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Methanol Global Price Forecast Methodology



Price Forecast Methodology: Methanol

The ICIS Methanol Europe, Methanol Asia-Pacific and Methanol US 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 at least the following 17 months, ie 18+ months in total.

The forecast pages provide:

1. Monthly forecast of the methanol FOB Rotterdam T2 spot price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Methanol Europe price report.
2. Monthly forecast of the ex-tank domestic east China and spot CFR China All Origins methanol prices, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Methanol China price report and ICIS Methanol Asia Pacific price report.
3. Monthly forecast of the spot CFR West Coast India methanol price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Methanol Asia Pacific price report.
4. Monthly forecast of the spot CFR SE Asia Singapore, W Malaysia, Dumai methanol price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Methanol Asia Pacific price report.
5. Monthly forecast of the methanol US Gulf barges contract prices (non-discounted and discounted) and US Gulf barges spot price, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Methanol US Gulf price report.

Elements considered in the methanol price forecasts include:

1. Supply-demand data for methanol including regional imports, exports, global plant shutdowns and new capacities.
2. Downstream methanol derivative demand forecasts, including methanol-to-olefins (MTO) production in China. (For Asia, this includes forecasts for Asia ethylene, propylene and polyolefins.)
3. Margins forecasts for methanol and methanol derivatives.
4. Continental Europe gas price/NYMEX Henry Hub natural gas price forecasts and Brent crude oil price forecast.
5. Spot trade price levels, both current and future months.

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.