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# Benzene Price Forecast Methodology



I·C·I·S

Independent Commodity  
Intelligence Services

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## Price Forecast Methodology: Benzene

The ICIS Benzene Europe, Benzene Asia-Pacific and Benzene US price forecasts are of monthly prices. The forecasts are updated on a monthly review cycle but can be updated more frequently in case of major market developments. Price forecasts cover the current month and the following 17 months, ie 18 months in total.

The forecast pages provide:

1. Monthly forecast of the benzene CIF NWE contract price in Europe, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Benzene Europe price report.
2. Monthly forecast of the average benzene FOB South Korea spot price and average benzene spot, East China ex-tank price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Benzene Asia Pacific price report.
3. Monthly forecast of the benzene FOB US Gulf contract price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Benzene US Gulf price report.

Elements considered in the benzene price forecasts include:

1. Brent crude oil and naphtha price forecasts.
2. Supply-demand data for benzene and direct derivatives including regional imports, exports, global plant shutdowns and new capacities.
3. Cracker margins and utilisation rates, including by feedstock.
4. Arbitrage opportunities for benzene between geographical regions based on (a) freight rates, (b) exchange rates, (c) new manufacturing units.
5. Downstream benzene derivative demand forecasts.
6. Movement of spot prices and spot margins.
7. Benzene production margins.

Prices are published in the assessed currency. Where information is provided from a third party, this is clearly attributed. Historical and forecast prices can be downloaded using the ICIS Excel Plug-In.