LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 16 JANUARY 2023

Freeport LNG Targets Restart in January

Freeport LNG, the operator of the shut-down Freeport LNG plant in Texas, maintains it is still targeting a restart of commercial operations in January. It denied an earlier Reuters report the restart would only take place in February. We are currently tracking three LNGCs stationed at the Freeport anchorage. Due to its market absence, Freeport LNG missed a substantial part of Europe's rise in demand for US LNG last year whilst Cheniere's Sabine Pass LNG picked up the slack.

Following a visit to the plant at the end of November, US regulators issued new requirements that must be met before LNG exports could resume, delaying Freeport LNG's restart beyond last year's deadline of mid-December. Previous deadlines placing the resumption of at least some exports in September and November had already been missed. Operator Freeport LNG, meanwhile, continues to hold on to its latest plan to restart commercial operations before the end of January.

Latest update

Freeport LNG gave an update on the timing of the initial restart of its liquefaction facility before Christmas last year. The firm maintained 'notable progress' had been made in preparing the Freeport plant's liquefaction infrastructure for resuming commercial operations, noting that 'the reconstruction work necessary to commence initial operations is substantially complete'. The operator also said it is responding to the last remaining questions by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) data request of 12 December 2022.

FERC notified Freeport LNG of a detailed list of 64 regulatory conditions that must be met before permission to restart production could be granted following a visit on 30 November 2022. Earlier that month, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) highlighted inadequate valve testing and alarm procedures that gave room for 'operator discretion' and 'alarm fatigue'.

Extra time required

Freeport LNG pointed to the extra time required for its responses to be reviewed by FERC and PHMSA as the reason for the delay to the plant's restart yet again from December last year to January this year. It denied a report by Reuters that the restart would be delayed until February and maintained it would happen in January. At the time of writing, we were tracking the Prism Agility, the Prism Courage and the Prism Diversity waiting at the Freeport anchorage.

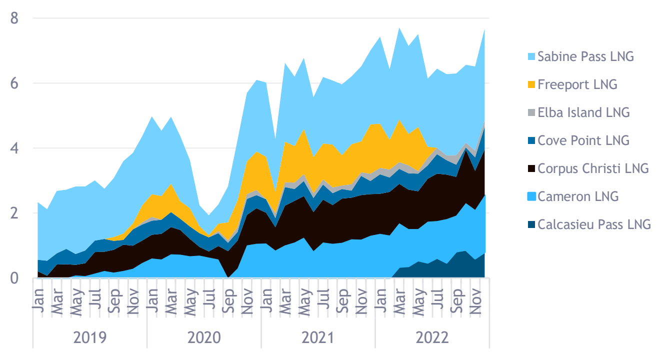
US production growth

The Freeport plant had previously ascended as a major source of LNG to Europe at a time when the continent by and large is scrambling to diversify its gas procurement portfolio away from Russia. The plant produced close to capacity in April and flat out in May, according to our data. As we reported last year, our data show US LNG exports slumped after Freeport LNG went offline in June, but embarked on a path to recovery shortly thereafter. In December last year, US exports reached 7.67mmt, according to our data, just 0.04mmt away from its preliminary peak of 7.71mmt in March 2022. The production growth, led by Cheniere's Sabine Pass LNG, mainly benefitted European buyers.

Large-scale operation

Freeport LNG is the seventh-largest LNG plant 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 ◆

US LNG Exports (MMt)



Source: LNG Journal

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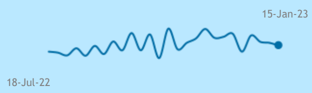
LNG EXPORTS (MMT)

Pacific Basin



Week-on-Week	0.08	-3pct
Six-month change	0.18	7pct

Atlantic Basin

Week-on-Week	0.14	5pct
Six-month change	0.30	11pct

Middle East

Week-on-Week	0.29	-14pct
Six-month change	0.07	4pct

LNG IMPORTS (MMT)

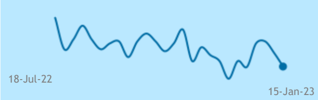
Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.84	15pct
Six-month change	0.25	5pct

Atlantic Basin

Week-on-Week	0.14	5pct
Six-month change	0.69	32pct

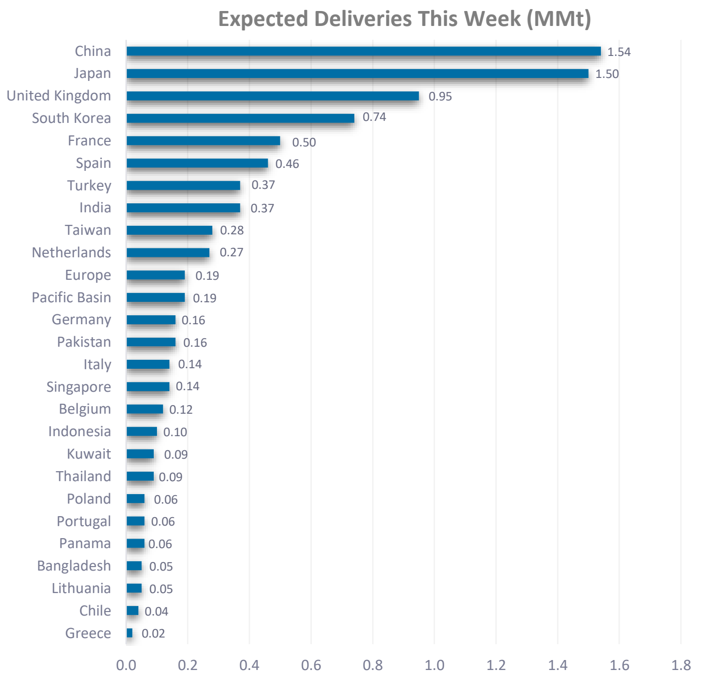
Middle East



Week-on-Week	0.07	-32pct
Six-month change	0.25	-63pct

Expected Deliveries this Week

China to push past Japan with 1.54mmt at current market visibility



Source: LNG Journal

Pacific Basin

LNG Imports in the Pacific Basin are likely to amount to 5.04mmt, according to our data at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 23pct compared to the previous week's total of 4.94mmt. The Pacific's imports this week are likely going to be led by China (1.54mmt), Japan (1.50mmt) and South Korea (0.74mmt) whilst three cargoes totalling 0.19mmt had yet to confirm their destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

China

Current market visibility indicates the largest share of LNG destined to arrive in China by Sunday is derived from Australia via eight cargoes totalling 0.57mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to China have sailed via, inter alia, the CESI Wenzhou, the CESI Beihai and the Prachi. Our analysis indicates these deliveries to have been completed by Sunday. Concurrently, our market visibility highlights that the Guangdong Dapeng LNG and Jiangsu LNG terminals will be China's busiest this week on imports of 0.36mmt (24pct) and 0.16mmt (11pct), respectively. In addition to Australia's shipments, we are also expecting China to receive 14 cargoes totalling 0.97mmt from, inter alia, Qatar, Papua New Guinea and Russia. Our data thus indicate China's expected cumulative LNG imports of 1.54mmt this week are likely to have increased by 0.29mmt (23pct) from 1.25mmt last week but decreased by 0.43mmt (-22pct) from 1.97mmt year-on-year.

Japan

The most significant origin of LNG destined to arrive in Japan by volume this week is also Australia via eight cargoes totalling 0.48mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to Japan have sailed from NWS LNG (0.16mmt, 33pct) and Gorgon LNG (0.11mmt, 23pct), inter alia, via the Grace Cosmos, the Northwest Sandpiper and the Asia Venture. We are currently expecting these shipments to arrive by Sunday, with the Futtsu and Higashi-Ogishima terminals set to be Japan's busiest this week on imports of 0.28mmt (20pct) and 0.17mmt (12pct), respectively. In addition to Most of Australia's shipments, we are currently tracking 17 cargoes totalling 1.02mmt led by Russia, Qatar and Papua New Guinea, which we expect to arrive in Japan by Sunday. We, therefore, think Japan's weekly LNG offtake is likely to have decreased by 0.12mmt (-7pct) from 1.62mmt last week but remain broadly steady year-on-year.

South Korea

Meanwhile, the largest share of expected deliveries to South Korea is coming from Malaysia via three cargoes totalling 0.21mmt this week. Malaysia's volumes have sailed from PFLNG 2 via the Seri Cenderawasih and the Maran Gas Pericles as well as from Malaysia LNG via the Puteri Mutiara Satu. We expect these South Korea-bound shipments to arrive by Saturday. We are also expecting eight cargoes totalling 0.53mmt from, inter alia, Qatar, Australia and Oman to arrive in South Korea this week, with the Incheon and Pyeongtaek terminals set to be South Korea's busiest on imports of 0.25mmt (34pct) and 0.23mmt (31pct), respectively. Based on our market visibility, we expect the country's weekly imports to have decreased by 0.22mmt (-23pct) from 0.96mmt last week and decreased by 0.39mmt (-35pct) from 1.13mmt year-on-year.

Atlantic Basin

Demand in the Atlantic Basin is likely to reach 3.41mmt this week, our data indicated at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 21pct from the 2.81mmt of regional imports last week. At least 62pct are destined for the United Kingdom (0.95mmt), France (0.50mmt) and Spain (0.46mmt) whilst 0.35mmt remain without a confirmed destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

The United Kingdom

Our market visibility indicates the most prominent origin of LNG destined to arrive in the United Kingdom this week is the United States, based on nine cargoes totalling 0.70mmt. The bulk of these shipments have sailed from Sabine Pass LNG (0.39mmt, 41pct) and Calcasieu Pass LNG (0.08mmt, 8pct) via, inter alia, the Castillo de Caldelas and the Minerva Chios. Our data peg their delivery horizon at 22 January. Apart from the United States' exports, we are also expecting the United Kingdom to receive four additional cargoes totalling 0.25mmt from Qatar by the end of the week. Concurrently, our market visibility indicates the South Hook LNG and Dragon LNG terminals will be the United Kingdom's busiest this week on imports of 0.51mmt (54pct) and 0.29mmt (31pct), respectively. Our data thus suggest the United Kingdom's cumulative LNG offtake this week is likely to have increased by 0.52mmt (121pct) week-on-week and by 0.33mmt (53pct) year-on-year.

France

Our current market visibility further indicates the most significant source of supply of LNG to France this week is also the United States via three cargoes totalling 0.24mmt. The United States' volumes have sailed from Sabine Pass LNG via the LNGShips Athena and the Castillo de Merida, and from Cameron LNG via the Marvel Heron. They are due at the Montoir-de-Bretagne, Dunkerque Le Clipton and Fos-sur-Mer terminals, respectively. In addition, we are expecting 0.26mmt to arrive from Russia, Cameroon and Algeria. Accordingly, France is likely to see week-on-week offtakes increase by 0.03mmt (6pct) from 0.47mmt as well as increase by 0.13mmt (35pct) year-on-year from 0.37mmt this time last year.

Spain

Meanwhile, our data indicate the largest single share of expected deliveries to Spain is equally going to be coming from the United States via three cargoes totalling 0.22mmt this week. The United States' shipments sailed from Sabine Pass LNG via the Seapeak Vancouver and the Catalunya Spirit, and from Corpus Christi LNG via the Adriano Knutsen. The vessels are due to arrive at the Huelva and Bahia de Bizkaia terminals, respectively, by Friday. Spain is also scheduled to receive four additional cargoes via the Bonny Island-derived LNG Cross River and LNG Kano as well as via the Yamal LNG-sailed Nikolay Urvantsev and the Ras Laffan-derived Zekreet. Together these shipments amount to 0.24mmt. We are expecting the Huelva and Cartagena terminals to lead Spain's imports this week with 0.22mmt (48pct) and 0.11mmt (24pct), respectively. Our data thus indicate Spanish LNG demand this week is going to increase by 0.05mmt (12pct) week-on-week following imports of 0.41mmt last week, but decrease by 0.04mmt (-8pct) year-on-year, the country having imported 0.50mmt this time last year.

Middle East

Our data also indicate demand in the Middle East is likely to reach 0.25mmt this week via three cargoes, constituting an increase of 67pct from the 0.15mmt of regional imports last week.

Pakistan is looking to lead regional demand with expected imports of 0.16mmt via two cargoes aboard the Ras Laffan-derived Al Gharrafa and Al Marrouna. These anticipated deliveries indicate Pakistan is likely to see a demand increase of 0.01mmt (7pct) from 0.15mmt last week and by 0.10mmt (167pct) year-on-year, the country having imported 0.06mmt this time last year ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently, 17.97mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 14 February

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 17.97mmt, representing a decrease of 1.02mmt (-5pct) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 14 February.

Pacific Basin

Our current market visibility indicates 9.13mmt are destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby South Korea's Incheon terminal is in the lead with 0.81mmt and a delivery horizon of 28 February currently set by the Seapeak Creole. Of the 9.13mmt currently in transit, 2.54mmt (28pct) have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 28 February.

At the time of writing, Gorgon LNG topped the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.74mmt currently in transit, followed by NWS LNG with 0.60mmt and Malaysia LNG with 0.58mmt via, inter alia, the Asia Venture, the Dapeng Moon and the Golar Kelvin, respectively. The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's leading three plants was 13 February at the time of writing.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, is due to receive 5.09mmt by 3 February, our data indicates. Firmed-up Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.96mmt destined for the United Kingdom's South Hook LNG terminal with a delivery horizon of 3 February.

As with the Pacific Basin, there remain 1.84mmt of in-transit LNG cargoes that have yet to confirm their destinations. Around 1.84mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 7 February.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Sabine Pass LNG was the lead with 2.35mmt, followed by Cameron LNG with 1.08mmt and Corpus Christi LNG with 1.07mmt. These cargoes are aboard, inter alia, the British Achiever, the BW Pavilion Aranda and the Adriano Knutsen. The delivery horizon for all in-transit exports by Atlantic Basin plants was 28 February at the time of writing.

Middle East

Meanwhile, our data indicate there is a total of four cargoes – 0.31mmt – currently headed for Pakistan and Kuwait. In addition to the cargoes scheduled for arrival this week as outlined above, Kuwait's Mina al Ahmadi LNG terminal is expecting one cargo of 0.06mmt via the Bonny Island LNG-derived LNG Borno, which had a delivery horizon of 5 February at the time of writing.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes underway to destinations outside the Basin, 5mmt have a delivery horizon of 28 February, including 3.60mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.71mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.34mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility. Egypt's Idku LNG plant, meanwhile, had three cargoes totalling 0.20mmt underway at the time of writing. Neighbouring Damietta LNG had two cargoes totalling 0.15mmt underway at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

122 cargo liftings estimated this week

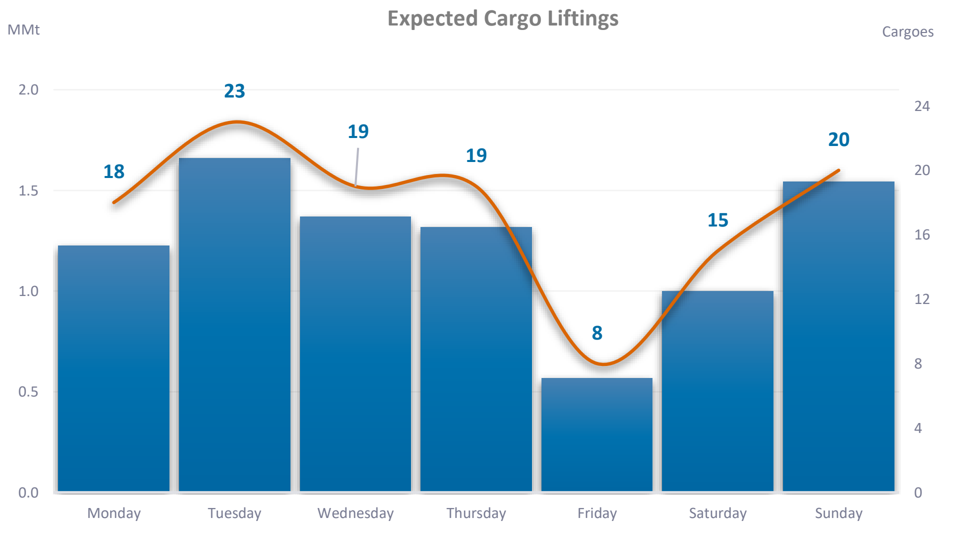
Based on our shipping data and nominal vessel capacities, we are currently expecting 122 cargo liftings amounting to 8.68mmt by the end of this week.

Pacific Basin

Our data indicate the Pacific Basin will account for 51 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 3.35mmt 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 (0.29mmt) from Pluto LNG. Meanwhile, Ichthys LNG, Australia Pacific LNG, Gladstone LNG, Queensland Curtis LNG and Wheatstone LNG are expected to ship a total of 16 cargoes amounting to 1.13mmt by the end of the week.

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to eight cargoes amounting to 0.36mmt. In neighbouring Indonesia, we think this week's exports will amount to three cargoes totalling 0.19mmt from its Tangguh 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 Amadi this week.



Source: LNG Journal

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 seven cargoes totalling 0.47mmt, according to our market visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 42 cargo loadings, with around 3.06mmt exported throughout the Basin.

In the United States, we are expecting a total of 21 cargoes (1.59mmt) to be lifted. These exports are likely to be led by Sabine Pass LNG with 0.62mmt, inter alia via the Adam LNG (0.07mmt), the BW Magnolia (0.08mmt) and the

Dorado LNG (0.08mmt). Concurrently, Corpus Christi LNG is going to ship 0.31mmt via four cargo liftings, our data suggests, whilst we expect Cameron LNG, Freeport LNG, Calcasieu Pass LNG and Cove Point LNG to ship a total of 0.66mmt via nine cargo liftings.

In South America and the Caribbean, market visibility indicated two cargo liftings totalling 0.14mmt at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Cadiz Knutsen and the Maran Gas Olympias this week.

On the other side of the Atlantic, we think up to 16 cargoes (1.17mmt) will be lifted by Sunday. In West- and North Africa, we are expecting Nigeria's Bonny Island facility to export five cargoes amounting to 0.35mmt whilst our market visibility further suggests Algeria will ship up to three cargoes amounting to 0.16mmt from its Arzew plant by Sunday. We are also expecting Angola's Soyo plant to export one cargo whilst our data point to an export from Equatorial Guinea's EG LNG. Moreover, we are currently expecting a shipment from Cameroon's FLNG facility offshore Kribi via the Energy Integrity (0.08mmt) this week.

In the Arctic, we are currently anticipating Norway's Snøhvit LNG to ship two cargoes via the Arctic Lady (0.07mmt) 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 six cargoes amounting to 0.46mmt by Sunday.

Middle East

Finally, we are expecting a total of 29 Middle Eastern cargo liftings totalling 2.27mmt by the end of the week, most of which (1.86mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Al Areesh and the Al Gattara. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to two cargoes amounting to 0.13mmt via the Hyundai Aquapia and the Palu LNG. In addition, we are expecting ADNOC's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship two cargoes totalling 0.12mmt via the Mraweh and the Sohar LNG. Finally, our shipping data suggests up to two Egyptian shipments from Idku LNG via the Seapeak Meridian and the Vasant 1 this week.

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 23 cargoes on Tuesday, followed by 20 on Sunday, whilst Friday is looking to be the least active with eight liftings ◆

Estimated Cargo Liftings (MMt)

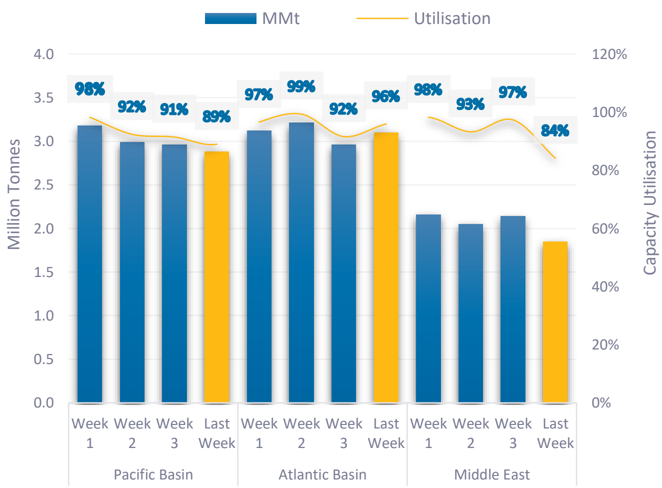
Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	0.03	0.06	-	-	-	0.06	-
	Skikda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	0.08	-	-	-	-	0.08	0.08
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	0.06	0.06	-	0.06	-	-	-
	Gorgon LNG	0.06	-	-	0.15	-	-	0.15
	Ichthys LNG	0.06	-	0.08	0.13	-	-	-
	NWS LNG	0.06	0.08	-	-	-	0.06	0.13
	Pluto LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	0.15
	Queensland Curtis	-	0.07	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Wheatstone LNG	0.07	-	-	-	-	-	0.08
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.08
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
E. Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	0.15	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.06
	Tangguh	0.08	-	-	-	0.06	-	-
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.11	0.07	0.08	0.04	0.07	0.01	-
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PFLNG Dua	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambique	Coral Sul FLNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.08	-	0.08	0.07	0.07	-	0.06
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	-
Oman	Oman LNG	-	0.07	-	0.06	-	-	-
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
PNG	PNG LNG	-	0.07	-	-	0.08	-	-
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.24	0.31	0.26	0.22	-	0.32	0.52
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	-	0.06	0.06	-	0.06	0.13	-
	Yamal LNG	-	0.15	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	-
	Portovaya LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trin. & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	-	0.06	-	0.08	-	-	-
UAE	Das Island	-	-	-	0.06	-	0.06	-
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
	Cameron LNG	0.08	0.07	0.07	-	-	-	0.08
	Freeport LNG	0.08	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.08	0.07	0.08	-	0.15	0.08	0.16
	Corpus Christi LNG	-	0.08	0.15	0.08	-	-	-
	Calcasieu Pass LNG	0.07	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1.22	1.66	1.37	1.32	0.57	1.00	1.54

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 7.83mmt last week

Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Last week's global LNG flows stood at 7.83mmt, having thus decreased by 0.23mmt (-3pct) from 8.06mmt the week prior.

Pacific Basin

The Pacific ended last week with 2.88mmt in exports, resulting in a 0.08mmt (-2.7pct) trade decrease from 2.96mmt recorded for the week before last. This, in turn, translated into capacity utilisation of 89pct. Meanwhile, week-on-week demand in the Pacific region - including domestic re-exports in Malaysia, Indonesia and China - decreased by 0.84mmt (-15pct) from 5.78mmt to 4.94mmt. As a result, last week's Pacific import capacity utilisation contracted by 11pp to 63pct.

Atlantic Basin

Concurrently, trade in the Atlantic Basin had amounted to 3.10mmt by midnight on Sunday, an 0.14mmt (5pct) increase compared to the 2.96mmt recorded for the prior week. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 96pct for last week, an increase of 4pp week-on-week. The Basin's imports, meanwhile, had increased by 0.14mmt (5pct) to 2.81mmt by Sunday. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 59pct for the week, an increase of 3pp over the week prior.

Middle East

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had seen negative weekly trade growth of 0.29mmt to 1.85mmt by midnight on Sunday. This represented a 14pct reduction from the 2.14mmt seen the week before last. As such, regional export capacity utilisation also decreased to 84pct for the week, down 13pp over the week before. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern imports saw negative weekly growth, decreasing by 0.07mmt (-32pct) to 0.15mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 25pct for the week, constituting a decrease of 11pp over the prior week.

Pacific Exports – Australia

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter by volume - Australia - shipped 1.30mmt last week, decreasing exports by 0.17mmt (-12pct) from the 1.47mmt shipped the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country thus also reduced LNG shipments by 0.15mmt (-10pct) from 1.45mmt.

Southeast Asia

Meanwhile, the Pacific's second-largest exporter by capacity - Malaysia - shipped 0.53mmt last week, and thereby decreased exports by 0.12mmt (-18pct) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia saw an increase of 0.06mmt (19pct) to 0.38mmt over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, however, Malaysia's exports still increased by 0.1mmt (23pct) from 0.43mmt whilst Indonesia's year-on-year shipments by 0.13mmt (52pct) from 0.25mmt. Elsewhere in the region, in the north of Kalimantan, there were two LNG shipments totalling 0.11mmt from Brunei LNG. The plant thus decreased exports by 0.03mmt (-21pct) from 0.11mmt the week prior whilst on a year-on-year basis it decreased exports by 0.02mmt (-15pct).

Other Pacific Exporters

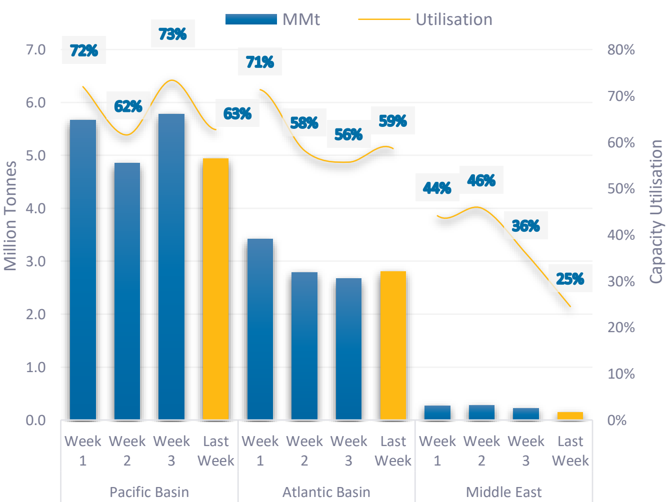
The remaining Pacific LNG exports had amounted to 0.48mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.38mmt the week prior, resulting in a 0.10mmt (26pct) increase in weekly exports. This was mainly due to Peru's Pampa Melchorita LNG increasing exports by 0.06mmt (75pct) to 0.14mmt, having shipped 0.08mmt the week prior. Papua New Guinea's PNG LNG, meanwhile, increased exports by 0.03mmt (23pct) to 0.16mmt last week. The plant had shipped 0.13mmt the week prior. Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG terminal, meanwhile, kept weekly exports steady at 0.18mmt but Singapore's LNG terminal was not seen in the market.

Far Eastern Demand

In line with lower weekly Pacific exports, Pacific demand decreased by 0.84mmt (-15pct) last week, which was led by a 0.30mmt (-24pct) offtake decrease from 1.26mmt to 0.96mmt in South Korea. Consequently, the country's demand was also down by 0.17mmt (-15pct) year-on-year. South Korea's busiest LNG terminal last week was the Incheon facility with 0.45mmt, followed by the Pyeongtaek terminal with 0.27mmt. Concurrently, LNG demand in Taiwan grew by 0.09mmt week-on-week, which also meant that on an annual basis, the country's offtake was up by 0.07mmt (16pct). Taiwan's offtakes were led by the Yung-An terminal with 0.28mmt, followed by the Taichung facility with 0.22mmt. Moreover, India saw weekly demand growth of 26pct, up by 0.05mmt to 0.24mmt from 0.19mmt the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country's imports were nonetheless down by 0.09mmt (-27pct) from 0.33mmt. In Japan, weekly imports grew by 0.16mmt (11pct) from 1.46mmt to 1.62mmt whilst the country's imports had also increased robustly by 0.20mmt (14pct) year-on-year. Meanwhile, we recorded a demand reduction in China last week, where offtakes were cut by 0.66mmt (-35pct) to 1.25mmt from 1.91mmt the week prior. Accordingly, China's imports had also decreased by 0.72mmt (-37pct) year-on-year from 1.97mmt.

Concurrently, the roster of smaller Pacific Basin buyers typically consisting of Chile, Singapore, Mexico, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar and Bangladesh slashed its collective weekly imports by 0.18mmt (-33pct) to 0.37mmt. The demand decrease was driven by absent demand in Thailand and Mexico, which had imported 0.21mmt and 0.08mmt the week prior, respectively. Demand was also lower by 0.03mmt (-33pct) to 0.06mmt in Bangladesh. Indonesia also cut offtakes by 0.10mmt (-

Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



59pct) to 0.07mmt. Deep cuts were partially offset, however, as Chile, Malaysia and Singapore saw a demand increase totalling 0.24mmt. Neither of them had seen LNG imports the week prior. Myanmar, however, continued its market absence.

Atlantic Exports – West Africa

In the Atlantic Basin, West African exporters decreased their overall shipped volumes by 0.09mmt (-13pct) last week. Algeria decreased shipments by 0.16mmt (-50pct) to 0.16mmt from 0.32mmt the week prior whilst Cameroon curtailed exports by 0.08mmt and thus did not ship any LNG. Meanwhile, the Equatorial Guinea facility maintained its weekly exports at 0.06mmt. However, a net export increase by Angola and Nigeria of 0.15mmt (58pct) cushioned the aforementioned reductions.

United States

In the United States, export plants saw the total of shipped LNG volumes expand by 0.03mmt (2pct) to 1.73mmt from 1.70mmt last week. US LNG export performance was mainly due to strong growth in shipments by 0.25mmt (41pct) to 0.86mmt at Sabine Pass LNG. The plant had shipped 0.61mmt the week prior. This was followed by an increase in exports of 0.08mmt (50pct) to 0.24mmt at Calcasieu Pass LNG. The plant had exported 0.16mmt the week prior. Corpus Christi LNG also increased weekly exports by 0.06mmt (19pct) to 0.38mmt. Export growth was nonetheless weighed down by Cameron LNG, which slashed shipped volumes by 0.24mmt (-52pct) to 0.22mmt, as well as Cove Point LNG, which reduced exports by 0.04mmt (-57pct) to 0.03mmt last week. Elba Island LNG was also not seen in the market following exports of 0.08mmt the week prior whilst Freeport LNG continued its market absence. Nevertheless, US LNG shipments outperformed their year-on-year equivalent of 1.62mmt, showing a net improvement of 0.11mmt (7pct) year-on-year.

Other Atlantic Exporters

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad saw three exports totalling 0.21mmt. Concurrently, in the Arctic, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.44mmt via five shipments from Yamal LNG. Russian LNG exports in the Atlantic Basin thereby increased by 0.20mmt (83pct) from 0.24mmt week-on-week. Snøhvit LNG in Norway shipped did not ship LNG compared to two cargoes totalling 0.13mmt the week prior.

European Demand

European buyers increased imports by 0.17mmt (6pct) to 2.66mmt last week. Notably, the United Kingdom, Spain and Turkey saw a combined weekly demand increase of 0.43mmt (51pct) to 1.27mmt. Concurrently, offtakes in Portugal and Greece were up by 0.14mmt overall. Portugal had not seen demand the week prior whilst Greece's import of 0.08mmt was up 700pct week-on-week. These increases were only tempered by decreases totalling 0.40mmt (-48pct) in France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Poland and Lithuania. Malta and Croatia, meanwhile, were again not seen in the market. Among European terminals, imports in northern Europe were led by the Isle of Grain terminal in the United Kingdom with 0.23mmt whilst, in southern Europe, Italy's Rovigo Adriatic LNG terminal was in the lead with 0.18mmt.

Other Atlantic Buyers

Meanwhile, demand of 0.15mmt in the Americas last week represented 0.05mmt (50pct) week-on-week growth following imports totalling 0.10mmt the week prior. This overall week-on-week demand picture evolved as the Dominican Republic and the United States reappeared in the market last week. The Dominican Republic took in a 0.07mmt cargo from Corpus Christi LNG whilst the United States imported a smaller contingent of 0.05mmt via a Jamaican re-export. Puerto Rico also took in 0.03mmt last week, having not been seen in the market the week prior.

Middle Eastern Exports

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.32mmt last week and thereby saw weekly exports slump by 0.34mmt (-20pct) from the 1.66mmt seen the week prior. The country also decreased exports by 0.4mmt (-23pct) from the 1.72mmt shipped this time last year. Meanwhile, Oman increased weekly exports by 0.04mmt (17pct) to 0.27mmt whilst the UAE decreased shipments by 0.01mmt (-8pct) to 0.11mmt. On a year-on-year basis, Oman also grew exports by 0.07mmt (35pct) from 0.20mmt whilst the UAE's shipments were down 0.01mmt (-8pct) from 0.12mmt. Egypt, meanwhile, increased shipped volumes by 0.02mmt (15pct) to 0.15mmt last week whilst also showing a 0.15mmt export increase year-on-year as it did not ship LNG this time last year.

Middle Eastern Demand

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week was Pakistan, which imported 0.15mmt via two cargoes. As such, the region's week-on-week demand had decreased by 0.07 from 0.22mmt the week prior. Regional demand, however, thus remained steady year-on-year ♦