

15 February 2024

Price Forecast Methodology: Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA)



The ICIS PTA price forecasts are of monthly average 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, i.e. 18 months in total.

The services provide:

1. Monthly forecast of the average monthly price for the spot CFR China Main Ports assessment, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Terephthalic Acid Asia price report.
2. Monthly forecast of the average monthly price for the FD NWE Contract Price assessment, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS Terephthalic Acid Europe price report.

Elements considered in the PTA price forecasts include:

1. Supply-demand data for PTA including regional imports, exports, global plant shutdowns and new capacities.
2. Downstream derivative demand forecasts, and specifically for polyester fibre production in China.
3. ICIS upstream naphtha and paraxylene price forecasts.
4. Recent movements in spot prices and predicted margins.

ICIS also shows historical and forecast feedstock paraxylene pricing, and the historical and forecasted spread between PTA pricing and paraxylene per month.

Prices are forecast in the currency they are assessed in. For spreads analysis, where feedstock currency may differ from product currency, exchange rates from www.xe.com are used for historical data series. For forecast series, ICIS uses the exchange rate from the date of analysis.