NEW

LNG Market Tracker

LNG JOURNAL'S WEEKLY LNG MARKET TRENDS REPORT 29 JUNE 2020

Golar Kelvin Arrives off Myanmar, but Blackouts Probably Unavoidable

The Golar Kelvin, carrying the larger of the two Malaysian cargoes earmarked for Myanmar's first LNG import project, arrived in the Gulf of Martaban, apparently waiting to begin transferring its cargo. Whilst this is an important indicator when operations at Thanlyin LNG would begin in earnest, questions remain how the project will operate going forward.

Myanmar joined the ranks of Asian LNG importers earlier this month when the CNTIC VPower Global delivered an inaugural cargo to the newly constructed jetty of the Thanlyin LNG-to-power project, our vessel tracking data showed. At the time, a second cargo aboard the Golar Kelvin had left Petronas' Malaysia LNG complex at Bintulu but did not take direct course for Myanmar. However, the vessel has now arrived at its waiting spot off in the Gulf of Martaban.

Golar Kelvin's cargo to help stave off blackouts

The two vessels are initially to serve a new 350MW LNG to power project developed by a consortium of Hong Kong-listed V-Power and Chinese SOE China National Technical Import & Export Corporation (CNTIC). Myanmar is threatened by severe power shortages this summer if a roster of five power projects totalling 1,040MW is not completed quickly. To that end, the CNTIC VPower Global and the Golar Kelvin took on a cargo each at Malaysia's Bintulu port as part of a MSPA between CNTIC VPower and Petronas, which was concluded in early 2020. The CNTIC VPower Global loaded its cargo in late April whilst the Golar Kelvin departed Malaysia LNG on 4 June.

Myanmar's Gas-to-Power project running late

Notably, the Thanlyin project received first gas late whilst none of the remaining four projects have entered commercial service. Notably, a similar project by CNTIC VPower at Kyaukphyu has been delayed because the production of its small-scale LNG tanks was held-up in China due to COVID-19. The factory responsible for producing the small-scale tanks is located in Wuhan, the epicentre of the outbreak.

Blackouts probably unavoidable

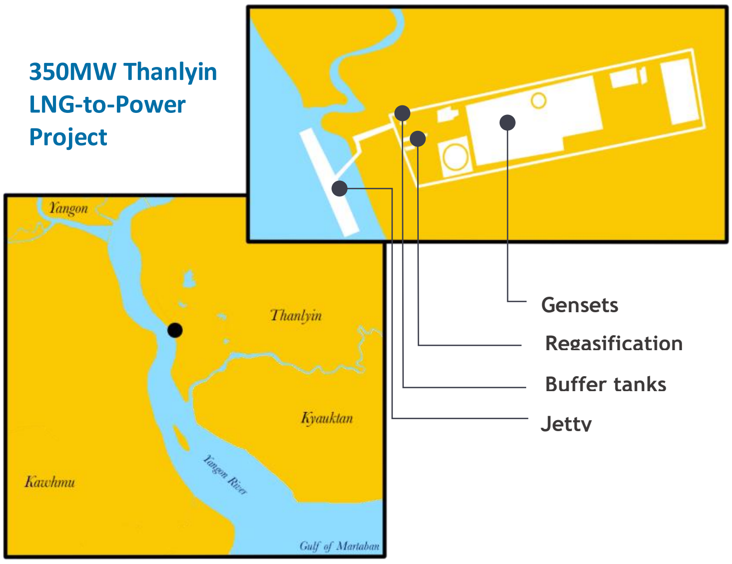
These delays imply Myanmar is likely to struggle with continuous power delivery over the summer. In regions such as the Middle East and Southeast Asia, summer constitutes peak power demand season due to an increased use of air-conditioning. In Myanmar, large-scale power shortages had already been noted this time last year and are more acute due to a significant investment shortfall in infrastructure alongside economic and population expansions.

Golar Kelvin's draught too deep

We have highlighted earlier this month that the Golar Kelvin's draught is likely too deep to enter the Yangon River. Data by the Myanmar Port Authority shows that local water depths rarely exceed 6 metres at high tide during this time of year – too shallow for the 160,280m3 Golar Kelvin, which has a ballast draught of around 9 metres whilst laden it can go beyond 11 metres.

We expect 5 ship-to-ship transfers over a period of 6-8 weeks

350MW Thanlyin LNG-to-Power Project



Notably, the project partners have a license to operate a 150,000m3 FSU at the terminal. Given the relatively shallow river, however, we think it will be difficult to moor an FSU of that size to the terminal jetty. Consequently, we expect the CNTIC VPowerGlobal to initially act as shuttle and jetty FSU, with the Golar Kelvin stationed further out at sea. This would then involve around 5 ship-to-ship transfers over a period of c. 10 weeks.

Former Norwest Seaeagle to be FSU

Meanwhile, it remains uncertain at what point in time

CONTENTS

WEEKLY TRADE

Global	↑	10.3%
Pacific	↑	4.3%
Atlantic	↑	20.3%
Middle East	↑	14.7%

WEEKLY EXPORTS

Pacific	↑	4.6%
Atlantic	↑	20.6%
Middle East	↑	8%

WEEKLY IMPORTS

Pacific	↑	4.2%
Atlantic	↑	20%
Middle East	↑	57.6%

CNTIC VPower will install the permanent FSU. Our vessel tracking data has identified the 126,000m3 Norwest Seaeagle – renamed CNTIC VPower Energy – which is currently moored at Sembcorp's yard in Singapore. The vessel was originally acquired by Turkish-Japanese consortium KARMOL but swiftly sold on to CNTIC VPower, Tradewinds reported. It is yet unclear how extensively the vessel is being worked on, however. The vessel's age of almost 30 years old suggests to us that at the very least the yard will be "MOT-ing" its systems and tank insulation and possibly examining the hull, too. There may also be some pump modifications considering the relatively small size of the Thanlyin project.

Large capacity suggest FSU may serve more than one project

We also think that the Norwest Seaeagle in its future role as FSU may serve both Thanlyin and CNTIC VPower's second project at Kyaukphyu. Presumably stationed off Myanmar's southern coast, the FSU could then supply LNG for both projects via shuttles, with the journey to Kyaukphyu taking roughly a day, on our estimate. In this regard, the size of a conventional LNG cargo in excess of 100,00m3, as indeed is the case with the Golar Kelvin, would not outstrip the relatively small capacity of a single project such as Thanlyin and thereby reduce boil off loss by clearing the FSU's cargo quicker ♦

Expected Deliveries this Week

Japan scheduled to retake top spot in imports whilst still seeing week-on-week imports drop

Pacific Basin

We are currently expecting 4.74mmt to be delivered within the Pacific Basin by the end of this week, constituting a decrease of 19% over our expectation at this point last week. At least 60% are destined for Japan (1.15mmt), China (1.13mmt) and South Korea (0.58mmt) whilst 0.84mmt are still without a confirmed destination within the Basin.

Japan

Current market visibility suggests the largest share of LNG scheduled to arrive in Japan within this week is coming from Australia (0.69mmt, 60%) under contracts with NWS LNG (0.21mmt, 19%), followed by Wheatstone LNG (0.14mmt, 12%). Among LNGCs currently under way, the Asia Venture and the Pacific Arcadia are scheduled to dock at the Higashi-Ogishima and Chita terminals by Tuesday and Sunday, respectively. Japan's current import schedule suggests offtakes are likely to decrease by 0.15mmt (-11%) week-on-week and by 0.23mmt (-17%) year-on-year.

China

The largest single source of LNG destined to arrive in China within this week is Australia's Queensland Curtis LNG (0.23mmt, 20%), followed by NWS LNG (0.20mmt, 18%). Of LNGCs currently en route, we expect the Dapeng Star to arrive at Guangdong Dapeng LNG on Monday whilst the Gaslog Houston is expected at Tianjin - Nangang LNG on Tuesday. We currently see China's imports decrease by 0.24mmt (-17%) week-on-week whilst also decreasing by 0.20mmt (-15%) year-on-year.

South Korea

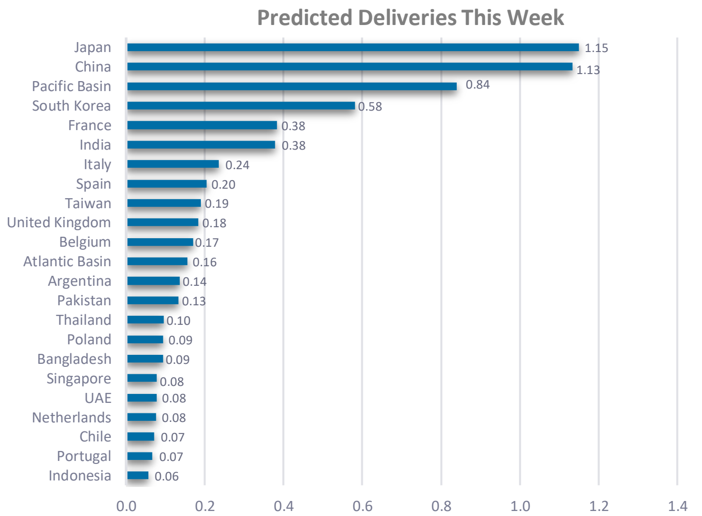
Meanwhile, expected deliveries to South Korea are mainly coming from Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, with the country currently directing 0.18mmt to the peninsula via, inter alia, the Hyundai Cosmopia and the SK Summit, which are expected at Incheon by Tuesday and Pyeongtaek by Sunday, respectively. In addition, the K. Acacia is scheduled to arrive at another yet to be identified South Korean terminal by Sunday. We also see South Korea receiving a total of six cargoes from Indonesia (0.15mt), Australia (0.12mmt), Russia (0.07mmt) and Malaysia (0.06mmt). Nevertheless, South Korea's imports are likely to decrease by 0.20mmt (-26%) week-on-week whilst also showing negative growth of 0.40mmt (-41%) year-on-year.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin is currently expected to receive 1.70mmt by the end of this week, constituting a decrease of 24% week-on-week. Roughly 0.16mmt are still without a clear destination within the Basin, whilst 48% are destined for France (0.38mmt), Italy (0.24mmt) and Spain (0.20mmt).

France

France's currently expected LNG deliveries within this week are mainly coming via three shipments from Russia's Yamal LNG plant



Source: LNG Journal

(0.23mmt, 60%). The three cargoes sailed aboard the LNGCs Boris Davydov, Eduard Toll and Yakov Gakkel. Our data indicate their scheduled arrivals at Dunkerque Le Clipton in case of the Boris Davydov on Monday and Montoir-de-Bretagne for the latter two on Friday and Sunday, respectively.

Our data also indicate France is anticipating 0.08mmt to arrive at Montoir-de-Bretagne via a Belgian re-export aboard the LNG Merak on Monday, port data confirms. In addition, the Tessala is carrying an Algerian cargo of 0.08mmt with arrival at Fos-sur-Mer on Saturday.

Consequently, France is looking to retain the lead in terms of European cargo destinations this week even as our data is indicating only a relatively small weekly demand increase of 0.03mmt (10%). Meanwhile, on a year-on-year basis, the country is likely to see offtakes decrease by 0.10mmt (-21%).

Italy

Concurrently, market visibility indicates Italy's imminent LNG imports of 0.24mmt consist of two Qatari cargoes aboard the Al Marrouna (0.07mmt) and Al Areesh (0.07mmt). At the time of writing, both vessels were expected at the Rovigo Adriatic terminal on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively. Meanwhile, the United States and Algeria also have one cargo each en route to Italy aboard the LNG Alliance (0.07mmt) and the Cheikh Bouamama (0.03mmt). The former is on course to the Toscana Terminal, scheduled to arrive on Monday, whilst the latter is expected at Panigaglia by Tuesday.

LNG volumes flowing into Italy are thus likely to increase by 0.19mmt (21%) week-on-week whilst decreasing by 0.02mmt (-8%) year-on-year.

Spain

The Atlantic Basin's third largest importer this week – Spain – is anticipating imminent LNG deliveries of 0.20mmt by Saturday. They are to derive via one cargo each from Russia's Yamal LNG, Nigeria's Bonny Island as well as a Dunkerque re-export. The re-export is currently aboard he Neptune and headed to Cartagena by Monday whilst the remaining two shipments are aboard the Boris Vilkitsky – headed for Bahia de Bizkaia LNG – and the Nigerian vessel LNG Cross River en route to Huelva by Saturday.

As such, based on the current delivery horizon, we anticipate Spain to see weekly LNG imports decrease by 0.11mmt (-35%) week-on-week whilst we also see the country's imports to fall considerably by 0.20mmt (-50%) year-on-year.

Middle East

In the In the Middle East, we are anticipating three cargo arrivals this week, totalling 0.21mmt. Our shipping data indicates the UAE's Dubai FSRU terminal is expecting a United States cargo of 0.08mmt derived from Sabine Pass LNG by Wednesday, which is to be delivered by the BW Tulip. Concurrently, Pakistan's Port Qasim terminal is expecting a Qatari cargo of 0.07mmt via the Umm Bab to arrive on Monday whilst the GasLog Sydney, carrying 0.06mmt from Yamal LNG, is expected on Thursday.

The UAE are therefore likely to decrease LNG offtake by 0.06mmt week-on-week whilst maintaining offtakes year-on-year. Conversely, Pakistan's demand outlook indicates stable week-on-week demand but a considerable year-on-year reduction of 0.13mmt (-50%) ◆

LNG in Transit

Currently 15.74mmt of LNG have a delivery horizon of 16 August

Total LNG volumes currently in transit amount to 15.74mmt, representing a decrease of 0.16mmt (-1.0%) week-on-week. Current market visibility pegs the delivery horizon at 16 August.

Pacific Basin

There are currently 8.67mmt destined for the Pacific Basin, whereby Japan's Futtsu terminal is in the lead with 0.41mmt and a delivery horizon of 10 August, inter alia via the Pacific Notus sailing from Australia's Wheatstone LNG plant.

Notably, of the 8.67mmt currently in transit, 2.78mmt have yet to have a firm destination, which are broadly destined for the Pacific region by 16 August.

At the time of writing, NWS LNG tops the list of export plants in the Pacific with 0.68mmt currently in transit, followed by Queensland Curtis LNG with 0.53mmt and PNG LNG with 0.46mmt via, inter alia, the Rias Baixas Knutsen (0.08mmt), the Gigira Laitebo (0.08mmt) and the Gaslog Houston (0.08mmt). The delivery horizon for Pacific in-transit exports by the Basin's top 3 plants above is currently 19 July.

Atlantic Basin

The Atlantic Basin, meanwhile, can expect to receive 3.82mmt by 25 July. Confirmed Atlantic deliveries are led by 0.30mmt worth of orders destined for France's Montoir-de-Bretagne with a delivery horizon of 15 July.

As with the Pacific Basin, there are still roughly 1.42mmt of in-transit LNG that have yet to confirm their destination. Around 1.28mmt are currently broadly destined for Europe by 18 July.

Among Atlantic exporters with LNG deliveries currently pending, Bonny Island is in the lead with 1.26mmt, followed by Yamal LNG with 0.76mmt and Cameron LNG with 0.65mmt. These cargoes are onboard, inter alia, the SK Resolute (0.08mmt), the Marvel Kite (0.08mmt) and the Gaslog Gibraltar (0.08mmt). The delivery horizon for Atlantic in-transit exports was 16 August at the time of writing.

Middle East

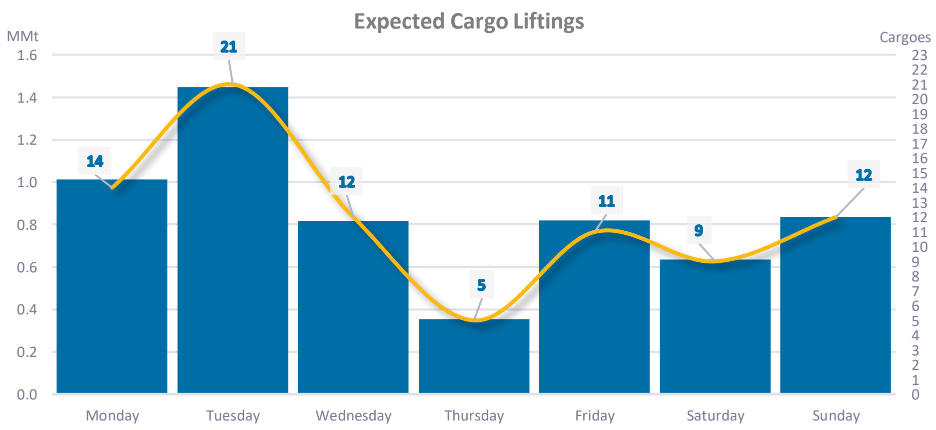
Meanwhile, there are 6 cargoes – 0.43mmt – currently headed for the UAE, Pakistan, Israel, and Kuwait. In addition to the three cargoes outlined above, Angola LNG currently has a cargo aboard the Lobito en route to Dubai whilst Corpus Christi LNG has another aboard the Patris en route to Hadera in Israel. Finally, Kuwait's Mina al Ahmadi terminal is expecting a Nigerian cargo via the LNG Abalamabie. The delivery horizon for the Middle East at the time of writing was 17 July.

In terms of Middle Eastern cargoes under way to destinations outside the Basin, 4.24mmt have a delivery horizon of 24 July, including 3.68mmt that originated in Qatar, with a further 0.26mmt coming from Oman's Qalhat terminal and 0.30mmt from the UAE's Das Island facility via, inter alia, the Zarga (0.12mmt), the Maran Gas Vergina (0.08mmt) and the Ish (0.06mmt). According to our shipping data Egypt's Idku LNG had no cargo at sea at the time of writing ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings

84 cargo liftings expected this week

Based on our shipping data, we see 84 cargo liftings amounting to 5.92mmt by the end of this week, representing a 0.36mmt decrease week-on-week. However, we highlight considerable uncertainty surrounding several vessels stationary at the Ras Laffan and Bintulu anchorages in Qatar and Malaysia.



Source: LNG Journal

Pacific Basin

Our market visibility indicates the Pacific Basin will account for 38 of this week's liftings, meaning that roughly 2.06mmt are exported throughout the Basin by Sunday.

In Australia, we expect Australia Pacific LNG to lead the continent's exports with 5 cargoes (c. 0.23mmt) likely to be lifted, followed by Wheatstone LNG (3 cargoes, 0.22mmt) and NWS LNG (3 cargoes, 0.18mmt). Meanwhile, Pluto LNG, Ichthys LNG, Gorgon LNG, Queensland Curtis LNG and Gladstone LNG are expected to ship a total of 7 cargoes amounting to 0.50mmt by Sunday.

In Southeast Asia, our shipping data points to Malaysia LNG exporting up to 10 cargoes amounting to 0.52mmt whilst we currently also see a potential cargo lifting at Petronas' FLNG barge PFLNG Satu via the Seri Cenderawasih this week. Across the border, we think Indonesia will export 2 cargoes amounting to 0.13mmt from its Tangguh facility.

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 3 cargoes, totalling 0.21mmt, according to our data visibility.

Atlantic Basin

Meanwhile, our analysis indicates the Atlantic Basin will see 28 cargo liftings, with up to 1.95mmt exported throughout the Basin by Sunday night.

In the United States we see Sabine Pass LNG, Corpus Christi LNG, Cove Point LNG and Cameron LNG preparing for a total of 8 cargoes (0.59mmt) to be lifted aboard, inter alia, the K. Mugungwha (Sabine Pass LNG), the Point Fortin (Cameron LNG), the Energy Innovator (Cove Point) and the GasLog Warsaw (Corpus Christi).

In South America and the Caribbean, we currently expect 3 cargo liftings (0.21mmt) at Trinidad's Atlantic LNG via the Maran Gas Ulysses, the British Diamond and the Gemmata by Sunday.

On the other side of the Atlantic, we expect up to 17 cargoes (1.15mmt) to be lifted during this week. We see Nigeria's Bonny Island facility exporting up to 5 cargoes, amounting to 0.36mmt, whilst our data indicates Algeria will load 4 cargoes amounting to 0.21mmt at Arzew. Market visibility further suggests to us Angola's Soyo will export one cargo amounting to 0.07mmt this week. Concurrently, our data indicate one cargo loading at Equatorial Guinea's EG LNG before Sunday. Meanwhile, we do not expect Cameroon's FLNG facility off Kribi to export a cargo this week.

In the Arctic, we currently anticipate Norway's Snøhvit LNG to ship two cargoes via the Arctic Aurora and potentially the Arctic Discoverer by the end of the week. Meanwhile, our shipping data suggests Novatek's Yamal LNG is going to load 4 cargoes amounting to 0.30mmt this week.

Middle East

Middle Eastern cargo liftings this week could number 24 (1.94mmt) by Sunday, most of which (1.66mmt) would take place at Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex, inter alia via the Yari LNG and the Al Oraiq. Market visibility currently also suggests to us Oman is looking to load up to 2 cargoes (0.13mmt) via the LNG Jamal and the Ibri LNG. We also anticipate ADNOC LNG's Das Island plant in the UAE to ship at least one cargo via the Mubaraz. 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 Tuesday, followed by 14 on Monday, whilst Thursday is looking to be least active with 5 liftings ◆

Expected Cargo Liftings (MMt)

Country	Plant	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	Arzew	-	0.10	-	-	-	0.08	0.03
	Skikda	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	Tango FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Angola	Angola LNG	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
Australia	Australia Pacific LNG	0.08	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.08
	Darwin LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Gladstone LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	-
	Gorgon LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
	Ichthys LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	0.07	-
	NWS LNG	0.06	-	0.06	-	-	0.06	-
	Pluto LNG	-	0.07	-	-	0.07	-	-
	Queensland Curtis	0.08	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Wheatstone LNG	-	0.07	-	-	0.07	-	0.08
	Prelude FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brunei	Brunei LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	0.07
Cameroon	Cameroon FLNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada	Tilbury LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equatorial Guinea	EG LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.08
Egypt	Damietta SEGAS LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Idku LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesia	Bontang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Donggi-Senoro LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Tangguh	0.07	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
Malaysia	Malaysia LNG	0.16	0.06	0.06	-	0.05	0.18	-
	PFLNG Satu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	Bonny Island	0.07	0.08	-	0.06	0.08	-	0.08
Norway	Snøhvit LNG	-	0.07	-	-	-	-	0.06
Oman	Oman LNG	-	0.06	-	0.07	-	-	-
Peru	Pampa Melchorita	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	PNG LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07
Qatar	Ras Laffan	0.50	0.29	0.13	-	0.49	0.18	0.07
Russia	Sakhalin-2 LNG	-	-	0.06	-	-	-	-
	Yamal LNG	-	0.08	0.07	0.08	-	-	0.08
Singapore	Singapore LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinidad & Tobago	Atlantic LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	0.06	0.07
UAE	Das Island	-	0.06	0.06	-	-	-	-
United States	Elba Island LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cove Point LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.07
	Cameron LNG	-	-	0.07	-	-	-	-
	Freeport LNG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sabine Pass LNG	-	0.07	0.15	0.08	0.07	-	-
	Corpus Christi LNG	-	0.08	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1.01	1.45	0.82	0.36	0.82	0.63	0.83

Source: LNG Journal

Trade Last Week

Global LNG trade stood at 14.12mmt last week

Last week's global LNG trade stood at 14.12mmt, having thus increased by 1.32mmt (10.3%) week-on-week. Notably, around 6.75mmt had been shipped in previous weeks but were only delivered last week.

Overall regional trade in the Pacific stood at 7.54mmt last week, resulting in a 0.31mmt (4%) trade increase week-on-week. Last week's trade in the Atlantic Basin increased by 0.70mmt (20.3%) whilst the Middle East saw positive trade growth of 0.31mmt (15%) over the same period.

The Pacific ended last week with 0.12mmt (5%) more in exports, down from 2.55mmt the week prior. This in turn translated into capacity utilisation of 82% for last week, an increase of 4pp over the week prior.

Meanwhile, the Basin's demand – including domestic re-exports in Indonesia and China – grew by 0.19mmt (4.2%) to 4.88mmt. As a result, Pacific import capacity utilisation increased by 2.5pp to 62%.

Atlantic Basin exports had amounted to 2.32mmt by midnight on Sunday, a 20.6% increase compared to the week prior. This in turn translated into regional export capacity utilisation of 72% for the week, an increase of 12pp week-on-week.

Over the same one-week period, the Basin's imports increased by 0.30mmt (20%) to 1.81mmt. As a result, Atlantic import capacity utilisation stood at 38% for the week, an increase of 6.3pp over the week prior.

As for the Middle East, the region's exports had grown by 0.14mmt by midnight on Sunday, an 8% increase compared to the week prior. As such, regional export capacity utilisation stood at 92% for the week, an increase of 7pp over the week prior.

Meanwhile, the region's imports saw positive weekly growth, increasing by 0.172mmt (57.6%) to 0.47mmt. The region's import capacity utilisation thus stood at 77% for the week, constituting an increase of 28.1pp over the week prior.

Pacific Basin

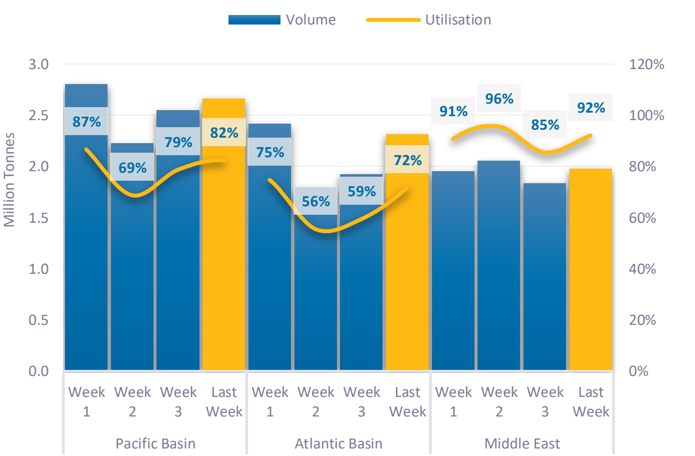
The Pacific Basin's most significant exporter – Australia – shipped 1.41mmt last week, increasing exports slightly by 0.05mmt (3%) compared to the 1.36mmt shipped the week prior. Meanwhile, on a year-on-year basis, the country still decreased LNG shipments by 0.22mmt (-14%). Meanwhile, the Pacific's second largest exporter by capacity – Malaysia – shipped 0.33mmt last week, and thereby reduced exports by 0.10mmt (-23%) week-on-week, whilst its neighbour Indonesia also saw a reduction of 0.06mmt to 0.28mmt (-17%) over the same period. On a year-on-year basis, consequently, Malaysia saw an export decrease of 0.11mmt (-26%) whilst Indonesia's exports also decreased by 0.05mt (-16%) for the same period.

However, the remaining Pacific LNG producers saw combined exports of 0.65mmt by the end of last week compared to 0.43mmt the week prior, representing a 0.22mmt (52%) week-on-week increase. Russia's Sakhalin-2 LNG and Peru's Pampa Melchorita facility both exported two cargoes, boosting their weekly exports by 104% and 78% to 0.13mmt and 0.14mmt, respectively., Papua New Guinea also achieved a significant week-on-week increase of 0.08mmt (50%) to 0.23mmt whilst Brunei kept shipments flat at 0.13mmt last week. Singapore also re-joined the market with a 0.03mmt export to China's Dongguan LNG.

In line with higher exports, weekly Pacific demand grew by 0.19mmt (4.2%) last week, which was predominantly due to a 0.15mmt offtake increase by South Korea. The country saw a significant week-on-week demand growth by 25% to 0.78mmt. However, South Korea's year-on-year demand was still down by 0.20mmt (-20%). Northeast Asia's other leading buyer last week – Japan – broadly followed suit. Japan increased week-on-week LNG imports by 0.13mmt (11%) to 1.30mmt. Nevertheless, as with South Korea, Japanese LNG demand was also down year-on-year, seeing a 0.09mmt (-6%) reduction. China, meanwhile, only increased LNG imports moderately last week, growing offtakes by 0.07mmt (6%) whilst keeping year-on-year demand broadly flat at 1.34mmt. Taiwan, however, saw a relatively strong demand reduction last week, slashing offtakes by 0.12mmt (-31%) to 0.27, which also caused a notably year-on-year reduction of 0.07mmt (-21%). Notably, India did not continue to grow weekly offtakes; the country saw demand decrease significantly by 0.14mmt (19%) week-on-week and whilst only maintaining offtakes at their past year level of 0.58mmt.

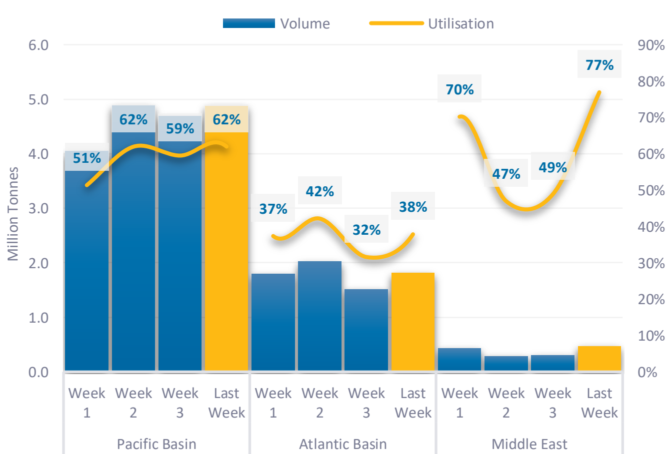
The Pacific's considerable overall weekly demand growth facilitated by its leading buyers last week was, however, tempered by a substantial demand decrease by the roster of smaller Pacific Basin buyers – Thailand, Bangladesh, Chile, Mexico and Singapore. The countries collectively saw offtakes fall by 0.17mmt (-36%) week-on-week to 0.31mmt whilst thus barely maintaining offtakes on a year-on-year basis. Notably, Chile was not seen in the market, which was only partially compensated by a 0.08mmt cargo going into Mexico. Thailand also saw a considerable weekly demand reduction of 0.06mmt to 0.10mmt whilst Singapore was absent. As such, even a doubling in weekly demand seen in Bangladesh could not tip the balance.

Exports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Source: LNG Journal

Imports & Capacity Utilisation Last Week



Source: LNG Journal

Atlantic Basin

In the Atlantic Basin, African exporters decreased their overall shipped volumes week-on-week, decreasing shipments by 0.08mmt (-9%) to 0.84mmt. Although Nigeria – the continent's largest exporter – increased weekly shipments by 0.08mmt (23%) to 0.42mmt, Equatorial Guinea slashed offtakes by 50% from two cargoes, importing just 0.06mmt last week. Algeria's Arzew plant also exported 0.09mmt (-30%) less, pegging its weekly exports at 0.21mmt, whilst Cameroon's FLNG facility off Kribi did not ship a cargo and Idku continued its protracted market absence. As such, even a doubling in exports at Angola's Soyo plant to 0.14mmt did not result in net export growth for African producers last week.

In the United States, plants constituted a bright spot for the Basin's exports last week. Although Sabine Pass continued to decrease shipments by 0.07mmt (-48%) to 0.08mmt, Cove Point LNG doubled shipments to 0.14mmt. Concurrently, Cameron LNG boosted exports by 0.09mmt (66%) whilst Freeport LNG re-entered the market with two exports amounting to 0.16mmt. Corpus Christi LNG, meanwhile, kept weekly exports broadly steady at 0.08mmt. Elba Island continued its market absence.

Further south, Atlantic LNG on Trinidad reduced weekly shipments to 0.21mmt, representing only a notable reduction of 0.05mmt (-20%). Concurrently, to the very North of the Basin, Novatek's fleet lifted 0.38mmt via five shipments at Yamal LNG, thus increasing weekly exports by 0.08mmt (25%). Snøhvit LNG in Norway exported one cargo of 0.07mmt.

European buyers, meanwhile, increased imports by 0.20mmt (16%) to 1.42mmt last week. Although the United Kingdom almost halved offtakes by 0.10mmt (-45%) and Italy barely saw stable week-on-week demand at 0.19mmt, demand in France, Turkey and Spain increased by 0.25mmt combined. Moreover, Greece increased imports by 0.05mmt (48%) whilst Portugal was seen again in the market with the import of 0.07mmt cargo from Nigeria. Belgium also added to European demand with a 0.09mmt import on Wednesday last week, thus helping to compensate for the absence of the Netherlands, Poland and Lithuania. Leading the buying roster in Northern Europe was France's Dunkerque Le Clipton terminal with 0.25mmt. In southern Europe, Italy's Rovigo Adriatic terminal was in the lead with 0.16mmt.

Meanwhile, buyers in the Caribbean boosted LNG demand by 0.18mmt (83%) to 0.40mmt after having imported 0.22mmt the week prior.

Middle East

In the Middle East, Qatar shipped 1.66mmt, thus decreasing weekly exports slightly by 0.05mmt (-3%). Its fellow regional exporters, the UAE and Oman, however, saw combined exports of 0.32mmt, thus boosting their weekly output by 143%. Idku LNG, meanwhile, did not export a cargo.

Completing the Middle East's LNG trade picture last week were Pakistan, Kuwait, the UAE, Israel and Jordan, which collectively increased regional imports by 58% to seven cargoes (0.47mmt) week-on-week ♦