LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 27 FEBRUARY 2023

Cheniere Seeks to Boost Sabine Pass LNG Capacity

Cheniere, owner and operator of the Sabine Pass LNG plant, has announced plans to significantly expand the plant as it started the regulatory approval process and engaged Bechtel Energy for Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED). Provided enough capacity bookings can be secured for FID, the Expansion will cement Sabine Pass as the foremost LNG exporter by capacity in the United States.

Cheniere Energy announced on Thursday last week that through its subsidiaries it had initiated the pre-filing review process under the National Environmental Policy Act with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the proposed Sabine Pass Stage 5 Expansion Project. The new gas liquefaction capacity will be situated adjacent to the existing Sabine Pass plant and both benefit from and enhance its capabilities. The Expansion Project's plan entails adding production capacity of almost 20 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) of LNG to the existing Sabine Pass capacity, Cheniere's press release specified. In conjunction with the FERC pre-filing review application, Cheniere has engaged Bechtel Energy to complete a Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) study.

Large-scale development

The Expansion Project is being designed to include up to three large-scale liquefaction trains. Each will have production capacity of approximately 6.5mtpa of LNG, a boil-off-gas re-liquefaction unit with an approximate production capacity of 0.75mtpa, and two 220,000m3 LNG storage tanks. In total, this means the Expansion project would add 19.5mtpa in ordinary liquefaction capacity, 2.25mtpa in boil-off-gas re-liquefaction and 1.32 million m3 in storage capacity, subject to regulatory approval. The Expansion Project is being designed with accommodations for waste heat recovery as well as carbon capture from acid gas removal units, according to Cheniere.

Milestones

However, Cheniere stressed in its press release that the Expansion's final investment decision is subject to "receipt of all required regulatory approvals and permits, and sufficient commercial and financing arrangements", i.e. sufficient capacity bookings to make the project viable. Cheniere did not provide a time horizon for when it plans the expansion to ship first LNG.

Existing infrastructure

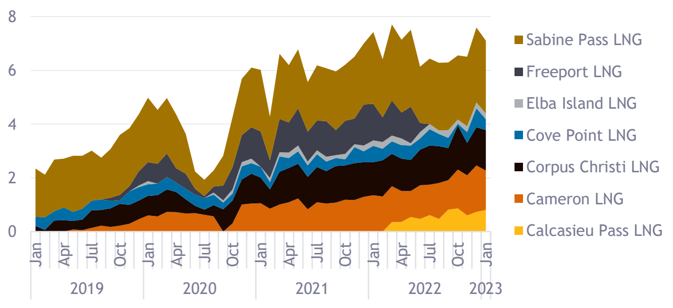
The Expansion Project is expected to benefit from significant existing Sabine Pass infrastructure and may encompass various enhancements to its current capabilities, including optimized loading of LNG onto tankers at the existing marine facilities. Feedgas earmarked for the Expansion Project is expected to be transported via a combination of new and existing pipelines currently supplying the existing Sabine Pass plant.

"As the first and largest LNG export facility in the Lower 48, Sabine Pass has pioneered an industry critical to supplying reliable, flexible, and cleaner burning natural gas to markets and customers around the world, and we look forward to significantly growing those capabilities through the SPL Expansion Project," said Jack Fusco, Chairman, President and CEO of Cheniere Partners. "The SPL Expansion Project is being designed to leverage the infrastructure platform we've built at Sabine Pass to deliver economically advantaged incremental LNG capacity in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. We are committed to developing the SPL Expansion Project utilizing the same rigorous and financially disciplined approach to project development and capital investment that's become synonymous with the Cheniere brand."

Stepping in

Sabine Pass LNG has benefitted considerably from both steep demand growth in Europe and the protracted outage of Freeport LNG in 2H 2022. The Cheniere project was able to pick up much of the slack caused by Freeport's absence, analysis of our data indicates ◆

US LNG Exports (MMt)



Source: LNG Journal

CONTENTS

LNG EXPORTS (MMT)

Pacific Basin

Week-on-Week	0.31	-9pct
Six-month change	0.00	0pct

Atlantic Basin

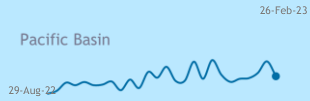
Week-on-Week	1.38	-31pct
Six-month change	0.09	3pct

Middle East

Week-on-Week	0.49	-20pct
Six-month change	0.35	-15pct

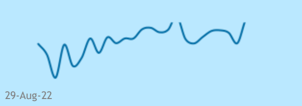
LNG IMPORTS (MMT)

Pacific Basin



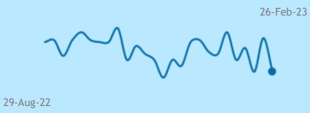
Week-on-Week	1.19	-16pct
Six-month change	1.33	27pct

Atlantic Basin



Week-on-Week	0.32	8pct
Six-month change	1.32	42pct

Middle East



Week-on-Week	0.17	-59pct
Six-month change	0.15	-56pct

Expected Deliveries this Week

South Korea to push past Japan with 1.69mmt at current market visibility

Pacific Basin

LNG Imports in the Pacific Basin are likely to amount to 5.72mmt, according to our data at the time of writing, constituting an increase of 9pct compared to the previous week's total of 6.17mmt. The Pacific's imports this week are likely going to be led by South Korea (1.69mmt), Japan (1.64mmt) and China (1.01mmt) whilst five cargoes totalling 0.33mmt had yet to confirm their destination but were broadly directed to within the Basin at the time of writing.

South Korea

Current market visibility indicates the largest share of LNG destined to arrive in South Korea by Sunday is derived from Australia via six cargoes totalling 0.36mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to South Korea have sailed via, inter alia, the Hanjin Pyeongtaek, the LNG Kolt and the LNG Jupiter. Our analysis indicates these deliveries to have been completed by Sunday. Concurrently, our market visibility highlights that the Incheon and Tongyeong terminals will be South Korea's busiest this week on imports of 0.50mmt (32pct) and 0.28mmt (18pct), respectively. In addition to Australia's shipments, we are also expecting South Korea to receive 21 cargoes totalling 1.33mmt from, inter alia, Malaysia, Qatar and Papua New Guinea. Our data thus indicate South Korea's expected cumulative LNG imports of 1.69mmt this week are likely to have increased by 0.14mmt (9pct) from 1.55mmt last week and increased by 0.39mmt (30pct) from 1.30mmt year-on-year.

Japan

The most significant origin of LNG destined to arrive in Japan by volume this week is also Australia via 12 cargoes totalling 0.78mmt. Most of Australia's shipments to Japan have sailed from NWS LNG (0.22mmt, 28pct) and Wheatstone LNG (0.2mmt, 26pct), inter alia, via the Northwest Sanderling, the Northwest Snipe and the Pacific Mimosa. We are currently expecting these shipments to arrive by Friday, with the Chita and Higashi-Ogishima terminals set to be Japan's busiest this week on imports of 0.35mmt (22pct) and 0.25mmt (16pct), respectively. In addition to Most of Australia's shipments, we are currently tracking 15 cargoes totalling 0.86mmt led by Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Russia, which we expect to arrive in Japan by Sunday. We, therefore, think Japan's weekly LNG offtake is likely to have decreased by 0.28mmt (-15pct) from 1.92mmt last week but increased by 0.11mmt (7pct) from 1.53mmt year-on-year.

China

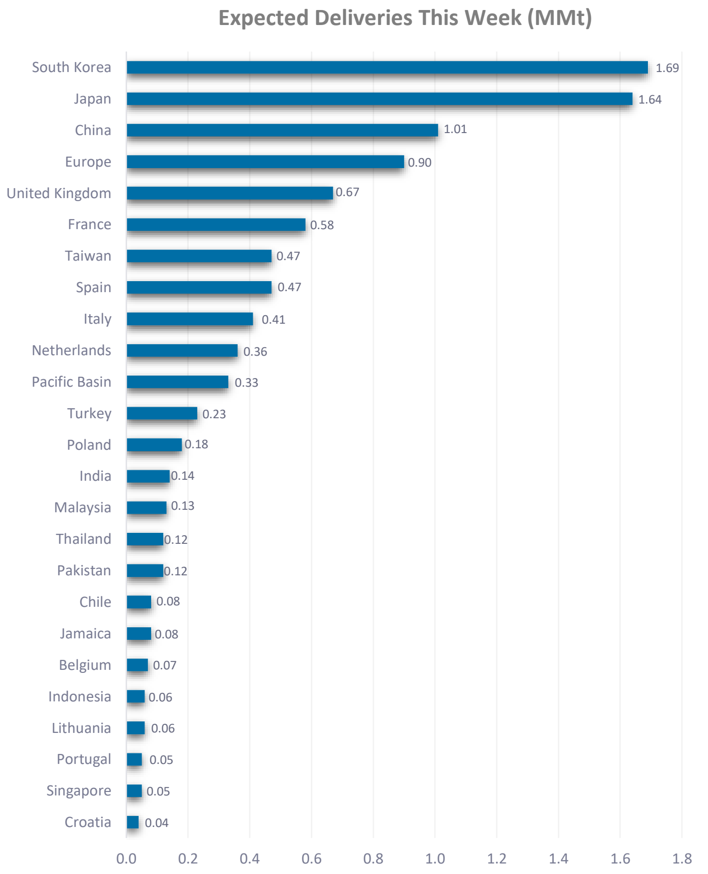
Meanwhile, the largest share of expected deliveries to China is equally coming from Australia via seven cargoes totalling 0.44mmt this week. Australia's volumes have sailed, inter alia, from Australia Pacific LNG via the CESI Tianjin. We expect these China-bound shipments to arrive by Friday. We are also expecting eight cargoes totalling 0.57mmt from, inter alia, Qatar, Russia and Malaysia to arrive in China this week, with the Guangdong Dapeng LNG and Caofeidian LNG terminals set to be the busiest on imports of 0.18mmt (18pct) and 0.10mmt (10pct), respectively. Based on our market visibility, we expect the country's weekly imports to have decreased by 0.38mmt (-27pct) from 1.39mmt last week and decreased by 0.87mmt (-46pct) from 1.88mmt year-on-year.

Atlantic Basin

Demand in the Atlantic Basin is likely to reach 4.10mmt this week, our data indicated at the time of writing, constituting a decrease of 8pct from the 4.46mmt of regional imports last week. At least 54pct are destined for the United Kingdom (0.67mmt), France (0.58mmt) and Spain (0.47mmt) whilst 0.90mmt 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 five cargoes totalling 0.36mmt. The bulk of these shipments have sailed from Corpus Christi LNG (0.22mmt, 33pct) and Sabine Pass LNG (0.07mmt, 10pct) via, inter alia, the Ribera del Duero Knutsen and the Woodside Rees Withers. Our



Source: LNG Journal

data peg their delivery horizon at 3 March. Apart from the United States' exports, we are also expecting the United Kingdom to receive four additional cargoes totalling 0.31mmt from Angola by the end of the week. Concurrently, our market visibility indicates the Isle of Grain and South Hook LNG terminals will be the United Kingdom's busiest this week on imports of 0.35mmt (52pct) and 0.24mmt (36pct), respectively. Our data thus suggest the United Kingdom's cumulative LNG offtake this week is likely to have decreased by 0.15mmt (-18pct) week-on-week but increased by 0.24mmt (56pct) year-on-year.

France

Our current market visibility further indicates the most significant source of supply of LNG to France this week is the United States via five cargoes totalling 0.37mmt. Most of these volumes shipped from Cameron LNG via the Minerva Limnos and the Diamond Gas Orchid, which are due at the Fos-sur-Mer LNG and Dunkerque Le Clipton terminals, respectively. In addition to the US cargoes, we are expecting 0.21mmt to arrive from Russia, Angola and Norway. Accordingly, France is likely to see week-on-week offtakes decrease by 0.12mmt (-17pct) from 0.70mmt but increase by 0.09mmt (18pct) year-on-year from 0.49mmt this time last year.

Spain

Meanwhile, our data indicate the largest single share of expected deliveries to Spain is going to be coming from the United States via four cargoes totalling 0.31mmt this week. The United States' shipments sailed, inter alia, from Sabine Pass LNG via the Shaolin and from Freeport LNG via LNG Rosenrot. The vessels are due to arrive at the Barcelona and Sagunto terminals, respectively. Spain is also scheduled to receive one additional cargo each via the Bonny Island-derived LNG Finima II, the Damietta-sailed Maran Gas Efessos and via a Skikda LNG export aboard the Cheikh Bouamama. Together these shipments amount to 0.16mmt. We are expecting the Barcelona and Sagunto terminals to lead Spain's imports this week with 0.29mmt (62pct) and 0.18mmt (38pct), respectively. Our data thus indicate Spanish LNG demand this week is going to decrease by

0.06mmt (-11pct) week-on-week following imports of 0.53mmt last week, and by 0.14mmt (23pct) year-on-year, the country having imported 0.61mmt this time last year.

Middle East

Our data also indicate demand in the Middle East is likely to reach 0.12mmt this week via two cargoes, constituting a decrease of 0pct from the 0.12mmt of regional imports last week.

Pakistan is looking to comprise regional demand with expected imports of 0.12mmt via two cargoes aboard the Ras Laffan-derived Al Wajbah and Al Jasra LNGCs. These anticipated deliveries indicate Pakistan is likely to see weekly demand remain steady both week-on-week and year-on-year ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently, 16.90mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 24 March

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 16.90mmt, representing a decrease of 4.18mmt (-20pct) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 24 March.

Pacific Basin

Our current market visibility indicates 8.35mmt are destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby South Korea's Pyeongtaek terminal is in the lead with 0.75mmt and a delivery horizon of 15 March currently set by the Hyundai Princepia. Of the 8.35mmt currently in transit, 2.77mmt (33pct) have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 24 March.

At the time of writing, Malaysia LNG topped the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.81mmt currently in transit, followed by Wheatstone LNG with 0.53mmt and Gorgon LNG with 0.47mmt via, inter alia, the Aman Sendai, the Asia Energy and the Asia Vision, respectively. The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's leading three plants was 24 March at the time of writing.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, is due to receive 4.04mmt by 18 March, our data indicates. Firmed-up Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.64mmt destined for United Kingdom's Isle of Grain terminal with a delivery horizon of 18 March.

As with the Pacific Basin, there remain 2.39mmt of in-transit LNG cargoes that have yet to confirm their destinations. Around 2.39mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 24 March.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Sabine Pass LNG was the lead with 1.62mmt, followed by Corpus Christi LNG with 1.12mmt and Cameron LNG with 0.99mmt. These cargoes are aboard, inter alia, the Adam LNG, the Q-Flex Al Safliya and the BW Pavilion Aranda. The delivery horizon for all in-transit exports by Atlantic Basin plants was 24 March at the time of writing.

Middle East

Meanwhile, our data indicate there is a total of three cargoes – 0.18mmt – currently headed for Pakistan. In addition to the cargoes scheduled for arrival this week as outlined above, Pakistan's Port Qasim LNG terminal is expecting one cargo of 0.06mmt aboard the Bonny Island-sailed LNG Kano, which had a delivery horizon of 14 March at the time of writing.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes underway to destinations outside the Basin, 3.95mmt have a delivery horizon of 18 March, including 3.25mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.46mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.12mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility. Egypt's Idku LNG plant, meanwhile, had one1 cargo of 0.06mmt via the Maran Gas Spetses underway at the time of writing. Neighbouring Damietta LNG had one cargo of 0.06mmt underway via the Maran Gas Efessos at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

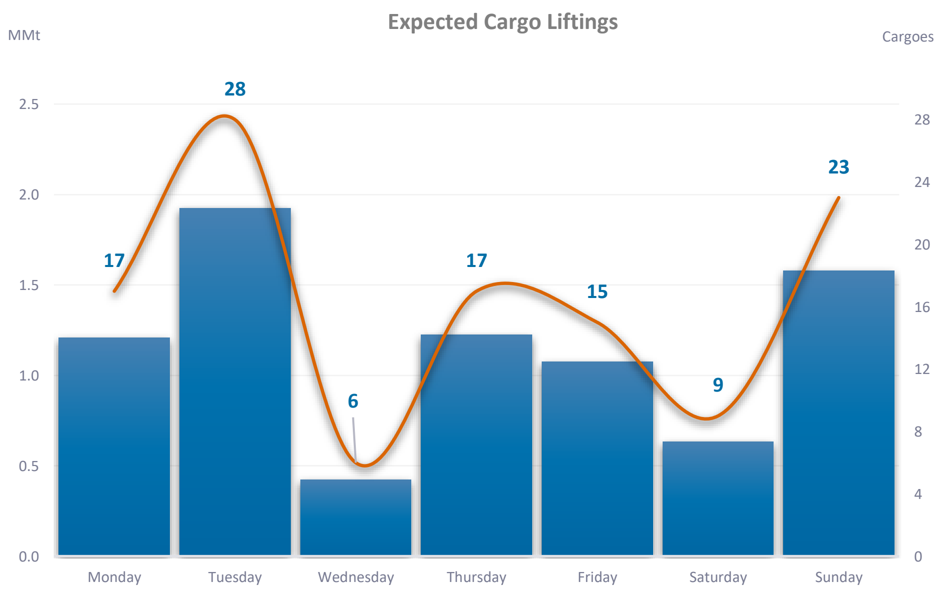
115 cargo liftings estimated this week

Based on our shipping data and nominal vessel capacities, we are currently expecting 115 cargo liftings amounting to 8.07mmt by the end of this week.

Pacific Basin

Our data indicate the Pacific Basin will account for 41 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 2.71mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday.

In Australia, we are expecting Gorgon LNG to lead the continent's exports with four cargoes amounting to 0.29mmt, according to nominal vessel capacity. Concurrently, LNG Journal data points to NWS LNG shipping four cargoes (0.27mmt), followed by three cargoes (0.23mmt) from Australia Pacific LNG. Meanwhile, Queensland Curtis LNG, Gladstone LNG, Wheatstone LNG, Prelude FLNG and Pluto LNG are expected to ship a total of eight cargoes amounting to 0.55mmt by the end of the week.



Source: LNG Journal

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to 11 cargoes amounting to 0.58mmt. In neighbouring Indonesia, we think this week's exports will amount to four cargoes totalling 0.27mmt from its Tangguh and Bontang plants. Additionally, based on our market visibility, we are expecting Brunei LNG to ship one cargo of 0.07mmt via the Amani 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 0.29mmt, according to our market visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 48 cargo loadings, with around 3.49mmt exported throughout the Basin.

In the United States, we are expecting a total of 29 cargoes (2.17mmt) to be lifted. These exports are likely to be led by Sabine Pass LNG with 0.60mmt, inter alia via the Castillo De Merida (0.08mmt), the GasLog Gladstone (0.08mmt) and the GasLog Glasgow (0.08mmt). Concurrently, Freeport LNG is going to ship 0.53mmt via seven cargo liftings, our data suggests, whilst we expect Cameron LNG, Corpus Christi LNG, Calcasieu Pass LNG and Cove Point LNG to ship a total of 1.04mmt via 14 cargo liftings.

In South America and the Caribbean, market visibility indicated three cargo liftings totalling 0.21mmt at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the BW Magnolia, the Cool Rover and the Methane Princess 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 six cargoes amounting to 0.41mmt whilst our market visibility further suggests Algeria will ship up to four cargoes amounting to 0.24mmt from its Arzew and Skikda plants 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. 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 26 Middle Eastern cargo liftings totalling 1.87mmt by the end of the week, most of which (1.35mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Al Hamla and the Al Khattiya. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to four cargoes amounting to 0.26mmt via the Hanjin Sur, the LNG Jamal, the Seapeak Magellan and the SK Splendor. In addition, we are expecting ADNOC's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship two cargoes totalling 0.12mmt via the Al Khaznah and the Mubaraz. Finally, our shipping data indicate one shipment each from Egypt's Idku LNG and Damietta SEGAS this week.

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 28 cargoes on Tuesday, followed by 23 on Sunday, whilst Wednesday is looking to be the least active with six liftings ◆

Estimated Cargo Liftings (MMt)

Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	-	0.06	-	-	0.08	-	0.06
	Skikda	0.03	-	-	-	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	-	0.08	-	0.08	-	-	0.08
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	0.06	-	-	-	-	0.07
	Gorgon LNG	0.07	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.15
	Ichthys LNG	-	-	-	-	-	0.06	-
	NWS LNG	-	0.07	-	0.06	-	0.06	0.07
	Pluto LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Queensland Curtis	-	-	-	0.08	-	0.08	-
	Wheatstone LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Prelude FLNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E. Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	-	-	0.08	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	-	-	0.08	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tangguh	-	0.06	-	-	0.07	-	0.06
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.13	0.21	-	-	-	-	0.24
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PFLNG Dua	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambique	Coral Sul FLNG	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.08	0.08	-	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.06
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
Oman	Oman LNG	0.06	0.06	-	-	0.07	-	0.06
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
PNG	PNG LNG	0.07	-	-	0.08	0.08	-	-
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.28	0.40	0.06	0.12	0.12	-	0.36
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	0.06	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Yamal LNG	0.08	0.08	-	-	0.08	-	-
	Portovaya LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trin. & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	0.06	-	-	0.07	-	-	0.08
UAE	Das Island	-	-	-	-	-	0.06	0.06
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	0.07	-	-	0.08	-	-	-
	Cameron LNG	0.07	0.08	-	-	0.29	-	-
	Freeport LNG	-	0.23	-	0.15	0.07	-	0.08
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.06	-	0.15	0.08	-	0.23	0.08
	Corpus Christi LNG	-	0.15	0.07	-	-	-	0.08
	Calcasieu Pass LNG	0.08	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	**1.21**	**1.92**	**0.42**	**1.22**	**1.08**	**0.63**	**1.58**

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 8.30mmt last week

Last week's global LNG flows stood at 8.26mmt, having thus decreased by 2.18mmt (-21pct) from 10.44mmt the week prior.

Pacific Basin

The Pacific ended last week with 3.27mmt in exports, resulting in a 0.31mmt (-8.7pct) trade decrease from 3.58mmt recorded for the week before last. This, in turn, translated into capacity utilisation of 102pct. Meanwhile, week-on-week demand in the Pacific region – including domestic re-exports in Malaysia, Indonesia and China – decreased by 1.19mmt (-16pct) from 7.36mmt to 6.17mmt. As a result, last week's Pacific import capacity utilisation contracted by 14pp to 70pct.

Atlantic Basin

Concurrently, trade in the Atlantic Basin had amounted to 3.01mmt by midnight on Sunday, a 1.38mmt (-31pct) decrease compared to the 4.39mmt recorded for the prior week. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 86pct for last week, a decrease of 39pp week-on-week. The Basin's imports, meanwhile, had increased by 0.32mmt (8pct) to 4.46mmt by Sunday. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 80pct for the week, an increase of 6pp over the week prior.

Middle East

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had seen negative weekly trade growth of 0.49mmt to 1.98mmt by midnight on Sunday. This represented a 20pct reduction from the 2.47mmt seen the week before last. As such, regional export capacity utilisation also decreased to 90pct for the week, down 22pp over the week before. Meanwhile, Middle Eastern imports saw negative weekly growth, decreasing by 0.17mmt (-59pct) to 0.12mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 11pct for the week, constituting a decrease of 15pp over the prior week.

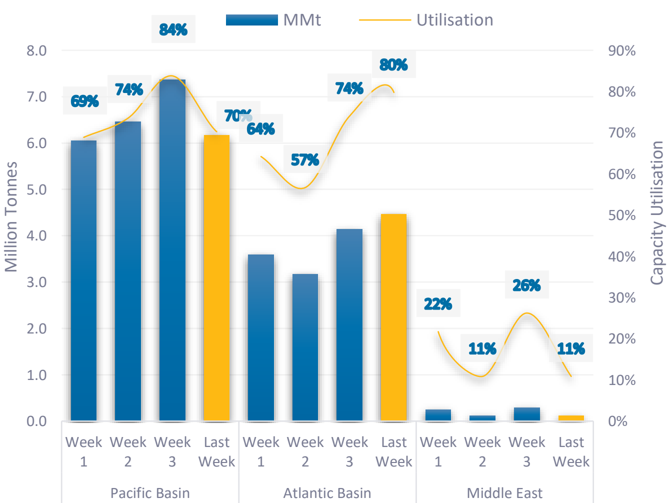
Pacific Exports – Australia

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter by volume – Australia – shipped 1.81mmt last week, increasing exports by 0.10mmt (6pct) from the 1.71mmt shipped the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country nevertheless reduced LNG shipments slightly by 0.02mmt (-1pct) from 1.83mmt.

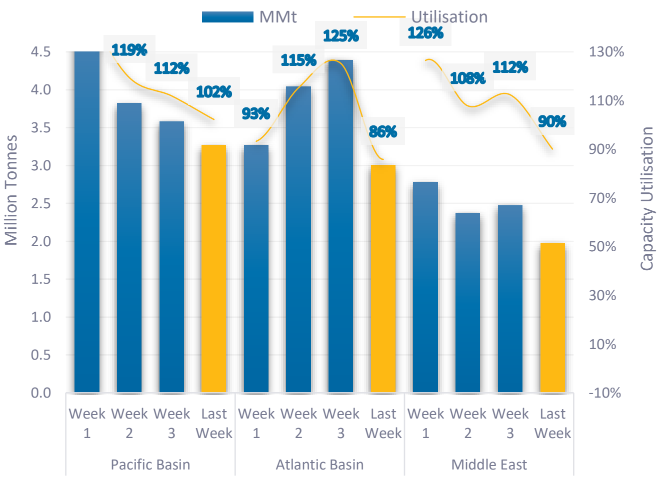
Southeast Asia

Meanwhile, the Pacific's second-largest exporter by capacity – Malaysia – shipped 0.58mmt last week, and thereby decreased exports by 0.31mmt (-35pct) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia saw a reduction of 0.07mmt (-23pct) to 0.23mmt over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, however, Malaysia's exports thus also decreased by 0.12mmt (-17pct) from 0.70mmt whilst Indonesia's year-on-year shipments by 0.03mmt (-12pct) from 0.26mmt.

Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Elsewhere in the region, in the north of Kalimantan, there was one LNG shipment of 0.07mmt from Brunei LNG. The plant thus decreased exports by 0.05mmt (-42pct) from 0.07mmt the week prior whilst on a year-on-year basis it decreased exports by 0.06mmt (-46pct).

Other Pacific Exporters

The remaining Pacific LNG exports had amounted to 0.42mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.56mmt the week prior, resulting in a 0.14mmt (-25pct) decrease in weekly exports. This was mainly due to Papua New Guinea's PNG LNG decreasing exports by 0.07mmt (-32pct) to 0.15mmt, having shipped 0.22mmt the week prior. Peru's Pampa Melchorita LNG also decreased its weekly exports by 0.08mmt (-50pct) to 0.08mmt. Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG, meanwhile, increased weekly shipments by 0.01mmt (6pct) to 0.19mmt. Singapore's LNG terminal, however, was not seen in the market with an export.

Far Eastern Demand

In line with lower weekly Pacific exports, Pacific demand decreased by 1.19mmt (-16pct) last week, which was led by a 0.07mmt (5pct) offtake increase from 1.48mmt to 1.55mmt in South Korea. Consequently, the country's demand was also up by 0.25mmt (19pct) year-on-year. South Korea's busiest LNG terminal last week was the Incheon facility with 0.46mmt, followed by the Pyeongtaek terminal with 0.43mmt. Concurrently, LNG demand in Taiwan decreased by 0.23mmt week-on-week, which also meant that on an annual basis the country's offtake was down by 0.30mmt (-50pct). Taiwan's offtakes were led by the Yung-an terminal with 0.24mmt, followed by the Taichung facility with 0.06mmt. Moreover, India saw its weekly demand decline of 49pct, down by 0.23mmt to 0.24mmt from 0.47mmt the week prior. On a year-on-year basis, the country's imports were thus also down by 0.16mmt (-40pct) from 0.40mmt. In Japan, weekly imports decreased by 0.15mmt (-7pct) from 2.07mmt to 1.92mmt whilst the country's imports had increased robustly by 0.39mmt (25pct) year-on-year. Meanwhile, we recorded a demand reduction in China last week, where offtakes were cut by 0.28mmt (-17pct) to 1.39mmt from 1.67mmt the week prior. Accordingly, China's imports had also decreased by 0.49mmt (-26pct) year-on-year from 1.88mmt.

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 0.38mmt (-37pct) to 0.64mmt. The demand decrease was driven by a deep cut to demand by 0.23mmt (-82pct) in Malaysia following imports of 0.28mmt the week prior. Concurrently, Indonesia was not seen in the market following offtakes of 0.13mmt the week prior. Singapore, meanwhile, more than halved offtakes by 0.09mmt (-

53pct) as it only imported a single cargo of 0.08mmt. Thailand also saw weaker week-on-week demand of 0.24mmt, which was down 0.03mmt (-11pct). Chile, however, reappeared in the market with an import of 0.08mmt whilst Bangladesh saw demand growth of 0.02mmt (12pct) to 0.19mmt. Mexico and Myanmar were market-absent.

Atlantic Exports – West Africa

In the Atlantic Basin, West African exporters curtailed their overall shipped volumes by 0.29mmt (-30pct) last week. Angola decreased shipments by 0.14mmt (-67pct) to 0.07mmt from 0.21mmt the week prior alongside a week-on-week reduction of 0.13mmt (-41pct) to 0.19mmt in Algeria. Nigeria reduced shipments more moderately by 0.09mmt (-26pct) to 0.26mmt. Equatorial Guinea, on the other hand, maintained LNG shipments at 0.08mmt whilst Cameroon was again seen in the market with a 0.07mmt shipment.

United States

In the United States, export plants saw the total of shipped LNG volumes contract by 0.86mmt (-35pct) from 2.44mmt to 1.58mmt last week. US LNG export performance was mainly due to a slashing of shipments by 0.40mmt (-43pct) to 0.52mmt at Sabine Pass LNG. The plant had shipped 0.92mmt the week prior. This was compounded by a decrease in exports of 0.19mmt (-36pct) to 0.34mmt at Corpus Christi LNG. Calcasieu Pass LNG also decreased weekly exports by 0.16mmt (-57pct) to 0.12mmt whilst Freeport LNG reduced its shipped volumes by 0.07mmt (-32pct) to 0.15mmt. These reductions were compounded by a cut to cargo loadings by 0.06mmt (-43pct) to 0.08mmt at Cove Point LNG. Cameron LNG had also only shipped 0.30mmt by the end of last week, down 0.05mmt (-14pct) from the 0.35mmt seen the week prior. These reductions were only slightly cushioned by renewed exports from Elba Island LNG, which shipped one cargo of 0.07mmt last week. As such, US LNG shipments did not outperform their year-on-year equivalent of 1.59mmt, leaving a gap of 0.01mmt (-1pct) year-on-year.

Other Atlantic Exporters

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad saw two exports totalling 0.15mmt. Concurrently, in the Arctic, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.43mmt via five shipments from Yamal LNG. Russian LNG exports in the Atlantic Basin thereby decreased by 0.04mmt (-9pct) from 0.47mmt the week prior. Snøhvit LNG in Norway shipped one LNG cargo of 0.06mmt last week, down by 0.06mmt (-50pct) week-on-week.

European Demand

European buyers increased imports by 0.02mmt (0.5pct) to 3.98mmt last week. Notably, the United Kingdom, France and Spain saw a combined weekly demand increase of 0.60mmt (41pct) to 2.05mmt. Concurrently, offtakes in Greece were up by 0.20mmt following no imports the week prior. Portugal and Poland also increased their collective imports by 0.13mmt. These increases were only tempered by decreases totalling 0.91mmt (-38ct) in Belgium, Italy, Turkey, the Netherlands and Lithuania. Croatia kept its weekly offtakes steady at 0.07mmt. Among European terminals, imports in northern Europe were led by the South Hook LNG terminal in the United Kingdom with 0.38mmt whilst in southern Europe, Turkey's Izmir LNG terminal was in the lead with 0.27mmt.

Other Atlantic Buyers

Meanwhile, Atlantic buyers in North- and South America, as well as the Caribbean, increased imports by 0.27mmt following absent demand the week prior. This overall week-on-week demand picture evolved as Colombia took in a rare cargo of 0.08mmt alongside renewed demand of 0.08mmt in the Dominican Republic, 0.06mmt in Puerto Rico and 0.05mmt in the United States. However, we did not record LNG demand elsewhere in the Americas last week.

Middle Eastern Exports

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.59mmt last week and thereby saw 1.79mmt seen the week prior. The country, however, still increased exports by 0.29mmt (22pct) from the 1.30mmt shipped this time last year. Meanwhile, Oman decreased weekly exports by 0.05mmt (-19pct) to 0.21mmt whilst the UAE kept exports steady at 0.12mmt. On a year-on-year basis, Oman also decreased exports by 0.04mmt (-16pct) to 0.21mmt whilst the UAE's shipments increased by 0.05mmt (72pct) from 0.07mmt. Egypt, meanwhile, decreased shipped volumes by 0.24mmt (-80pct) to 0.06mmt last week whilst also showing a 0.06mmt (-50pct) export decrease from 0.12mmt year-on-year.

Middle Eastern Demand

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week was Pakistan, which imported 0.12mmt via two cargoes. Both shipments were supplied from Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex. As such, the region's week-on-week demand had decreased by 0.17mmt (-59pct) from 0.29mmt the week prior. Regional demand had also decreased by 0.07mmt (-37pct) year-on-year from 0.19mmt this time last year ◆