NEW

LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 26 MAY 2020

Qatar's Commitment to Sustained LNG Output Does Not Mean Business as Usual

Qatar confirmed it will not reduce LNG loadings from its massive 77mtpa Ras Laffan LNG complex even as global gas prices remain at historic lows – the LNG powerhouse is confident it can wait out its competition, we think. However, whereas historically Qatar's most significant markets have been Asian demand growth centres, wobbly demand there compelled at least a temporary pivot towards North Europe and the Middle East, our data shows. Meanwhile, OPEX cuts are in the offing, too.

Speaking at a US-Qatar Business Council (USQBC) virtual briefing on 21 May, Qatar's energy minister and head of Qatar Petroleum, Saad al-Kaabi, gave the customary message the Middle Eastern LNG powerhouse: "We are in it for the long-haul".

Qatar reinforces its ambitions as market leader by refusing output cuts

Reiterating its commitment to unwavering LNG output, al-Kaabi confirmed there would be "absolutely no way" his country would cut back on LNG exports, asserting there would be something "drastically wrong" in the LNG market were that to happen.

Implied strategy is to wait out the competition

In our view, Qatar's strategy as implied by al-Kaabi's comments seems to be to wait other producers out, with the country's low-cost production able to compete until other more expensive producers are forced to throw in the towel. Were that to happen, al-Kaabi sees Qatari LNG receiving a price uplift due to reduced supply: "If a lot of people stopped their production, we'd probably get a better price boost," he said.

But wobbly demand is hurting all producers

However, he acknowledged that lacking demand following coronavirus-related economic shutdowns is hurting all producers, including Qatar. Going forward, the country faces risk in the form of a reduction in term contract prices, which are oil indexed. Qatar's LNG supply contracts are typically prices based on the moving average of a certain indexation period so that falling oil prices in one month will impact netbacks several months down the line. Still, al-Kaabi asserted that Qatar has a larger capacity to withstand "price pain" than most, agreeing that even cutting prices to defend market share was "something [one] could do".

Qatar compelled to pivot towards Europe and Middle East in March/April and introduce OPEX cuts

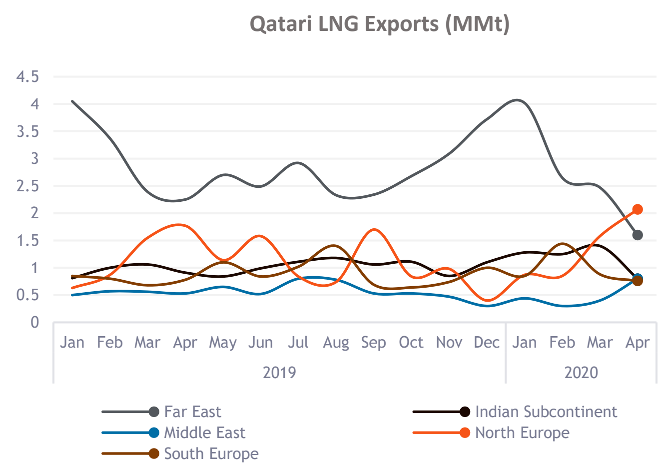
At the time of writing, Qatar Petroleum was planning to cut capital and operating expenses by a third in June, which includes delaying low priority maintenance. Meanwhile, the country's LNG shipments have had to pivot away from the Far East and India and towards North Europe and the Middle East in March and April.

Our data indicates weaker year-on-year demand in the Far East for month of May

Although our current market visibility indicates exports to the Far East will have recovered somewhat by the end of the month, at currently slightly more than 2.3mmt shipped to the region we think overall volumes are likely to come in below the 2.7mmt seen in May 2019.

Qatar Petroleum holds firm on expansion plans

Beyond supply from existing capacity, Qatar is also holding firm on plans to add four trains to its existing 14. The four new trains are designed to add combined capacity of 32mtpa as the North Field expansion project boosts feedgas deliveries. Development drilling at the North Field East Project's first phase began last month, Qatar Petroleum announced.



Source: LNG Journal

CONTENTS

Feature	1
Expected Deliveries	2
LNG in Transit	3
Cargo Liftings	3
Trade Last Week	5

WEEKLY TRADE

Global	-8.9%
Pacific	-5.9%
Atlantic	-9.6%
Middle East	-15.9%

WEEKLY EXPORTS

Pacific	6.9%
Atlantic	-23.2%
Middle East	-9%

WEEKLY IMPORTS

Pacific	-12.3%
Atlantic	7%
Middle East	-44.6%

"We are going full steam ahead with the North Field expansion projects to raise Qatar's LNG production capacity from 77 million today to 110 million tons per annum by 2025 and 126 million tons per annum by 2027," al-Kaabi said during the USQBC webinar, adding that the commercial bids for the expansion's onshore facilities will be received by September and that contracts will be awarded by the end of 2020

But risk of delays increased

Notably, the technical bidding process should have already been completed, but the deadline was extended after bidders requested a delay due to the protracted coronavirus upheaval. ExxonMobil, Total and Shell – all legacy partners in Qatar's existing LNG capacity – were named as companies invited to join the expansion project last year. Al-Kaabi asserted that the LNG expansion project would proceed though Qatar Petroleum was forced to push back the target for first gas from the expansion to 2025 ◆

Expected Deliveries this Week

China maintains top spot among known destinations for this week's LNG deliveries with 1.18mmt

Pacific Basin

We are currently expecting 5.34mmt to be delivered within the Pacific Basin by the end of this week, constituting a decrease of 2% over our expectation at this point last week. At least 61% are destined for China (1.18mmt), Japan (1.14mmt) and South Korea (0.93mmt) whilst 1.28mmt are still without a confirmed destination within the Basin.

China

Current market visibility suggests the largest share of LNG scheduled to arrive in China within this week is coming from Australia (0.49mmt, 42%) under contracts with Wheatstone LNG (0.14mmt, 12%), followed by NWS LNG (0.13mmt, 11%). Among LNGCs currently under way, the Dapeng Star and the Maran Gas Amphipolis are scheduled to dock at the Guangdong Dapeng LNG and Zhejiang LNG terminals by Tuesday and Monday, respectively. China's current import schedule suggests offtakes are likely to decrease by 0.29mt (-20%) week-on-week but increase slightly by 0.04mmt (4%) year-on-year.

Japan

The largest single source of LNG destined to arrive in Japan within this week is Australia's NWS LNG (0.33mmt, 29%), followed by Ichthys LNG (0.13mmt, 11%). Of LNGCs currently en route, we expect the Alto Acrux to arrive at Higashi-Ogishima on Tuesday whilst the Seishu Maru is expected at the same terminal on Thursday. We currently see Japan's imports increasing by 0.41mmt (56%) week-on-week but decreasing by 0.29mmt (-20%) year-on-year.

South Korea

Meanwhile, expected deliveries to South Korea are mainly coming from Qatar, with the country currently directing 0.54mmt to the peninsula via, inter alia, the SK Supreme – expected at Incheon – and the Hyundai Technopia headed for Tongyeong for arrival on Thursday. Additionally, we see South Korea receiving a total of six cargoes from Australia (0.14mmt), the United States (0.07mmt), Russia (0.06mmt), Oman (0.06mmt) and Malaysia (0.06mmt). South Korea's imports are likely to increase considerably by 0.21mmt (30%) week-on-week but decrease slightly by 0.05mmt (-5%) year-on-year.

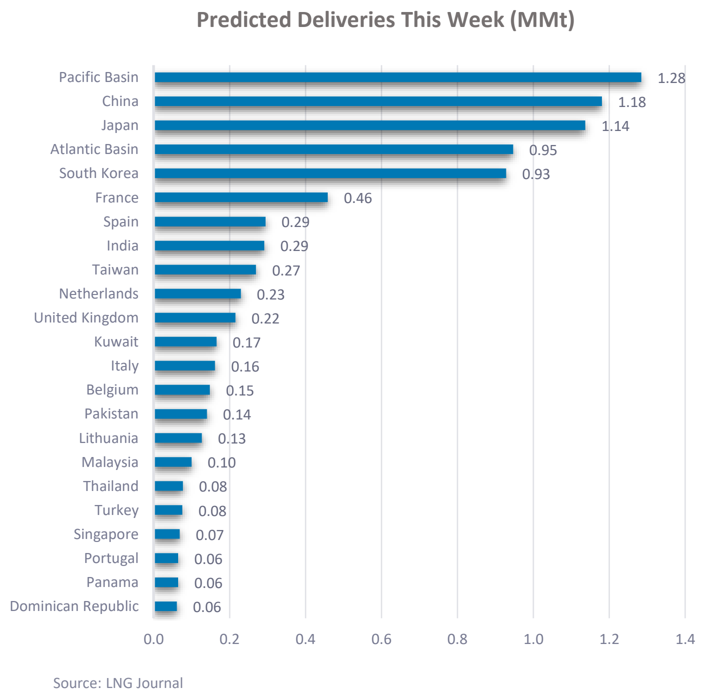
Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin is currently expected to receive 2.85mmt by the end of this week, constituting an increase of 16% week-on-week. Roughly 0.95mmt are still without a clear destination within the Basin, whilst 35% are destined for France (0.46mmt), Spain (0.29mmt) and Netherlands (0.23mmt).

France

France's currently expected LNG deliveries within this week are mainly coming from Russia's Yamal LNG (0.15mmt, 34%). The Russian cargoes sailed aboard the Nikolay Yevgenov as well as the Vladimir Rusanov and our data indicate their scheduled arrivals at Montoir-de-Bretagne on Tuesday and Friday, respectively.

Our data also indicate the country is anticipating 0.14mmt to arrive from Nigeria's Bonny Island LNG as well as a 0.10mmt cargo from Qatar's Ras Laffan complex.



Source: LNG Journal

We see the Nigerian shipments aboard the LNG Borno and the LNG Abalamabie arriving at Montoir and Dunkerque by Wednesday, respectively, whilst the Qatari consignment aboard the Q-Flex Al Ghashamiya is currently scheduled for arrival at Fos-sur-Mer on Monday.

Consequently, France is looking to take the lead in terms of European cargo destinations this week, even as our data is indicating a slight weekly demand decrease of 0.03mmt (-6%). Meanwhile, on a year-on-year basis, the country is likely to see offtakes increase by 0.09mmt (23%).

Spain

Concurrently, market visibility indicates Spain's imminent LNG imports of 0.29mmt consist of two Russian cargoes (0.15mmt., 52%) and one shipment each from the United States and Nigeria. We see the two Russian shipments aboard the Fedor Litke (0.08mmt) and the Georgiy Brusilov (0.08mmt) arriving at the Bahia de Bizkaia LNG terminal on Tuesday and Sunday, respectively. Meanwhile, we expect the United States cargo – deriving from Corpus Christi LNG via the Adriano Knutsen (0.07mmt) – to arrive at Huelva on Monday with the Nigerian shipment aboard the LNG Rivers (0.06mmt) arriving at Sagunto on Monday.

LNG volumes flowing into Spain are thus likely to decrease by 0.05mmt (-14%) week-on-week whilst remaining broadly steady at 0.28mmt year-on-year.

Netherlands

The Atlantic Basin's third largest importer this week – the

Netherlands – is anticipating imminent LNG deliveries of 0.23mmt to derive via two Nigerian shipments aboard the Methane Julia Louise and the BW Pavilion Aranda, which our market visibility indicates will arrive at Rotterdam's Maasvlakte Gate terminal on Tuesday and Sunday, respectively. Concurrently, the Yamal LNG-controlled Georgiy Ushakov is going to deliver a 0.08mmt cargo to Rotterdam on Sunday, our data indicates.

Based on the current delivery horizon, the Netherlands will see weekly LNG imports increase by 0.08mmt (55%) week-on-week whilst we see the country's imports increasing by 0.08mmt (55%) year-on-year.

Middle East

In the Middle East, we are anticipating four cargo arrivals this week. Our shipping data indicates Kuwait's Mina al Ahmadi terminal is expecting the Wilforce (0.07mmt) on Monday and the Q-Flex Al Rekayyat (0.10mmt) on Sunday. The Wilforce is carrying Sabine Pass LNG cargo and delivery this week will help increase Kuwait's imports by 0.09mmt (133%) week-on-week and by 0.04mmt (28%)year-on-year. Meanwhile, we currently see two cargoes destined for Pakistan this week. Out data indicates the Simaisma (0.06mmt) and the Hoegh Gallant (0.08mmt) – each carrying a Qatari cargo – are due to arrive at Port Qasim LNG on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively ♦

LNG in Transit

Currently 17.72mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 26 July

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 17.72mmt, representing an increase of 0.82mmt (4.9%) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 26 July.

Pacific Basin

There are currently 10.41mmt destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby Japan's Higashi-Ogishima terminal is in the lead with 0.38mmt and a delivery horizon of 14 June, inter alia via the Alto Acrux sailing from Australia's Ichthys LNG plant.

Notably, of the 10.41mmt currently in transit, 2.77mmt have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 25 June.

At the time of writing, NWS LNG tops the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.77mmt currently in transit, followed by Gorgon LNG with 0.65mmt and Wheatstone LNG with 0.49mmt via, inter alia, the British Mentor (0.08mmt), the British Sponsor (0.08mmt) and the Maran Gas Pericles (0.08mmt). The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's top 3 plants above is currently 14 June.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, can expect to receive 4.77mmt by 12 July. Confirmed Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.31mmt worth of orders destined for United Kingdom's South Hook LNG terminal with a delivery horizon of 09 June.

As with the Pacific Basin, there are still roughly 2.06mmt of in-transit LNG that have yet to confirm their destination. Around 1.75mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 11 June.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Bonny Island is in the lead with 1.39mmt, followed by Sabine Pass LNG with 1.10mmt and Freeport LNG with 0.85mmt. These cargoes are onboard, inter alia, the Shinshu Maru (0.08mmt), the Bushu Maru (0.08mmt) and the Prism Agility (0.08mmt). The delivery horizon for Atlantic in-transit exports was 26 July at the time of writing.

Middle East

Meanwhile, there are 5 cargoes – 0.38mmt – currently headed for Kuwait and Pakistan. The cargoes en route to Kuwait are the ones via the Al Rekayyat and the WilForce outlined above. In addition, our data indicates the Angola LNG-controlled Sonangol Sambizanga will arrive at Mina al Ahmadi on 11 June. The remaining two constitute the Hoegh Gallant and the Simaisma, currently bound for Pakistan as outlined above.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes under way to destinations outside the Basin, 4.67mmt have a delivery horizon of 24 June, including 4.16mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.39mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.13mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility via, inter alia, the Al Huwaila (0.12mmt), the LNG Venus (0.07mmt) and the Umm Al Ashtan (0.06mmt). According to our shipping data Egypt's Idku LNG had no cargo at sea at the time of writing ♦

Expected Cargo Liftings

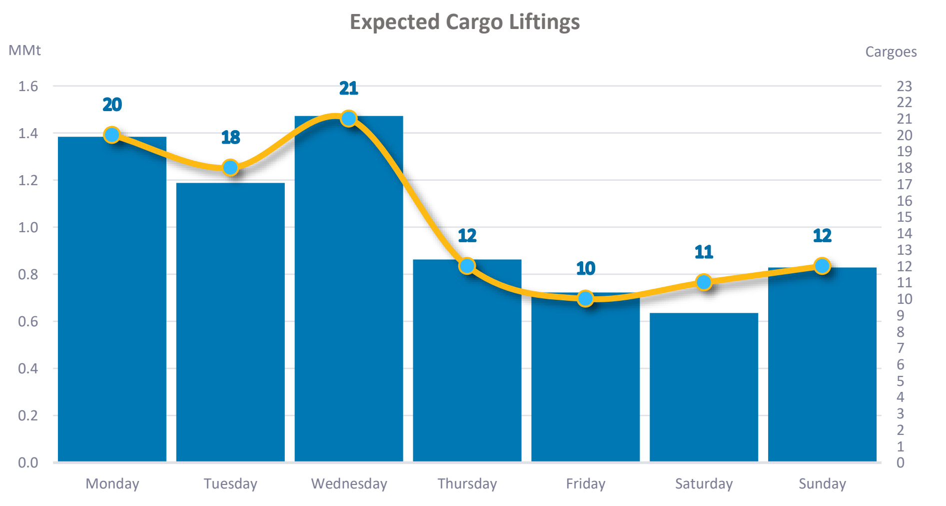
104 cargo liftings expected this week

Based on our shipping data, we see 104 cargo liftings amounting to 7.09mmt by the end of this week, representing a 0.51mmt (8%) increase week-on-week. However, we highlight considerable uncertainty surrounding the sizeable number of vessels stationary at the Ras Laffan Anchorage in Qatar.

Pacific Basin

Our market visibility indicates the Pacific Basin will account for 45 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 2.87mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday.

In Australia, we expect Pluto LNG to lead the continent's exports with 3 cargoes (c. 0.22mmt) likely to be lifted, followed by Wheatstone LNG



Source: LNG Journal

(3 cargoes, 0.21mmt) and Ichthys LNG (3 cargoes, 0.21mmt). Meanwhile, NWS LNG, Australia Pacific LNG, Gorgon LNG, Queensland Curtis LNG and Gladstone LNG are expected to ship a total of 9 cargoes amounting to 0.64mmt by Sunday.

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to 9 cargoes amounting to 0.48mmt whilst we currently see a potential cargo lifting at Petronas' FLNG barge PFLNG Satu this week. Across the border, we think Indonesia will export 7 cargoes amounting to 0.40mmt from its Tangguh and Bontang facilities.

Other LNG export plants within the Basin, namely Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG at Prigorodnoye on Sakhalin Island and PNG LNG in Papua New Guinea are going to export 6 cargoes, totalling 0.43mmt, according to our data.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 29 cargo liftings, with up to 2.03mmt exported throughout the Basin by Sunday night.

A significant share of those liftings is going to materialise in the United States, where we see Sabine Pass LNG, Freeport LNG, Corpus Christi LNG and Cameron LNG preparing for a total of 9 cargoes (0.66mmt) to be lifted aboard, inter alia, the Marvel Hawk (Sabine Pass), the Diamond Gas Rose (Cameron), the Maran Gas Mystras (Corpus Christi) and the SCF La Perouse (Freeport).

In South America and the Caribbean, we currently expect 3 cargo liftings (0.22mmt) from Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Marvel Falcon, the British Sapphire and the British Ruby by Tuesday.

On the other side of the Atlantic, we expect up to 14 cargoes (0.99mmt) to be lifted during this week. We expect Nigeria's Bonny Island facility exporting up to 6 cargoes, amounting to 0.43mmt, whilst Algeria could load up to 5 cargoes amounting to 0.28mmt at Arzew. Market visibility, meanwhile, suggests to us Angola's Soyo will export one cargo amounting to 0.07mmt via the Cubal this week. At the time of writing our data did not indicate a cargo loading at Equatorial Guinea's EG LNG before Sunday.

In the Arctic, we currently do not anticipate Norway's Snøhvit LNG to ship a cargo whilst our shipping data suggests Novatek's Yamal LNG is going to load 5 cargoes amounting to 0.38mmt by Sunday.

Middle East

Middle Eastern cargo liftings this week are likely to number 26 (1.96mmt) by Sunday, most of which (1.72mmt) are going to take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Cool Explorer and the Aseem. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to 2 cargoes (0.12mmt) via the LNG Jamal and the K. Freesia. We also anticipate ADNOC LNG's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship 2 cargoes via the Ish and the Ghasha. However, we do not currently expect an export from Egypt's Idku LNG before Sunday.

The current schedule therefore suggests peak loading activity of 21 cargoes on Wednesday, followed by 20 on Monday, whilst Friday is looking to be least active with 10 liftings ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings (MMt)

Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	0.17	0.03	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Skikda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	Tango FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	-	0.08	-	-	0.08	-	-
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Gorgon LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	0.07
	Ichthys LNG	0.06	-	-	-	0.15	-	-
	NWS LNG	-	0.06	-	-	0.06	0.07	-
	Pluto LNG	-	0.14	-	-	-	0.08	-
	Queensland Curtis	-	-	0.08	-	-	-	-
	Wheatstone LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.14	-
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	0.06	-	-	-	0.06	0.07	-
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	Tilbury LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	0.06	-	0.06	0.01	0.07
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	-	0.06	-
	Tangguh	0.07	-	0.06	-	0.07	-	-
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.13	0.01	-	0.13	-	0.08	0.13
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	0.03	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.06	-	0.08	0.14	0.08	-	0.07
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oman	Oman LNG	-	-	-	0.06	-	-	0.06
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	PNG LNG	0.08	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.08
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.46	0.36	0.38	0.17	0.16	0.06	0.13
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	-	-	0.07	0.07	-	-	0.06
	Yamal LNG	-	-	0.31	0.08	-	-	-
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinidad & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	0.07	0.15	-	-	-	-	-
UAE	Das Island	-	-	0.12	-	-	-	-
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cameron LNG	0.08	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
	Freeport LNG	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sabine Pass LNG	0.07	0.14	0.07	-	-	0.08	-
	Corpus Christi LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1.38	1.19	1.40	0.86	0.72	0.64	0.67

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 13.51mmt last week

Last week's global LNG trade stood at 13.51mmt, having thus decreased by 1.32mmt (-8.9%) week-on-week. Notably, around 6.54mmt had been shipped in previous weeks but were only delivered last week.

Overall regional trade in the Pacific stood at 6.96mmt last week, resulting in a 0.44mmt (-6%) trade decrease week-on-week. Last week's trade in the Atlantic Basin fell by 0.47mmt (-9.6%) whilst the Middle East saw negative trade growth of 0.41mmt (-16%) over the same period.

The Pacific ended last week with 0.17mmt (7%) more in exports, up from 2.46mmt the week prior. This in turn translated into capacity utilisation of 81% for last week, an increase of 5pp over the week prior.

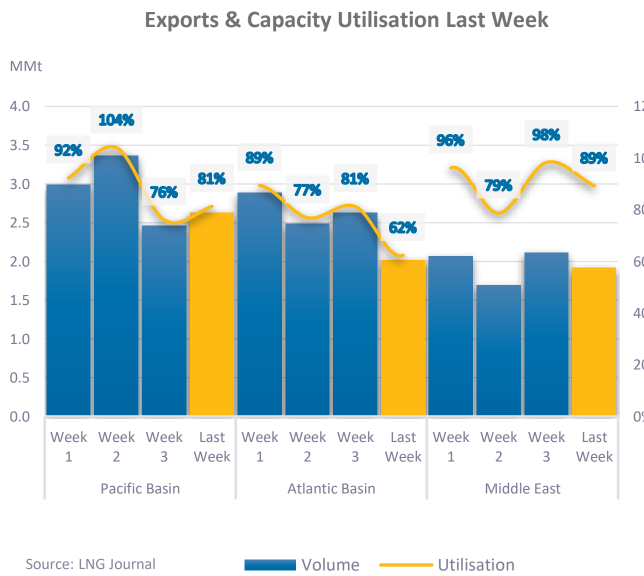
Meanwhile, the Basin's demand – including domestic re-exports in Indonesia and China – decreased by 0.61mmt (-12.3%) to 4.33mmt. As a result, Pacific import capacity utilisation decreased by 7.7pp to 55%.

Atlantic Basin exports had amounted to 2.02mmt by midnight on Sunday, a -23.2% decrease compared to the week prior. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 62% for the week, a decrease of 19pp week-on-week.

Over the same one-week period, the Basin's imports increased by 0.15mmt (7%) to 2.34mmt. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 49% for the week, an increase of 3pp over the week prior.

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had fallen by 0.19mmt by midnight on Sunday, a 9% reduction compared to the week prior. As such, regional export capacity utilisation stood at 89% for the week, a decrease of 9pp over the week prior.

Meanwhile, the Middle East's imports saw negative weekly growth, decreasing by 0.22mmt (-44.6%) to 0.27mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 44% for the week, constituting a decrease of 35.8pp over the week prior.



Pacific Basin

The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter – Australia – shipped 1.51mmt last week, seeing a notable increase of 0.21mmt (17%) in exports compared to the week prior. Meanwhile, on a year-on-year basis, the country grew LNG shipments by 0.19mmt (14%). Meanwhile, the Basin's second largest exporter by capacity – Malaysia – shipped 0.12mmt last week, and thereby reduced exports by 0.21mmt (-64%) week-on-week, whereas its neighbour Indonesia saw a reduction of 0.03mmt to 0.30mmt (-9%) over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, Malaysia saw an export reduction of 0.36mmt (-76%) whilst Indonesia also saw a decrease in exports by 0.17mt (-36%) for the same period.

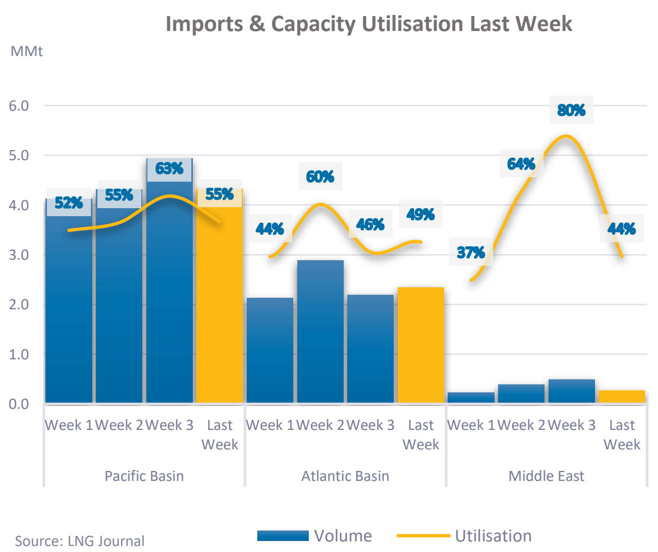
Concurrently, the remaining Pacific LNG producers saw combined exports of 0.71mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.52mmt the week prior. At 0.16mmt shipped, Papua New Guinea kept weekly exports broadly steady whilst Peru increased shipments by 0.06mmt (79%). Concurrently, Brunei also almost doubled exports by 0.07mmt (96%) to 0.13mmt. Singaporean imports disappeared however, having seen continued decline over the weeks prior Meanwhile, Russia's Sakhalin-2 plant increased exports by 0.07mmt (35%) week-on-week to 0.26mmt.

In contrast to higher exports, weekly Pacific demand decreased by 0.61mmt (-12.3%), which was predominantly due to a 1.14mmt offtake reduction in Japan. The island nation thus saw steep week-on-week demand decline to 0.73mmt. Notably, Japan's year-on-year demand also decreased by 0.70mmt (-49%). India also reduced offtakes, but by a much more modest 0.05mmt (-10%). Meanwhile, the Pacific's demand decrease was cushioned by fairly similar demand growth in China, South Korea and Taiwan – offtakes grew by 0.19mmt (15%), 0.15mmt (27%) and 0.13mmt (50%), respectively. Elsewhere in the Pacific, the roster of smaller regional buyers – Thailand, Bangladesh, Chile, Mexico and Singapore – collectively grew offtakes by 0.16mmt (51%) week-on-week. Chile's market re-appearance in particular led to that growth as the country imported 0.14mmt last week. The remaining importers kept their weekly offtakes broadly steady.

Atlantic Basin

In the Atlantic Basin, African exporters decreased their overall shipped volumes week-on-week, reducing cargoes by 0.05mmt (-6%). Whilst Nigeria – the continent's largest exporter – increased weekly shipments by 0.06mmt (15%) to 0.42mmt, Algeria decreased shipments by 0.12mmt to 0.13mmt (-48%). Angola's Soyo plant, meanwhile, kept exports steady at 0.14mmt whilst Equatorial Guinea increased its exports slightly by 0.02mmt to 0.06mmt. Cameroon's FLNG facility off Kribi, meanwhile, was absent from the market once again last week.

In the United States, plants reduced shipments by 0.18mmt (-19.9%) to 0.74mmt. Weekly US LNG exports were still led by Sabine Pass LNG by Sunday although the plant only kept its weekly exports broadly steady at 0.29mmt. As such, the weekly decrease in the United States was due to Freeport LNG slashing shipments by



0.23mmt (-77%), Meanwhile, Cameron LNG and Cove Point LNG maintained steady output of 0.15mmt and 0.07mmt, respectively. The only terminal significantly adding to US LNG exports was Corpus Christi LNG, which shipped one cargo more (0.07mmt, 84%) week-on-week. Elba Island, however, continued its market absence.

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad decreased shipments by 0.02mmt (-10%) week-on-week to 0.19mmt. Concurrently, to the very North of the Basin, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.31mmt via four shipments at Yamal LNG, thus reducing weekly exports by 0.15mmt (-33%).

European buyers, meanwhile, curtailed imports by 0.05mmt (-2%) to 2.00mmt last week, led by the United Kingdom and Turkey. The UK decreased offtakes by 0.11mmt (-26%) even as its South Hook terminal saw one of the highest European offtakes whilst Turkey's weekly demand fell by 0.08mmt (-35%). France and Belgium, meanwhile, also saw lower demand by 0.06mmt (-12%) and 0.07mmt (-32%), respectively. Spain, however, which led the European demand decrease the week prior, grew back some of its demand by 0.15mmt (73%) to 0.34mmt. Italy kept its weekly offtakes broadly stable at 0.17mmt.

Leading the buying roster in Northern Europe was the United Kingdom's South Hook terminal with 0.31mmt. In southern Europe, Spain's Huelva terminal was in the lead with 0.13mmt.

Meanwhile, buyers in the Caribbean saw LNG demand rebound by 0.27mmt to 0.34mmt after having imported only 0.06mmt the week prior.

Middle East

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.61mmt, thus decreasing weekly exports substantially by 0.25mmt (-13%). Its fellow regional exporters the UAE and Oman, meanwhile, saw combined exports of 0.31mmt, thus growing week-on-week output by 0.05mmt. Idku LNG, meanwhile, did not export a cargo.

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week were Pakistan, Kuwait, Israel and the UAE, which collectively reduced regional imports from seven to four cargoes and thus facilitated a significant volume decrease of 0.22mmt (-44.6%) week-on-week ◆