023 ◆

European LNG Imports (MMt)



Source: LNG Journal

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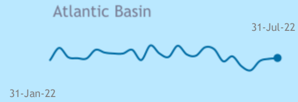
LNG EXPORTS (MMT)

Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.10	-4pct
Six-month change	0.22	-8pct

Atlantic Basin



Week-on-Week	0.02	1pct
Six-month change	0.06	2pct

Middle East

Week-on-Week	0.35	20pct
Six-month change	0.10	5pct

LNG IMPORTS (MMT)

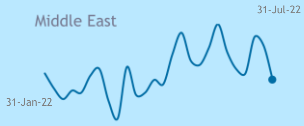
Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.44	-9pct
Six-month change	0.24	-5pct

Atlantic Basin

Week-on-Week	0.09	4pct
Six-month change	0.21	-9pct

Middle East



Week-on-Week	0.16	-40pct
Six-month change	0.03	-11pct

Expected Deliveries this Week

Japan leading imports with 1.35mmt at current market visibility

Pacific Basin

LNG Imports in the Pacific Basin are likely to amount to 5.36mmt, according to our data at the time of writing, constituting a decrease of 9pct compared to the previous week's total of 4.25mmt. The Pacific's imports this week are likely going to be led by Japan (1.35mmt), China (1.02mmt) and South Korea (0.86mmt) whilst 12 cargoes totalling 0.86mmt had yet to confirm their destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

Japan

Current market visibility indicates the largest share of LNG destined to arrive in Japan by Sunday is derived from Australia via nine cargoes totalling 0.56mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to Japan have sailed from Wheatstone LNG (0.18mmt, 32pct) and NWS LNG (0.17mmt, 30pct), inter alia via the Asia Integrity, the Esshu Maru and the Northwest Sandpiper. Our analysis indicates these deliveries to have been completed by Saturday. Concurrently, our market visibility highlights that the Sodegaura and Chita terminals will be Japan's busiest this week on imports of 0.19mmt (15pct) and 0.18mmt (14pct), respectively. In addition to Australia's shipments, we are also expecting Japan to receive 13 cargoes totalling 0.79mmt from, inter alia, Malaysia, the United States and Russia. Our data thus indicate Japan's expected cumulative LNG imports of 1.35mmt this week are likely to have decreased by 0.14mmt (-9pct) from 1.49mmt last week and decreased by 0.17mmt (-11pct) from 1.52mmt year-on-year.

China

The most significant origin of LNG destined to arrive in China by volume this week is also Australia via six cargoes totalling 0.42mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to China have sailed from Australia Pacific LNG (0.23mmt, 55pct) and NWS LNG (0.12mmt, 29pct), inter alia, via the CESI Tianjin, the CESI Wenzhou and the Dapeng Sun. We are currently expecting these shipments to arrive by Sunday, with the Guangdong Dapeng LNG and Zhejiang LNG terminals set to be China's busiest this week on imports of 0.26mmt (25pct) and 0.16mmt (16pct), respectively. In addition to Most of Australia's shipments, we are currently tracking eight cargoes totalling 0.60mmt led by Qatar, Indonesia and the United States, which we expect to arrive in China by Sunday. We therefore think China's weekly LNG offtake is likely to have remained broadly steady compared to last week but decreased by 0.60mmt (-37pct) from 1.62mmt year-on-year.

South Korea

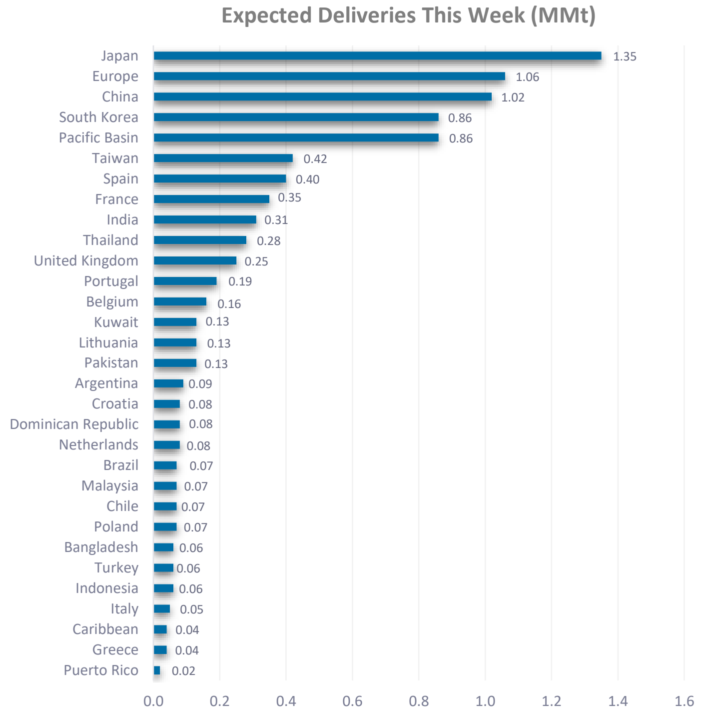
Meanwhile, the largest share of expected deliveries to South Korea is going to be coming from Qatar via three cargoes totalling 0.23mmt this week. Qatar's volumes have sailed from Ras Laffan via the Hanjin Ras Laffan, the Lijmiliya and SK Supreme. We expect these South Korea-bound shipments to arrive by Thursday. We are also expecting 11 cargoes totalling 0.63mmt from, inter alia, Australia, Indonesia and Malaysia to arrive in South Korea this week, with the Pyeongtaek and Incheon terminals set to be South Korea's busiest on imports of 0.22mmt (32pct) and 0.21mmt (30pct), respectively. Based on our market visibility, we expect the country's weekly imports to have increased by 0.35mmt (69pct) from 0.51mmt last week but decreased by 0.20mmt (-19pct) from 1.06mmt year-on-year.

Atlantic Basin

Demand in the Atlantic Basin is likely to reach 3.22mmt this week, our data indicated at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 44pct from the 2.24mmt of regional imports last week. At least 47pct are destined for Spain (0.40mmt), France (0.35mmt) and the United Kingdom (0.25mmt) whilst 1.10mmt remain without a confirmed destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

Spain

Our market visibility indicates the most prominent origin of LNG destined to arrive in Spain this week are the United States, based on two cargoes totalling 0.14mmt. These shipments have sailed from Cameron LNG (0.08mmt, 20pct) and Sabine Pass LNG (0.06mmt, 15pct) via the BW Lilac and the Iberica Knutsen. Our data peg their delivery horizon at 5 August. Apart from the United States' exports, we are also expecting Spain to receive four additional cargoes totalling 0.26mmt from Nigeria, Qatar and Russia by the end of the week. Concurrently, our market visibility indicates the Bahia de Bizkaia LNG and Sagunto terminals will be Spain's busiest this week on imports of 0.08mmt (20pct) and 0.08mmt (20pct), respectively. Our data thus suggest Spain's cumulative LNG offtake this week is likely to have decreased by 0.03mmt (-7pct) week-on-week but increased by 0.11mmt (38pct) year-on-year.



Source: LNG Journal

France

Our current market visibility further indicates the most significant supply of LNG to France this week is coming from the United States via two cargoes totalling 0.16mmt. The United States' volumes have sailed aboard the Sabine Pass LNG-derived Aristarchos and the Cove Point LNG-sailed Celsius Copenhagen, which were headed for the Montoir-de-Bretagne terminal. We are also expecting two cargoes from the Snøhvit LNG-derived Arctic Voyager and Arctic Lady as well as the Yamal LNG-sailed Yakov Gakkel. These anticipated deliveries notwithstanding, France is likely to see week-on-week offtakes decrease by 0.21mmt (-38pct) from 0.56mmt but increase by 0.21mmt (150pct) from 0.14mmt year-on-year.

The 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 0.14mmt this week. Peru's shipments sailed from Pampa Melchorita LNG via the Shandong Juniper and the LNGShips Manhattan. These cargoes are due to arrive at the Dragon LNG terminal by Friday. Moreover, the neighbouring South Hook terminal is expecting a cargo from Ras Laffan inn Qatar via the Q-Max Al Ghuwairiya. We are thus expecting the Dragon LNG and South Hook LNG terminals to lead on import volumes in the United Kingdom and see imports of 0.14mmt (56pct) and 0.11mmt (44pct), respectively. Accordingly, our data indicate the UK's LNG demand this week is going to increase by 0.25mmt week-on-week following no imports last week, and by 0.25mmt 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 0.26mmt this week via four cargoes, constituting an increase of 8pct from the 0.24mmt of regional imports last week

The roster of regional buyers includes Pakistan with expected imports of 0.13mmt via two cargoes aboard the Ras Laffan-derived Al Marrouna and the Ejnan. These anticipated deliveries indicate Pakistan is likely to see a weekly demand increase of 0.07mmt (117pct) from 0.06mmt last week but a decrease of 0.01mmt (-7pct) year-on-year, the country having imported 0.14mmt this time last year

In addition, our data point to Kuwait's Al Zour terminal receiving two shipments of 0.13mmt via the Oman LNG-derived Marvel Eagle and Bonny Island-sailed Trinity Arrow. Accordingly, Kuwait's LNG demand this week is likely to remain steady but decrease by 0.12mmt (-48pct) and year-on-year ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently, 16.24mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 31 August

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 16.24mmt, representing a decrease of 0.94mmt (-5pct) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 31 August.

Pacific Basin

Our current market visibility Our current market visibility indicates 7.19mmt are destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby Taiwan's Yung-An terminal is in the lead with 0.49mmt and a delivery horizon of 12 August currently set by the Meridian Spirit. Of the 7.19mmt currently in transit, 3.39mmt (47pct) have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 31 August

At the time of writing, NWS LNG topped the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.84mmt currently in transit, followed by Gorgon LNG with 0.59mmt and Wheatstone LNG with 0.48mmt via, inter alia, the BW Pavilion Vanda, the Asia Endeavour and the Asia Energy, respectively. The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's leading three plants was 20 August at the time of writing.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, is due to receive 3.62mmt by 15 August, our data indicates. Firmed-up Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.49mmt destined for France's Montoir-de-Bretagne terminal with a delivery horizon of 15 August

As with the Pacific Basin, there remain 2.58mmt of in-transit LNG cargoes that have yet to confirm their destinations. Around 2.27mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 20 August

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Sabine Pass LNG was the lead with 1.56mmt, followed by Corpus Christi LNG with 1.11mmt and Cameron LNG with 1.01mmt. These cargoes are aboard, inter alia, the Amberjack LNG, the Adriano Knutsen and the BW Brussels. The delivery horizon for all in-transit exports by Atlantic Basin plants was 31 August at the time of writing.

Middle East

Meanwhile, our data indicate there is a total of six cargoes – 0.39mmt – 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 two cargoes totalling 0.13mmt via the Bonny Island LNG-derived LNG Oyo and Myrina, which had a delivery horizon of 23 August at the time of writing

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes underway to destinations outside the Basin, 4.41mmt have a delivery horizon of 25 August, including 3.30mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.54mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.28mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility. Egypt's Idku LNG plant, meanwhile, had no shipments at sea at the time of writing. Neighbouring Damietta LNG had four cargoes totalling 0.29mmt underway at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

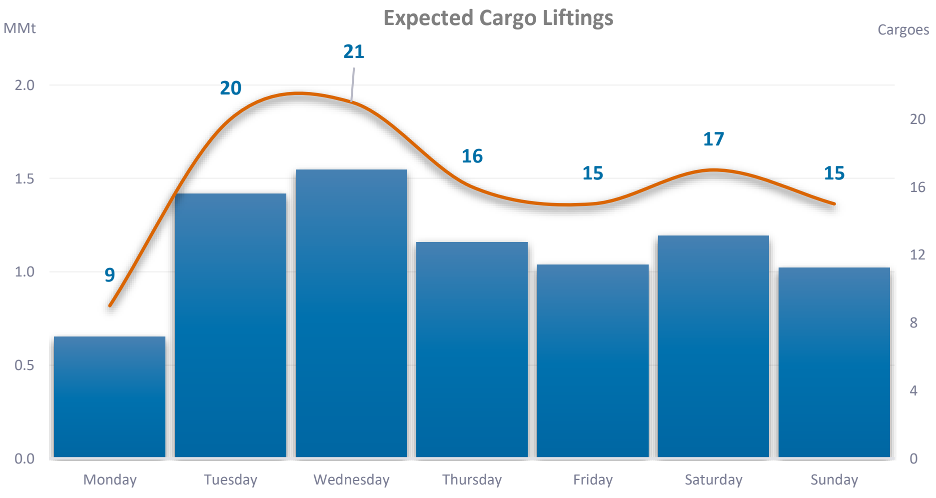
111 cargo liftings estimated this week

Based on our shipping data and nominal vessel capacities, we are currently expecting 113 cargo liftings amounting to 8.03mmt by the end of this week.

Pacific Basin

Our data indicate the Pacific Basin will account for 43 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 2.98mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday

In Australia, we are expecting Gorgon LNG to lead the continent's exports with seven cargoes amounting to 0.52mmt, according to nominal vessel capacity. Concurrently, LNG Journal data points to NWS LNG shipping five cargoes (0.32mmt), followed by four cargoes (0.29mmt) from Wheatstone LNG. Meanwhile, Australia Pacific LNG, Queensland Curtis LNG, Pluto LNG, Ichthys LNG and Darwin LNG are expected to ship a total of 11 cargoes amounting to 0.81mmt by the end of the week



Source: LNG Journal

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to five cargoes amounting to 0.28mmt. In neighbouring Indonesia, we think this week's exports will amount to five cargoes totalling 0.33mmt from its Tangguh, Bontang and Donggi-Senoro LNG plants. Additionally, based on our market visibility, we are expecting Brunei LNG to ship one cargo of 0.07mmt via 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 four cargoes totalling 0.28mmt, according to our market visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 42 cargo loadings, with around 2.96mmt exported throughout the Basin

In the United States, we are expecting a total of 20 cargoes (1.51mmt) to be lifted. These exports are likely to be led by Sabine Pass LNG with 0.61mmt, inter alia via the Asklipios (0.08mmt), the Bahrain Spirit (0.08mmt) and the BW Paris (0.07mmt). Concurrently, Cameron LNG is going to ship 0.45mmt via six cargo liftings, our data suggests, whilst we expect Corpus Christi LNG, Cove Point LNG and Calcasieu Pass LNG to ship a total of 0.45mmt via six cargo liftings

In South America and the Caribbean, market visibility indicated three cargo liftings totalling 0.20mmt at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Bilbao Knutsen, the Energy Atlantic and the Golar Penguin this week

On the other side of the Atlantic, we think up to 19 cargoes (1.25mmt) will be lifted by Sunday. In West- and North Africa, we are expecting Nigeria's Bonny Island facility to export seven cargoes amounting to 0.48mmt whilst our market visibility further suggests Algeria will ship up to four cargoes amounting to 0.20mmt from its Arzew and Skikda plants by Sunday. We are also expecting Angola's Soyo plant to export three cargoes whilst our data do not currently 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 two cargoes via the Arctic Discoverer (0.06mmt) and the Arctic Princess (0.07mmt) by the end of the week. 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 28 Middle Eastern cargo liftings totalling 2.08mmt by the end of the week, most of which (1.76mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Al Deebel and the Al Jasra. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to four cargoes amounting to 0.26mmt via, inter alia, the Hyundai Aquapia, the LNG Juno, the SK Splendor and the Sohar LNG. In addition, we are expecting ADNOC's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship one cargo totalling 0.06mmt via the Ghasha. We are, however, not expecting an export from Egypt this week

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 21 cargoes on Wednesday, followed by 20 on Tuesday, whilst Monday is looking to be least active with nine liftings ◆

Estimated Cargo Liftings (MMt)

Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	-	0.03	-	0.08	0.06	-	-
	Skikda	-	-	-	0.03	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	0.07	0.07	-	-	0.07	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	0.08	-	-	-	-	0.08	0.07
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	-	-	0.07	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Gorgon LNG	-	0.08	0.08	0.15	0.08	0.07	0.08
	Ichthys LNG	-	-	-	-	-	0.08	-
	NWS LNG	-	0.07	-	0.06	0.13	0.06	-
	Pluto LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	0.07
	Queensland Curtis	-	0.08	0.08	-	0.07	-	-
	Wheatstone LNG	0.15	-	0.08	-	-	0.07	-
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	Tilbury LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	0.06	-	-	-	-	-
	Tangguh	-	-	0.13	-	-	-	0.06
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	-	0.06	-	0.07	-	0.06	0.09
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PFLNG Dua	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.07	-	0.06	0.06	-	-	0.29
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	0.07
Oman	Oman LNG	0.06	-	-	-	0.06	0.14	-
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	PNG LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.07	-
Qatar	Ras Laffan	-	0.45	0.25	0.35	0.22	0.34	0.16
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	-	0.07	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Yamal LNG	0.07	-	0.08	0.08	-	-	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trin. & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	-	-	0.07	-	0.06	-	0.07
UAE	Das Island	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	-	0.08	0.07	-	-
	Cameron LNG	-	-	0.15	0.08	0.08	0.15	-
	Freeport LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.08	0.08	0.29	-	0.08	-	0.08
	Corpus Christi LNG	0.08	-	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Calcasieu Pass LNG	-	0.08	-	-	0.06	-	-
	Total	**0.65**	**1.42**	**1.55**	**1.16**	**1.04**	**1.19**	**1.02**

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 7.49mmt last week

Last week's global LNG flows stood at 7.49mmt, having thus increased by 0.27mmt (4pct) from 7.22mmt the week prior.

Pacific Basin

The Pacific ended last week with 2.59mmt in exports, resulting in a 0.10mmt (-4pct) trade decrease from 2.69mmt recorded for the week before last. This, in turn, translated into capacity utilisation of 80pct, a decrease of 3pp. Meanwhile, week-on-week demand in the Pacific region - including domestic re-exports in Malaysia, Indonesia and China - decreased by 0.44mmt (-9pct) from 4.69mmt to 4.25mmt. As a result, last week's Pacific import capacity utilisation contracted by 6pp to 54pct.

Atlantic Basin

Concurrently, trade in the Atlantic Basin had amounted to 2.77mmt by midnight on Sunday, an 0.02mmt (1pct) increase compared to the 2.75mmt recorded for the prior week. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 86pct for last week, an increase of 1pp week-on-week. The Basin's imports, meanwhile, had increased by 0.09mmt (4pct) to 2.24mmt by Sunday. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 47pct for the week, an increase of 2pp over the week prior.

Middle East

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had seen positive weekly trade growth of 0.35mmt to 2.13mmt by midnight on Sunday. This represented a 20pct increase from the 1.78mmt seen the week before last. As such, regional export capacity utilisation also grew to 97pct for the week, up 16pp over the week before. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern imports saw negative weekly growth, decreasing by 0.16mmt (-40pct) to 0.24mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 39pct for the week, constituting a decrease of 26pp over the prior week.

Pacific Exports – Australia

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter by volume - Australia - shipped 1.28mmt last week, decreasing exports by 0.13mmt (-9pct) from the 1.41mmt shipped the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country thus also reduced LNG shipments by 0.39mmt (-23pct) from 1.67mmt.

Southeast Asia

Meanwhile, the Pacific's second-largest exporter by capacity - Malaysia - shipped 0.54mmt last week, and thereby decreased exports by 0.04mmt (-7pct) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia saw an increase of 0.07mmt (29pct) to 0.31mmt over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, however, Malaysia's exports thus also remained broadly steady at 0.56mmt whilst Indonesia's year-on-year shipments increased by 0.09mmt (41pct) from 0.22mmt. Elsewhere in the region, in the north of Kalimantan, there were two LNG shipments totalling 0.14mmt from Brunei LNG. The plant thus increased exports by 0.08mmt (133pct) from 0.06mmt the week prior whilst on a year-on-year basis, it kept export levels unchanged.

Other Pacific Exporters

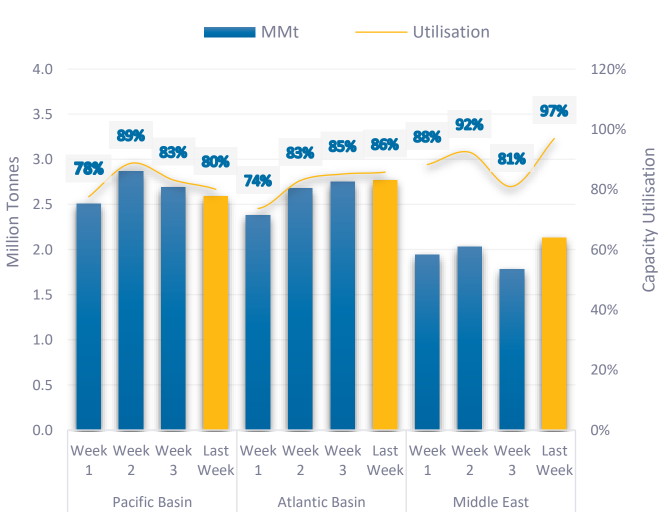
The remaining Pacific LNG exports had amounted to 0.32mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.33mmt the week prior, resulting in a 0.01mmt (-3pct) decrease in weekly exports. This was mainly due to Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG plant reducing exports by 0.02mmt (-10pct) from the prior week's 0.17mmt. Papua New Guinea's PNG LNG, meanwhile, increased exports. At 0.15mmt they were up by 0.01mmt (7pct) from 0.14mmt the week prior. Peru's Pampa Melchorita LNG and Singapore LNG, however, did not ship LNG last week.

Far Eastern Demand

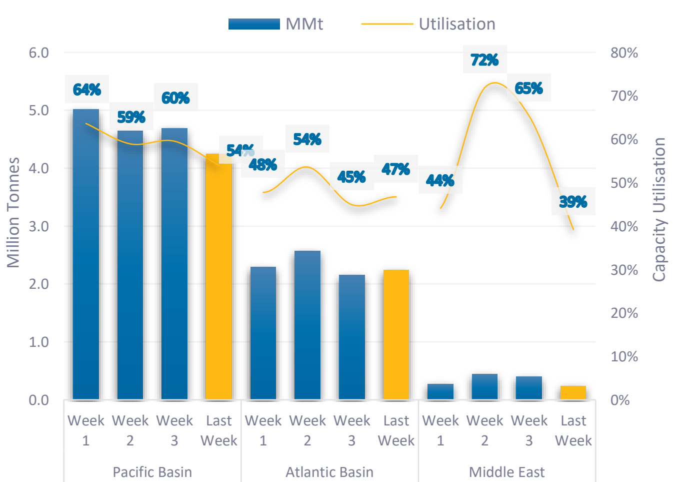
In line with lower weekly Pacific exports, Pacific demand decreased by 0.44mmt (-9pct) last week, which was led by a 0.02mmt (-1pct) offtake decrease from 1.51mmt to 1.49mmt in Japan. Consequently, the country's demand was also down by 0.03mmt (-2pct) year-on-year. Japan's busiest LNG terminal last week was the Sodegaura facility with 0.24mmt, followed by the Futtsu terminal with 0.17mmt. Concurrently, LNG demand in South Korea decreased by 0.18mmt (-26pct) from 0.69mmt to 0.51mmt last week, which also meant that on an annual basis the country's offtake was down by 0.55mmt (-52pct). South Korea's offtakes were led by the Incheon terminal with 0.23mmt, followed by the Tongyeong facility with 0.12mmt. Moreover, Taiwan saw week-on-week demand decline of 20pct, down by 0.09mmt to 0.35mmt from 0.44mmt the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country's imports were thus also down by 0.04mmt (-10pct) from 0.39mmt. In China, weekly imports remained steady at 1.18mmt whilst the country's imports had also decreased by 0.65mmt (-40pct) year-on-year. Meanwhile, we recorded a significant demand increase in India last week, where offtakes went up by 0.26mmt (108pct) to 0.50mmt from 0.24mmt the week prior. Accordingly, India's imports had also increased by 0.04mmt (9pct) year-on-year from 0.46mmt.

Concurrently, the roster of smaller Pacific Basin buyers typically consisting of Chile, Singapore, Mexico, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh slashed their collective weekly imports by 0.20mmt (-32pct) to 0.43mmt. Offtake growth of 0.04mmt (67pct) to 0.10mmt in Bangladesh as well as a rare cargo offtake of 0.06mmt in at Mexico's Energia Costa Azul were overshadowed by a demand retreat of 0.11mmt (-69pct) to 0.05mmt in Malaysia, by 0.09mmt (-64pct) to 0.05mmt in Singapore, by 0.07mmt (-54pct) to 0.06mmt in Thailand and by 0.03mmt in Indonesia and Chile. Myanmar, meanwhile, was not seen in the market.

Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Atlantic Exports – West Africa

In the Atlantic Basin, West African exporters slightly decreased their overall shipped volumes by 0.02mmt (-3pct) last week. Whilst Equatorial Guinea showed week-on-week growth with an increase of 0.08mmt following no exports the week prior, Nigeria grew exports only relatively moderately by 0.04mmt (14pct) to 0.33mmt. Meanwhile, Cameroon's FLNG facility was not seen in the market, having shipped 0.08mmt the week prior. Algeria also slashed shipments by 0.06mmt (-32pct) to 0.13mmt whilst Angola only kept exports steady at 0.07mmt.

United States

In the United States, export plants also saw the total of shipped LNG volumes contract by 0.03mmt (-2pct) from 1.47mmt to 1.44mmt last week. US LNG export performance was mainly due to a retreat in exports by 0.10mmt (-32pct) to 0.21mmt at Cameron LNG. The plant had shipped 0.31mmt the week prior. This was followed by a decrease in exports of 0.09mmt (-24pct) to 0.29mmt at Corpus Christi LNG, the plant having shipped 0.38mmt the week prior. Concurrently, Elba Island LNG kept weekly exports steady at 0.06mmt whilst Freeport LNG remained offline. As such, even a jump in exports by 0.12mmt (120pct) to 0.22mmt at Cove Point LNG could only cushion the net reductions. The same applied to the 0.02mmt increase at Calcasieu Pass LNG and Sabine Pass LNG to 0.16mmt and 0.50mmt, respectively. Accordingly, US LNG shipments did not outperform their year-on-year equivalent of 1.44mmt, instead remaining steady.

Other Atlantic Exporters

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad saw three exports totalling 0.17mmt. Concurrently, in the Arctic, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.17mmt via five shipments from Yamal LNG. Russian LNG exports in the Atlantic Basin thereby increased by 0.04mmt (31pct) from 0.4mmt week-on-week. Snøhvit LNG in Norway shipped two cargoes totalling 0.12mmt last week, up 0.07mmt (140pct) from 0.05mmt the week prior.

European Demand

European buyers kept imports steady at 2.00mmt last week. Notably, the Netherlands , Spain and Poland sa w a combined weekly demand increase of 0.54mmt (80pct) to 0.97mmt. The United Kingdom, meanwhile, did not show LNG demand after having imported 0.20mmt the week prior. Italy thus curbed imports comparatively modestly by 0.09mmt (-37pct) whilst still helping to negate the aforementioned demand growth. Our data also show there was further negative week-on-week demand growth in France, Belgium and Portugal by 0.08mmt, 0.05mmt and 0.06mmt, respectively. France had thus decreased imports to 0.56mmt (-12pct) whilst Belgium's demand was down by 25pct to 0.05mmt. Portugal, meanwhile, did not import LNG following demand of 0.06mmt the week prior. Moreover, weekly demand retreated in both Lithuania and Greece by 0.04mmt (-50pct) to 0.04mmt and by 0.02mmt (-25pct) to 0.06mmt, respectively. As such, steady demand of 0.07mmt in Turkey could not tip the balance whilst Malta continued its market absence. Among European terminals, imports in northern Europe were led by the Dunkerque Le Clipton terminal in France with 0.24mmt whilst in southern Europe, Spain's Sagunto terminal was in the lead with 0.15mmt.

Other Atlantic Buyers

Meanwhile, Atlantic buyers in North- and South America, as well as the Caribbean, increased imports by 0.09mmt (55pct) from 0.15mmt to 0.24mmt. This overall week-on-week demand picture evolved as demand in Brazil returned with an import of 0.08mmt following no imports the week prior. The Dominican Republic also saw LNG demand return with the import of a 0.07mmt cargo. The resulting steep week-on-week growth was thus only tempered by negative demand growth of 0.06mmt (-40pct) to 0.09mmt in Argentina. We did not record LNG offtakes by other importers in the Americas last week.

Middle Eastern Exports

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.60mmt last week and thereby saw robust week-on-week export growth of 0.22mmt (16pct) from the 1.38mmt seen the week prior. The country also increased exports by 0.19mmt (13pct) from the 1.41mmt shipped this time last year. Meanwhile, Oman increased weekly exports by 0.07mmt (35pct) whilst the UAE decreased exports by 0.01mmt (-8pct) to 0.11mmt. On a year-on-year basis, Oman thus increased exports by 0.06mmt (29pct) whilst the UAE's volumes were still up by 0.06mmt (120pct). Egypt, meanwhile, increased exports by 0.07mmt (87pct) to 0.15mmt last week. The country thus also increased its shipped volumes by 0.02mmt (15pct) year-on-year.

Middle Eastern Demand

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week were Kuwait, Pakistan and the UAE, which together imported 0.24mmt via four cargoes. As such, the region's week-on-week demand had tumbled by 0.16mmt (-40pct) from 0.40mmt the week prior. Regional weekly demand thus also came in 0.24mmt (-50pct) below its year-on-year equivalent of 0.48mmt ◆