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Daily Newsfeeds Sample Report

Polymerupdate.com News Online Sample 23-Jul-2010

Yuyao Domestic market price of PBT as of 22nd July 2010 - 16:10

Yuyao Domestic market price of PBT as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Jiangsu Sanfangxiang	G0	24800	24800	■
Jiangsu Sanfangxiang	G10	23800	23800	■
Jiangsu Sanfangxiang	G20	21800	21800	■
Jiangsu Sanfangxiang	G30	20800	20800	■
Elizabeth foundation (formerly GE)	420SEO	31500	31500	■
Polyplastics Japan	3300	29000	29000	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of Pure Terephthalic Acid (PTA) as of 22nd July 2010 - 16:05

Domestic China Pure Terephthalic Acid (PTA) Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010

Producer	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
RMB	6950-7075	■
Yangzi	7400-7400	■
Yisheng	7600-7600	■
Xianglu	7300-7300	■
The Far Eastern Group	7600-7600	■
BP Zhuhai Chemical Co.	7600-7600	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Middle East Market prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010 - 16:00

Middle East Market Prices of Polypropylene Injection/Raffia

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Middle East	1075-1080	1075-1080	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Middle East Market prices of PE as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:55

Middle East Market Prices of Polyethylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt								
	HDPE		Trend	LDPE		Trend	LLDPE		Trend
	21-7-10	22-7-10		21-7-10	22-7-10		21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Middle East	980-985	985-990	↑	1205-1210	1205-1210	▬	985-990	990-995	↑

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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The week sees PP prices slide in Asia - 15:50

Polypropylene (PP) prices were seen sliding in Asia this week. Ample availability coupled with competitively priced offers from across Asia, especially from the Middle East, kept the downward pressure on spot prices ticking.

CFR Far East Asia prices of PP injection and PP raffia were assessed down at the USD 1120/mt levels while PP film prices were assessed down at the USD 1140/mt levels.

In China's domestic markets where the buying momentum was dull, local rates were down at the Yuan 9550/mt ex-works for PP injection and PP raffia grades.

A PP trader a polymerupdate team member spoke with said, "time are difficult for PP makers with production margins negative and demand sluggish. In our opinion PP prices are slowly nearing bottom, however this is just a hunch as there are no convincing signs that buying will lift anytime soon."

SM demand in China subdued - 15:45

Although SM spent most of this week edging higher, on Thursday prices in Asia slipped. FOB Korea prices were assessed at the USD 965/mt levels, down over USD 10/mt on the day, but up on the week.

An SM trader a polymerupdate team member spoke with said, "demand in the downstream PS markets is still dull in most parts of Asia. Buying interest in SM is therefore largely tentative. We do see an occasional burst of buying interest, triggered by gains in crude and benzene values, but since economic fundamentals remain weak, sellers find it hard to sustain offers at higher levels. This is the reason why prices of SM on Thursday slipped."

He added, "sellers though are encouraged by reports of a recovery in select downstream products like ABS. They are also justifying firmer SM by citing gains recorded in benzene prices. Strength in overnight energy rates has today pushed offer prices of SM up at above the USD 1000/mt CFR China mark. But there is ample resistance at these price levels as buyers are not convinced that SM prices have tested bottom yet in Asia."

In China meanwhile, SM prices this week slipped. Prices were down at the Yuan 7925/mt levels. Ample availability kept the downward pressure on spot SM prices ticking.

European Market prices of Methanol as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:40

European Market Prices of Methanol

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Rotterdam Methanol	224-225	224-225	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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European Market prices of Benzene as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:35

European Market Prices of Benzene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Rotterdam Benzene	875-880	875-880	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**European Market prices of Toluene as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:30**

European Market Prices of Toluene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Rotterdam Toluene	755-760	750-755	↓

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**European Market prices of PX as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:25**

European Market Prices of ParaXylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Rotterdam PX	865-870	890-895	↑

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**European Market prices of Styrene as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:20**

European Market Prices of Styrene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Rotterdam Styrene	1070-1075	1070-1075	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**European Market prices of Propylene as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:15**

European Market Prices of Propylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in Euro		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FD NW European	895-905	895-905	■
CIF NW European	880-890	880-890	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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European Market prices of Ethylene as of 22nd July 2010 - 15:10

European Market Prices of Ethylene

Means of Delivery	Prices		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FD (EURO)	920-930	920-930	■
CIF (USD)	945-955	945-955	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Local source comments on fresh offers for PP and PE grades in the India markets - 15:05

A domestic industry source commented on fresh offers heard for PP and PE grades in the Indian markets.

The trader said, "Sabco, Saudi Arabia has announced LLDPE film grade offers at the USD 1140/mt levels while the offer for HMHDPE grades are pegged at the USD 1100/mt levels. Titan, Malaysia has offered LLDPE film grade at the USD 1170/mt levels. LLDPE film grade is being offered by Formosa, Taiwan at the USD 1180/mt levels.

The source added, "Equate, Kuwait continues to offer LLDPE film grade at the USD 1160/mt levels while its HMHDPE offer is pegged at the USD 1080/mt levels."

While commenting on PP price offers, the source stated, "LyondellBasell has offered PP Raffia/Injection grades at the USD 1180/mt levels while PP film grade is offered at the USD 1200/mt levels."

He said, "these offers are based on a CFR Nhava Sheva port basis for shipment in August 2010."

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PS buying trends still lacklustre in Asia - 15:00

Demand for PS continued to remain weak in Asia. Although the price fall in GPPS was arrested this week on the back of firmer upstream crude, naphtha and SM feedstock rates, purchase activity was not robust and buyer bids were seen low across the region, including in China.

CFR China prices of GPPS were assessed at the USD 1100/mt levels with bids heard low at the USD 1080/mt mark.

A PS buyer when contacted said, "these months are dull for PS consumption. With demand fundamentals weak in China we do not believe that Asian PS prices will recover anytime soon. Availability is ample hence need based requirements are comfortably being catered too. Sellers are hoping for the current bearish price trend to reverse but in all practicality we do not expect this to happen anytime soon."

HIPS prices meanwhile slipped in Asia with CFR China rates assessed down at the USD 1195/mt levels.

An HIPS buyer in China said, "despite the visibly steep reduction in HIPS offers of between USD 30/mt to USD 50/mt in Asia this week, we have not been enticed into sealing a purchase. We are currently distanced from buying and are unwilling to even indicate a firm bid price for now."

European Market prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:55

European spot Market Prices of Polypropylene Homopolymer

Prices in Euro/mt	Change
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Means of Delivery	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FD NWE	1185-1195	1185-1195	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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European Market prices of PE as of 22nd July 2010 prices - 14:50

European Spot Market Prices of Polyethylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in Euro/mt					Trend	
	LDPE		Trend	LLDPE			Trend
	21-7-10	22-7-10		21-7-10	22-7-10		
FD NWE	1240-1250	1240-1250	■	1175-1185	1175-1185	■	

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of M-Phthalic Acid as of 22nd July 2010 of - 14:45

Domestic China M-Phthalic Acid Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010

Producer	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Beijing Yanshan Petrochemical Corporation	9750-9850	■
AGIC	10150-10400	■
PERSTOP	9850-10150	■
KP	9850-10050	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of PA1010 as of 22nd July 2010 price - 14:40

Yuyao Domestic market price of PA1010 as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Shanghai celluloid	09-12	68000	68000	■
Shanghai celluloid	11	68000	68000	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of Adipic Acid as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:35

Domestic China Adipic Acid Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010

Producer	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Rhodia	18450-20250	■
Radici	21250-22000	■
Solutia	19900-20100	■
Ianxess	17700-17850	■
Ukraine	17100-17250	■
ShanDong HongYe	16850-16950	■
Liaoyang Petrochemical Fiber Co	16800-16950	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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moping@polymerupdate.com**International Market prices of VCM as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:30**

International Market Prices of VCM (Unit: USD / MT)

Means of Delivery	Prices		Trend
	15-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR Far East	745-750	760-765	▲
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA	775-780	785-790	▲

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**International Market prices of EDC as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:25**

International Market Prices of EDC (Unit: USD / MT)

Means of Delivery	Prices		Trend
	15-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR Far East	425-430	430-435	▲
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA	430-435	425-430	▼

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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feroz@polymerupdate.com**International Market prices of PVC as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:20**

International Market Prices of Poly Vinyl Chloride

Prices	Change
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Means of Delivery	15-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China	860-870	860-870	■
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA	870-880	870-880	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of ABS as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:15

International Market prices of ABS

Means of Delivery	Prices		Trend
	15-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China	1780-1790	1790-1800	↑
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA	1780-1790	1790-1800	↑

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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According to South Korean PP producer, demand for PP in China improves - 14:10

An industry source based in South Korea informed a polymerupdate team member on the run rates at a PP plant operated by PolyMirae, South Korea.

The source said, "the plant is currently operating at full capacity rates."

The source added, "the company operates a PP plant at the Yeosu Industrial Estate, South Korea with the No.1 line having a production capacity of 145,000 mt/year, the No.2 line having a production capacity of 165,000 mt/year while the No.3 and No.4 lines have production capacities of 176,000 mt/year and 170,000 mt/year respectively."

While commenting on the current market scenario, the source stated, "this week, an improvement was seen in demand in the Chinese markets. Traders have started taking positions and have bought some material which is more as compared to their last week's low buying volumes. The company had sold this week, PP homopolymer grades in the Chinese markets at the USD 1170/mt levels while PPCP grades were sold at the USD 1250/mt levels, for August shipment, on CFR China Main Port basis."

He said, "earlier, the No.1 and No.2 PP lines had undergone a maintenance turnaround from May 24 Until June 3."

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International Market prices of PS as of 22nd July 2010 - 14:05

International Market Prices of Polystyrene

Means of Delivery	Prices		Trend
	15-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China GPPS	1090-1100	1090-1100	■
CFR China HIPS	1210-1220	1190-1200	↓
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA GPPS	1095-1105	1095-1105	■
CFR SOUTH EAST OF ASIA HIPS	1215-1225	1195-1205	↓

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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MRC restarts bigger MMA line - 14:00

A source based in Far East Asia informed a polymerupdate team member on the MMA lines operated by Mitsubishi Rayon, Japan.

The source said, "the company operates Line A, Line B and Line C at an MMA plant in Otake city, Japan. Line A has a production capacity of 107,000 mt/year while Line B and C have production capacities of 55,000 mt/year each. Line B and C at the plant use the C4 process for the manufacture of MMA. The bigger line with a production capacity of 107,000 mt/yr was shutdown on July 3 on account of a technical problem. The company had resolved the problem and the line was brought back on-stream on July 9."

The source added, "currently, the line is operating at full production capacity rates."

When asked to comment on scheduled turnaround at the plant, he said, "one of the three lines will be taken offshore from mid October for a maintenance turnaround. The outage is expected to last for a duration of around 9 days. However, it could not be ascertained which line is set to be taken offshore."

The source added, "Line A at the plant uses the ACH process, which comprises of acetone and HCN (hydrogen cyanide)."

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Jinan Refinery Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 13:55

Jinan Refinery Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trend
PP	T30S	9800	per MT	■
	T36F	9900	per MT	■
	Z30S	9900	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of PA6 as of 22nd July 2010 PA6 - 13:50

Yuyao Domestic market price of PA6 as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Japan's Ube	1013B	27500	27500	■
Japan's Ube	1013NW8	29000	29000	■
Japan's Toray	CM1017	28100	28100	■
Japan's Mitsubishi	1030	40600	40600	■
Japan's Mitsubishi	1010C2	28200	28200	■
Germany's BASF	B3S	29800	29800	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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LLDPE prices dip across Asia - 13:45

LLDPE prices were pulled lower across Asia this week. The price fall was on account of lackluster buying trends in Asia coupled with reports of ample regional availability.

CFR Far East Asia prices were assessed down at the USD 1030/mt levels while CFR South Asia prices of LLDPE were assessed at the USD 1095/mt to USD 1100/mt levels.

In China, local buying trends remained weak. Prices were assessed down at the Yuan 8900/mt levels.

A local trader in China when contacted said, " there is ample availability and buying interest remains dull for now. Bids for August LLDPE are at the USD 1020/mt CFR levels."

He added, " however as the need for agricultural applications begins to lift in the third quarter, we will see LLDPE demand increase in China. Also important to monitor is a likely leap in demand in the Indian subcontinent ahead of the common wealth games due to be held in October."

Domestic Prices of Acetic Acid & Acrylic Acid China as of 22nd July 2010 - 13:40

Domestic China Acetic Acid & Acrylic Acid prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Acetic Acid (East China)	2775-2850	■
Acrylic Acid (HPAA East China)	14800-15000	■
Acrylic Acid (CAA East China)	12300-12400	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Methanol as of 22nd July 2010 - 13:35

International Market Prices of Methanol

Means of Delivery	Prices (Unit: USD / MT)		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China	240-245	245-250	↑
CFR SEA	250-255	250-255	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Styrene as of 22nd July 2010 - 13:30

International Market Prices of Styrene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	975-980	965-970	↓

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Far East Market prices of Propylene as of 22nd July 2010 - 13:25

Far East Market Prices of Propylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	1025-1030	1025-1030	■

CFR FE Asia	1020-1025	1025-1030	↑	1245-1250	1245-1250	■	1020-1025	1025-1030	↑
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■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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PVC price offers edge up in parts of Asia - 13:00

PVC prices were seen climbing in parts of Asia this week. Prices firmed on the back of stronger upstream EDC and VCM costs on the one hand coupled with higher crude and naphtha rates on the other. Demand in select parts of the region was also seen improved.

A trader a polymerupdate team member spoke with said, " we have seen need based buying this week which along with higher upstream costs has prompted sellers of PVC to hike their offer rates. To India for example, PVC price offers this week are up at the USD 950/mt CFR mark. There is some buying which has been reported at this price, however most buyers we contacted continued to bid at the USD 900/mt to USD 920/mt CFR India levels."

The trader added, " in China, buying trends remained subdued. Domestic prices were assessed at the Yuan 7000/mt levels for ethylene grade while carbide based PVC prices this week were assessed at the Yuan 6700/mt levels, delivered. There was no interest to import at the current offer levels and a majority of buyers believe that the recent floods to have hit several parts of southern China will further cripple purchase activity in the country in the weeks ahead."

International Market prices of MEG as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:55

International Market Prices of Mono Ethylene Glycol

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China	700-705	700-705	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of PTA as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:50

International Market Prices of Purified Terephthalic Acid

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR China	850-855	850-855	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Isomer MX as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:45

International Market Prices of Isomer Mixed Xylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	735-740	745-750	↑

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of PX as of 22nd July 2010of - 12:40

International Market Prices of ParaXylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	845-850	845-850	■
CFR Taiwan	850-855	850-855	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Toluene as of 22nd July 2010as - 12:35

International Market Prices of Toluene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	730-735	725-730	↓
CFR China	745-750	740-745	↓

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Ethylene as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:30

International Market Prices of Ethylene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
CFR Northeast Asia	845-850	845-850	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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International Market prices of Benzene as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:20

International Market Prices of Benzene

Means of Delivery	Prices in USD/mt		Change
	21-7-10	22-7-10	
FOB Korea	790-795	790-795	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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A South Korean source comments on shutdown of a cracker of Samsung Total - 12:15

An industry source based in South Korea informed a polymerupdate team member that a cracker operated by Samsung Petrochemicals, South Korea has undergone an emergency shutdown.

The source said, "located at Daesan, South Korea, the plant has a production capacity of 850,000 mt/year. An emergency shutdown was undertaken at the plant today morning due to a power outage. The plant had a power failure on account of a lightning which had struck the Daesan area today morning."

The source added, "the cracker is expected to resume production in a day or two."

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EDC and VCM prices in Asia inch higher - 12:10

Gains were recorded in Asian EDC prices this week on the back of firmer downstream VCM and PVC rates coupled with reports of tightening availability of EDC in the US.

CFR Asia prices of EDC were assessed up at the USD 430/mt levels with offers in the Far East heard up at the USD 450/mt CFR mark.

VCM prices meanwhile climbed in tandem with gains in the downstream PVC markets. CFR Far East Asia prices were assessed up at the USD 770/mt levels while CFR South East Asia prices were assessed up at the USD 790/mt levels. Offers in South East Asia were heard at the USD 800/mt CFR levels and higher.

In plant news, VC Malaysia's 440 kt/annum plant continued to remain shut with a restart planned for early August.

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ACN rates journey south in Asia - 12:05

Acrylonitrile (ACN) prices softened in Asia this week. Bearish trends in the downstream acrylic fibre markets has seen demand for ACN feedstock dwindle in the region.

An ACN seller in conversation with a polymerupdate team member said, "even though downstream ABS prices have shown signs of lifting on the back of improved demand, sellers of ACN have confirmed that their struggle to find buyers continue. Prices of ACN therefore drifted marginally lower this week, however purchase interest failed to show a lift despite the price drop."

CFR Far East Asia prices of ACN were assessed at the USD 2080/mt levels while CFR South East Asia prices were assessed down at the USD 2100/mt levels. Buying interest in China was heard at the USD 2030/mt to USD 2050/mt CFR levels.

Domestic Prices of Diethylene Glycol China as of 22nd July 2010 - 12:00

Domestic China Diethylene Glycol prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Diethylene Glycol	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
East China	8100-8150	■
South China	8075-8125	■
CFR China	\$ 1000-1008	■

■ Denotes no change in Prices ↓ Denotes a decline in Prices ↑ Denotes an increase in Prices

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Jingmen Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 11:55

Jingmen Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9900	per MT	■
	T36F	9950	per MT	■

■ Denotes no change in Prices ↓ Denotes a decline in Prices ↑ Denotes an increase in Prices

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Yuyao Domestic market price of PC as of 22nd July 2010 - 11:50

Yuyao Domestic market price of PC as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trends
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Japan's Teijin	K-1300	36800	36800	■
Japan's Idemitsu	IR2200	27500	27500	■
U.S. Dow	201-10	26000	25800	↓
U.S. Dow	303-15	26500	26500	■
Japan's Mitsubishi	S3001R	26500	26500	■
Japan's Mitsubishi	S3000UR	26500	26500	■
South Korea Miyaki	3025IR	27500	27500	■
Taiwan's Chi Mei	PC-110	24200	24000	↓
Bayer	2805	27500	27500	■
Jiaxing Teijin	L-1250Y	26000	26000	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Monoethylene Glycol as of 22nd July 2010 Glycol - 11:45

Domestic China Monoethylene Glycol as of 22nd July 2010.

Monoethylene Glycol	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
East China	5725-5775	■
South China	5835-5875	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Isobutyl Alcohol & Isooctanol China as of 22nd July 2010Alcohol - 11:40

Domestic China Isobutyl Alcohol & Isooctanol prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Isobutyl Alcohol (East China)	10300-10400	■
Isooctanol (East China)	12550-12800	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of PA66 as of 22nd July 2010 - 11:35

Yuyao Domestic market price of PA66 as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)	Trend
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		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Japan's Asahi formation	1300G	35500	35500	■
Japan's Asahi formation	1300S	37500	37500	■
Germany's BASF	A3K	41500	41000	■
DuPont U.S.	101L	36200	36000	↓

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Samsung Petrochemicals shuts down PTA plant - 11:30

An industry source based in South Korea informed a polymerupdate team member that a PTA plant operated by Samsung Petrochemicals, South Korea has been shutdown

The source said, "located at Daesan, South Korea, the plant has a production capacity of 700,000 mt/year. An emergency shutdown was undertaken at the plant this morning due to a power failure. A storm hit the Daesan area this morning which resulted in a power failure at the plant."

The source added, "the company has not yet taken any decision so far as to when the plant will resume operations."

He said, "before being taken offstream, the plant was operating at normal production levels."

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Forward naphtha prices climb sharply in Asia - 11:25

Open spec naphtha bid prices on Thursday for the 2nd half of August were assessed higher at the USD 641.50/mt CFR Far East levels while the ask rate was at the USD 643.50/mt CFR Far East levels.

A trader a polymerupdate team member contacted, said, "forward naphtha prices opened higher today, following a sharp rise in crude oil prices overnight."

He added, " the forward naphtha market price indications for the 2nd half of August were up at the USD 658.50/mt levels."

SMI on track to restart operations at no.1 SM plant - 11:20

A South East Asian source informed a polymerupdate team member on the restart plans of the No.1 styrene monomer (SM) plant operated by Styrimo Mono Indonesia (SMI).

The source said, "located at Merak in Indonesia, the company operates two SM plants at the site. The company had scheduled a maintenance turnaround at the No.1 SM plant having a production capacity of 100,000 mt/year. The shutdown began in the second half of May. The plant underwent a catalyst change during the downtime. The company is on track to resume production at the No.1 SM plant by the end of this month."

The source added, "the No.2 SM plant with a production capacity of 240,000 mt/year is currently operating at 100% production capacity rates."

On July 22nd, SM prices were down at USD 970/mt on FOB Korea mark.

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Demand for PA subdued across Asia - 11:15

August offers for Phthalic anhydride (PA) in Asia this week were stable at the USD 920/mt to USD 930/mt CFR levels. Demand however remained lackluster with the purchase momentum in China seen particularly dull.

A local PA buyer in China when contacted said, " trends in the downstream DOP markets are very dull. Several DOP plants are operating at reduced rates thereby lowering demand for PA feedstock. This is preventing us from stocking up on PA."

He added, " moreover, local availability of PA remains sufficient with domestic prices at the Yuan 7300/mt to Yuan 7350/mt ex works levels. This translates into a price below the USD 870/mt CFR mark. Offers from overseas sellers are at above the USD 940/mt CFR China levels. Clearly, the gap is too wide, making imports unviable at the current time."

Domestic Prices of Methanol & N-Butanol China as of 22nd July 2010 - 11:10

Domestic China Methanol & N-Butanol prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Methanol (East China)	2080-2120	■

N-Butanol (East China)	10600-10800	■
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■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Zhenjiang Chimei Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July - 11:05

Zhenjiang Chimei Petrochemical Prices as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PS	PG33	9500	per MT	■
	PH88	10400	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of POM as of 22nd July 2010 - 11:00

Yuyao Domestic market price of POM as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Taiwan's Li Gang	FM090	14500	14500	■
Korea Engineering Plastics	F20-02	14900	14900	■
Mitsubishi Thailand	F20-03	15600	15600	■
Nantong-TECPEL	F20-03	14300	14300	■
Nantong-TECPEL	M90-04	15600	15600	■
Nantong-TECPEL	M90-44	15600	15600	■
South Korea Cologne	K300	14200	14200	■
DuPont U.S.	100	35000	35000	■
DuPont U.S.	500P	23500	23500	■
DuPont U.S.	900P	26000	26000	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Mixed Xylene China as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:55


Domestic China Mixed Xylene prices as of 22nd July 2010.




Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
SolventNational Standard(Jiang Su)	6225-6250	■
SolventNational Standard(Zhe Jiang)	6325-6350	■
SolventNational Standard(Hua Nan)	6475-6525	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of OX China as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:50

Domestic China Ortho Xylene prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
O-Xylene (East China)	7400-7500	

	Denotes no change in Prices		Denotes a decline in Prices		Denotes an increase in Prices
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Rhodia continues to enhance its industrial footprint and reinforces its worldwide leadership in specialty surfactants - 10:45

Rhodia announced investments at Halifax (UK) and University Park (USA) industrial sites, part of the Group's profitable growth strategy in specialty surfactants. The investments at the two sites, formerly part of the McIntyre Group acquired by Rhodia in 2009, will optimize and increase production capacity and enhance competitiveness.

In the UK, Rhodia plans to consolidate surfactants production lines currently at Leeds and Halifax on a single platform to reinforce its long-term competitive position in Europe. The phased transfer of assets from Leeds to Halifax and accompanying investments will generate additional synergies and bring about the critical mass for new growth projects.

At the same time, to meet increasing demand from its North American customers, Rhodia will launch an investment program at the University Park, Illinois facility to upgrade and increase surfactant production capacities in the region.

Capitalizing on the development and optimization of its industrial footprint, Rhodia aims to strengthen the Group's leading positions in the specialty surfactants business across a range of markets, including home & personal care, oilfield, industrial and agrochemicals.

Rhodia Novocare President, Emmanuel Butstraen commented: "Eighteen months after the acquisition of McIntyre, we have successfully integrated the business and are delivering the expected synergies. To leverage these achievements and take advantage of the potential offered by the surfactants market, we are boosting the competitiveness of our sites as well as investing in the long term".

Rhodia is an international chemical company resolutely committed to sustainable development. As a leader in its businesses, the Group aims to improve its customers' performance through the pursuit of operational excellence and its ability to innovate. Structured around six Enterprises, Rhodia is the partner of major players in the automotive, electronics, flavors and fragrances, health, personal and home care markets, consumer goods and industrial markets. The Group employs around 13,600 people worldwide and generated sales of €4.03 billion in 2009. Rhodia is listed on Euronext Paris. Rhodia Novocare, with net sales of €327 million in 2009, is one of the six Group's Enterprises and provides high-performance products and solutions to a wide range of industries including cosmetics, detergents, agrochemicals and oil, as well as coating and industrial applications. Thanks to a worldwide industrial footprint and global R&D and tech-support network, Rhodia Novocare holds leading positions in the surfactants, phosphorus derivatives, natural polymers, synthetic polymers and monomers technologies, and eco-friendly oxygenated solvents markets. Rhodia Novocare has developed particular expertise to answer and anticipate customer needs in protection, surface modification, rheology, active delivery, improvement of formulations and processes and sustainability.

Murphy Oil Corporation Announces Plans to Exit the Refining Business - 10:40

Murphy Oil Corporation announced that its Board of Directors approved plans for exiting the Company's refining businesses. The refineries at Superior, Wisconsin; Meraux, Louisiana and Milford Haven, Wales along with the retail system in the United Kingdom will be placed for sale.

The Company anticipates a transaction being completed in the first quarter of 2011.

President and CEO David Wood commented, "Murphy's Upstream and U.S. Retail businesses have demonstrated marked growth and financial performance over the last several years. By exiting the refining business, we can fully focus our attention and resources on continuing that growth, developing a premier international upstream business and a top quartile U.S. retail franchise."

Goldman, Sachs & Co. is serving as exclusive financial advisor to Murphy during this process.

Crude prices climb sharply on Thursday - 10:35

Crude prices rose on Thursday on the back of gains recorded in Asian equity markets. Prices also firmed on account of reports of a formation of the third tropical storm Bonnie in the Gulf of Mexico.

While in conversation with an energy trader, a polymerupdate team member was informed, "crude oil prices surged due to an increase in Asian equity markets following better earnings announced by EBay Inc. and Caterpillar Inc. This resulted in a gain in the MSCI Asia Pacific Index by 1.4 percent to reach 117.14, at 9:58 a.m. in Tokyo."

The source added, " prices drifted higher on the back of an announcement by the National Hurricane Center. A report stated that a tropical storm Bonnie was

projected to cross the U.S. Gulf of Mexico production area. The Cyclone was said to be currently forming near the southeastern Bahamas and it was predicted that it could reach the Gulf of Mexico soon. Royal Dutch Shell announced Wednesday that they have commenced evacuating non-essential personnel from its Gulf producing operations."

Nymex crude futures traded higher at USD 79.30/barrel while Dated Brent spot prices up to trade at USD 77.30/barrel. WTI Cushing spot prices were higher at USD 79.03/barrel.

Domestic Prices of Styrene China as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:30

Domestic China Styrene prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Styrene	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
East China	7975-8025	■
South China	7800-7900	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of PMMA as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:25

Yuyao Domestic market price of PMMA as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Taiwan's Chi Mei	CM205	21200	21200	■
Taiwan's Chi Mei	CM207	21000	21000	■
Taiwan's Chi Mei	CM211	21000	21000	■
LG Chemical	IF850	22700	23000	↑
Nantong Rayon	MF001	22500	22500	■
Nantong Rayon	VH001	22500	22500	■
Germany Roma	80N	22200	23000	↑

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Toluene China as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:20

Domestic China Toluene prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
SolventNational Standard(Jiang Su)	5925-5950	■
SolventNational Standard(Zhe Jiang)	5925-5975	■
SolventNational Standard(Hua Nan)	6125-6175	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Pure Benzene China as of 22nd July 2010 - 10:15

Domestic China Pure Benzene prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Pure Benzene	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
East China	6100-6200	■
South China	6125-6175	■
North China	6075-6175	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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DOP prices in Asia tumble - 10:10

A total lack of buying activity weighed down heavily on Asia's DOP markets this week, dragging spot prices sharply lower.

A DOP seller in conversation with a polymerupdate team member said, "the pulse of the markets is dry. We are struggling to find buyers despite our willingness to drop our offer rates. There are inquiries coming our way, but the price targets of the interested buyers of DOP are way too low for us to match, hence we do not consider them as serious inquiries."

CFR China prices were assessed down over USD 60/mt on the week at the USD 1400/mt levels. Bids were pegged at levels as low as the USD 1350/mt CFR mark.

In plant news, Aekyung Ningbo Petrochemical shutdown its DOP plant at the start of this week on account of negative margins. The plant has an annual output capacity of 150,000 mt.

AkzoNobel publishes Q2 2010 results - 10:05

- Revenue up 13 percent to €3.9 billion (5 percent in constant currencies)
- EBITDA €614 million (2009: €506 million), up 21 percent
- EBITDA margin 15.7 percent (2009: 14.7 percent)
- 2011 EBITDA margin target of 14 percent already achieved
- Sale of National Starch to complete in H2
- Cautiously optimistic in spite of continuing economic uncertainty

[Please click here for further details](#)

ConocoPhillips Cancels Wilhelmshaven Refinery Upgrade - 10:00

ConocoPhillips announced today the cancellation of plans to upgrade the Wilhelmshaven refinery in Germany.

"This move is consistent with our stated strategy of maintaining capital discipline and reducing our downstream portfolio over time," said Willie Chiang, senior vice president of Refining, Marketing and Transportation. "We will also explore other options to improve shareholder value including operating the facility as a terminal and pursuing the sale of the asset."

Due to cancellation of the upgrade project, the company expects to recognize a non-cash asset impairment of approximately \$1.1 billion after tax in its second quarter financial results.

ConocoPhillips is an integrated energy company with interests around the world. Headquartered in Houston, the company had approximately 29,900 employees, \$155 billion of assets and \$179 billion of annualized revenues as of March 31, 2010.

CNOOC Ltd Announces Commencement of Oil Production from BZ 29-4 - 09:55

CNOOC Limited announced on Thursday that BZ 29-4, an independent oil field in the Bohai Bay, has commenced production successfully.

BZ 29-4 oil field, with an averaged water depth of about 22 meters, is located in the south part of Bohai Bay. The field's development and production operation will mainly rely on the facilities of the producing field BZ 28-2S. BZ 29-4 is projected to peak its daily production at 7,800 barrels within 2010.

Mr. Chen Bi, Executive Vice President of the Company, said, "The start-up of BZ 29-4 gives us more confidence in meeting our annual production target. We will continue to enhance our operation performance and ensure more projects to be brought on stream within this year."

BZ 29-4 is an independent oil field. CNOOC Ltd holds 100% interest and acts as the Operator.

2EH prices in Asia sink - 09:50

A steep slide in downstream DOP prices on account of sluggish regional buying, pulled lower prices of 2EH in Asia this week.

On Thursday, CFR China prices of 2EH were assessed down at the USD 1510/mt levels with buying interest notionally pegged at below the USD 1500/mt CFR mark.

Most sellers the polymerupdate team connected with said that they were unwilling to drop their offers so sharply. They insisted that availability of 2EH was not ample given shutdowns in the region including at PetroChina's facility and at Eastman's complex in Singapore. Moreover, propylene feedstock prices this week were assessed higher.

2EH offers to China for August cargoes were heard pegged at the USD 1520/mt levels with some offers heard at levels as high as USD 1540/mt CFR mark. Buyers however were reluctant to pay these high prices and hence no deals were reported in the region this week.

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Shin-Etsu financial data for the First Quarter ended June 30, 2010 - 09:45

Although it was affected by the long-term sluggish demand of the U.S. housing market, Shintech Inc. in the U.S. strove to expand its sales to its customers worldwide and continued a high level of shipments. Shin-Etsu PVC in the Netherlands also had strong shipment; however, it was affected by the rising prices of raw materials.

[Please click here for further details](#)

NBA prices in Asia firm up - 09:40

NBA prices firmed in Asia this week. The return of inquiries from the region's key market of China boosted seller confidence. Demand was seen lifting in other regional markets too, prompting sellers to increase their offer rates to the USD 1350/mt CFR levels for August cargoes.

An NBA buyer a polymerupdate team member spoke with said, "we are aware that prices have improved and demand has turned robust. Avails are tight and seller confidence has boosted. However, a price offer of USD 1350/mt CFR China is irrationally high and premature in our reading."

He added, "a workable price for August NBA would be nearer the USD 1280/mt to USD 1290/mt CFR mark."

In plant news, PetroChina's NBA plant at Jilin was down for maintenance. Eastman's plant in Singapore was shutdown on July 1st for repairs.

Plastics Daily Commentary - MF Global as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:35

In other markets, things sold off sharply in the aftermath of Chairman Ben Bernanke's congressional testimony yesterday. However, losses did not linger around too long, as there has been an equally abrupt recovery in today's trading. Crude oil markets are now up by almost \$3/brl, and the US stock market has recouped all of yesterday's losses - and then some. Base metals are also higher, as is the Euro. European markets are waiting for stress test results out tomorrow, which we expect will likely fuel another uptick across the board.

We got June existing home sales out earlier in the day showing sales of existing home sales falling 5.1% in June from May levels, but the drop was smaller than expected. Sales rose nearly 10% from a year earlier. In the meantime, the US equity markets are discounting a slew of earnings from the likes of Caterpillar, the Travelers, UPS, Amazon, AT&T, Eli Lilly, and Microsoft, all released earlier today or after the close. For the most part, earnings have been strong and should bode well for the markets over the next week.

[Please click here for further details](#)

Domestic Prices of Dimethyl Ether China as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:30

Domestic China Dimethyl Ether prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
Dimethyl Ether (East China)	3350-3450	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Phenol China as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:25

Domestic China Phenol prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Phenol	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trends
East China	14400-14500	↑
North China	13800-14000	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Zhongyuan Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:20

Zhongyuan Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9650	per MT	▬
	F401	9750	per MT	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yuyao Domestic market price of K-Resin as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:15

Yuyao Domestic market price of K-Resin as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Philips	KR03	19400	19400	▬
Taiwan's Chi Mei	PB-5903	21000	21000	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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LME Plastics Prices - 22nd July 2010 - 09:10

As a result of the LME select electronic trading session on **22nd July 2010** at 12.20 - 12.25 (London time), the official prices for LME plastics contracts are as follows:

	PP Global	PP Asia (PA)	PP Europe (PE)	PP North America (PN)	LL Global	LL Asia (LA)	LL Europe (LE)	LL North America (LN)
Cash & Settlement	1240	1240	1290	1280	1130	1345	1400	1130
August (3rd Wednesday)	1240	1240	1290	1300	1100	1350	1400	1100
September (3rd Wednesday)	1240	1240	1290	1320	1090	1355	1400	1090

"The LME is a 24 hour market." The LME publishes daily official plastics prices for cash, month 1 and month 2 for all Polypropylene and Linear Low Density Polyethylene contracts. The official prices established are basis trading on LME Select (the LME's electronic trading platform) during the five minute pricing period between 12.20 and 12.25. The LME

daily settlement price is the official cash price discovered in the 12.20 to 12.25 trading period. It is announced each day and is the price used to settle the contracts at maturity. The monthly price is basis the third Wednesday of that month.

[Polypropylene contract specifications](#)

[LLDPE contract specifications](#)

Domestic Prices of Titanium Dioxide China as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:05

Domestic China Titanium Dioxide prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trend
Imported Rutile Type	18750-21750	■
Imported Anatase Type	18750-20350	■
Domestic Rutile Type	12400-13950	■
Domestic Anatase Type	10150-11350	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Caustic Soda China as of 22nd July 2010 - 09:00

Domestic China Caustic Soda prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Products	Prices are in Yuan/MT	Trend
Caustic Soda Flakes 96%	1770-1835	■
Caustic Soda Flakes 99%	1870-1905	■
Diaphragm Caustic Soda Liquid 30%	435-470	■
Caustic Soda Liquid(IM) 32%	530-540	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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SNAPSHOT : Indore market as of July 22, 2010 - 08:55

While in conversation with a polymerupdate team member last evening, a trader informed on buying trends and prevailing prices of PP, PE and PVC in the open markets of Indore.

The trader said, " the buying mood was sluggish in the open markets of Indore."

The trader said, "HMHDPE prices in Indore's open markets were at Rs.66/kg to Rs.67/kg levels while HDPE injection was at Rs.69/kg levels. HD Blowmoulding was at Rs.66/kg levels. LLDPE film was at Rs.72/kg to Rs.73/kg levels."

He added, "ethylene based PVC was at Rs.56/kg levels. LDPE film was at Rs.88/kg levels."

He said, "PP raffia was at Rs.73/kg to Rs.73.50/kg levels. PP film prices were at Rs.75/kg to Rs.75.50/kg levels while PP injection was at Rs.74/kg to Rs.74.50/kg levels."

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SNAPSHOT : Bangalore market as of July 22, 2010 - 08:50

While in conversation with a polymerupdate team member last evening, a trader informed on buying trends and prevailing prices of PP, PE and PVC in the open markets of Bangalore.

The trader said, " buyers continued to keep away from making purchases in the open markets of Bangalore on Thursday."

The trader said, "HMHDPE prices in Bangalore's open markets were lower at Rs.68/kg levels while HDPE raffia was heard at Rs.71/kg levels. HDPE injection was at Rs.67/kg levels. HD Blowmoulding was at Rs.68/kg levels. LLDPE film was at Rs.73/kg levels."

He added, "ethylene based PVC was at Rs.57.50/kg levels. LDPE film was at Rs.90/kg levels."

He said, "PP raffia was at Rs.72/kg levels. PP film prices were down at Rs.77/kg to Rs.78/kg levels while PP injection was at Rs.74/kg to Rs.74.50/kg levels."

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SNAPSHOT : Kolkata market as of July 22, 2010 - 08:45

While in conversation with a polymerupdate team member last evening, a trader informed on buying trends and prevailing prices of PP, PE and PVC in the open markets of Kolkata.

The trader said, "sporadic buying was witnessed in the open markets of Kolkata on Thursday."

The trader said, "HMHDPE prices were at Rs.67.50/kg to Rs.68/kg levels while HDPE injection was at Rs.68/kg levels. HD Blowmoulding was at Rs.68/kg levels. LLDPE film was down at Rs.72/kg levels."

He added, "ethylene based PVC was at Rs.55.50/kg levels. LDPE film was lower a tad at Rs.93/kg levels."

He said, "PP raffia was heard at Rs.72.50/kg to Rs.73/kg levels. PP film prices were at Rs.74/kg to Rs.74.50/kg levels while PP injection was at Rs.73.50/kg levels."

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SNAPSHOT : Delhi market as of July 22, 2010 - 08:40

While in conversation with a polymerupdate team member last evening, a trader informed on buying trends and prevailing prices of PP, PE and PVC in the open markets of Delhi.

The trader said, " some buying was observed in the open markets of Delhi on Thursday."

The trader said, "HMHDPE prices in Delhi's open markets were at Rs.67/kg to Rs.67.50/kg levels while HDPE raffia was heard at Rs.67/kg to Rs.68/kg levels. HDPE injection was at Rs.70/kg levels. HD Blowmoulding was at Rs.68/kg levels. LLDPE film was at Rs.73/kg levels."

He added, "ethylene based PVC was at Rs.56/kg to Rs.56.50/kg levels. LDPE film was at Rs.92/kg levels."

He said, "PP raffia was at Rs.73/kg to Rs.74/kg levels. PP film prices were at Rs.76.50/kg to Rs.77/kg levels while PP injection was at Rs.75/kg levels."

SNAPSHOT: Mumbai market as of July 22, 2010 - 08:35

While in conversation with a polymerupdate team member last evening, a local trader commented on buying trends and prevailing prices of PP, PE and PVC in the open markets of Mumbai.

The trader said, " small quantity buying was witnessed in the open markets of Mumbai on Thursday."

The trader added, "HMHDPE prices in the open markets were at Rs.67/kg TO Rs.68/kg levels while HDPE raffia was at Rs.71/kg levels. HDPE injection was at Rs.68/kg to Rs.69/kg levels. HD Blowmoulding was at Rs.69.50/kg levels. LLDPE film was pegged lower at Rs.73/kg levels."

The trader added, "ethylene based PVC prices were quoting at Rs.54/kg levels. LDPE film was at Rs.89/kg to Rs.90/kg levels."

He said, "PP raffia was at Rs.72/kg levels, PP film was at Rs.73/kg to Rs.74/kg levels while PP injection was at Rs.74.50/kg to Rs.75/kg levels."

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US source comments on Deer Park refinery - 08:30

A source based in the United States informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a refinery operated by Shell Oil Co.

The source said, "located at Deer Park, Texas in USA, the refinery has a processing capacity of 327,000 bpd. A fire broke out at the refinery on July 20 forcing the unidentified unit at the refinery to halt operations. The fire was contained within 15 minutes. Other units at the refinery in the Houston suburb of Deer Park continued to operate normally."

The Deer Park refinery is a 50:50 joint venture between Pemex and Shell.

Petroquim restarts PP plant - 08:25

A South American source informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a polypropylene (PP) plant operated by Petroquim.

The source said, "located at Bio-Bio in Chile, the PP plant is heard to have a production capacity of 100,000-150,000 mt/yr. The company had shutdown operations at the plant in February this year on account of feedstock constraints caused by an 8.8 magnitude earthquake that had damaged the refinery that provides feedstock. The plant has resumed production recently and is operating at curtailed rates. The company will ramp up run rates at the plant once the plant achieves normal operations."

Qatar Petroleum to build new refinery - 08:20

A Middle East source informed a polymerupdate team member on a new refinery to be built by Qatar Petroleum.

The source said, "located at Messaieed Industrial City, Doha in Qatar, the Al Shaheen refinery will have a processing capacity of 1 million bpd. An estimated investment for the new project is pegged at USD11 billion. Construction of offsite utilities is slated to commence in Q1 2012 and is likely to be completed in 2015. Construction of a hydrocracker is also scheduled for completion with the rest of the refinery and will process around 30,000-50,000 bpd of crude and convert low-value oil residue into valuable products. The company will also build continuous catalytic reformer unit consists of two 25,000 bpd reformers that will convert low-octane naphtha into a high octane reformate for gasoline blending."

Kashima OCU of Mitsubishi Chemicals restarts operations - 08:15

A Far Eastern source informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of an olefins conversion unit (OCU) operated by Mitsubishi Chemicals.

The source said, "located at Kashima in Japan, the OCU has a propylene production capacity of 150,000 mt/yr. The plant was taken offstream on April 23 for maintenance for a period of around 56 days. As per earlier plans, the same was likely to resume production on June 17. The company had postponed restart plans. The exact reason behind the delay could not be ascertained."

The source added, "the plant however restarted operations recently and is currently operating at normal rates."

Far East source comments on IPA plant of LCY - 08:10

An industry source based in Far East Asia informed a polymerupdate team member on the operational status of an Iso Propyl Alcohol (IPA) plant operated by Lee Chang Yung (LCY) Chemical Corporation, Taiwan.

The source said, "located at Kaohsiung in Taiwan, the production capacity of the IPA plant is 100,000 mt/yr. The company has witnessed improved demand fundamentals from the domestic markets, prompting the company to operate the plant at full production capacity rates."

He said, "the company has no plans for maintenance at the plant as of now."

The main use for isopropanol (IPA) is in solvents with outlets in paints and resins, pharmaceuticals, food, inks and adhesives. Some chemical compounds are manufactured from IPA, in particular, derivative ketones such as methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), isopropyl amines and isopropyl esters.

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Vietnam source comments on new PP plant of PetroVietnam - 08:05

An industry source based in Vietnam informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a new PP plant by PetroVietnam.

The source said, "located at Dung Quat in Quang Ngai province, the plant has a production capacity of 150,000 mt/year. Construction of the 150,000 tpa plant started in December 2007 with a total investment outlay of USD 234 million. The company had started trial production at the plant during last month."

The source added, "the plant rolled out its first product on July 15."

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Far East source comments on MEK plant of Tonen Chemical - 08:00

A Far East Asian source informed a polymerupdate team member on a methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) plant operated by Tonen Chemical Corporation.

The source said, "located at Kawasaki in Kanagawa prefecture in Japan, the MEK plant has a production capacity of 90,000 mt/yr. The company has scheduled maintenance at the plant during the third quarter of the current year. The company schedules a turnaround at the facility once every four years. As per this plan, the plant will be taken offstream in mid August for a period of around 40 days."

The source added, "currently, the plant is operating at normal rates."

Tonen Chemical is a subsidiary of Tonen General.

MEK is used as a solvent in the inks and coatings sector, which include applications in polyurethanes products.

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Yangzi BASF Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:55

Yangzi BASF Petrochemical Prices as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
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GPSS	143E	9800	per MT	■
	158K	9800	per MT	■
HIPS	466F	10600	per MT	■
	2710	10600	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of PP-R as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:50

Domestic China PP-R Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010 (Prices are in Yuan/T)

Producer	Prices	Trend
Yanshan Petrochemical Company (B8101)	11500	■
Yanshan Petrochemical Company (B4101)	11800	■
Yanshan Petrochemical Company (4220)	12100	■
Petro China Daqing Refining and Chemical Company (PA14D-1)	11100	■
Petro China Daqing Refining and Chemical Company (4228)	11100	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Qilu Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:45

Qilu Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9900	per MT	■
	EPS30RA	10000	per MT	■
	EPS30R	10000	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Shanghai SECCO Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:40

Shanghai SECCO Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	S1003	10100	per MT	■
	S1003N	10200	per MT	■
	K8003	10500	per MT	■
	K8003N	10200	per MT	■
	S2040	10500	per MT	■
	S2040N	10500	per MT	■
	K7926	10600	per MT	■
	K7926N	10500	per MT	■









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 Denotes no change in Prices	 Denotes a decline in Prices	 Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of Butanone as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:35

Domestic China Butanone Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010 (Prices are in Yuan/MT)







Producer	Prices	Trend
Hebei Zhongjie Petrochemical	8200	
Heilongjiang Petrochemical	7500	
Lanzhou Oil Refining & Chemical	8100	
Taizhou Petrochemical	8200	
Zibo Qixiang	8200	
Dushanzi Petrochemical Tianli	8100	
Fushun Petrochemical Company	8100	
Harbin refinery	7700	




 Denotes no change in Prices	 Denotes a decline in Prices	 Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yanshan Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:30

Yanshan Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010



Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	S1003	9850	per MT	
	K8303	10350	per MT	
	4220	12100	per MT	
	K7726	10500	per MT	
	K4912	10550	per MT	
	B4808	10550	per MT	

 Denotes no change in Prices	 Denotes a decline in Prices	 Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of EVA as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:25

Domestic China EVA Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010 (Prices are in Yuan/MT)

Producer	Prices	Trend
Beijing Organic (14-2)	15300	
Beijing Organic (18-3)	15200	

BASF-YPC Company Limited (V4110F)	14900	■
BASF-YPC Company Limited (V4110J)	14600	■
BASF-YPC Company Limited (V5110J)	14600	■
BASF-YPC Company Limited (V5110K)	14800	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Yangzi Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:20

Yangzi Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	F401	10500	per MT	■
	S1004	10600	per MT	■
	S700	10600	per MT	■
	J340	10800	per MT	■
	K8003	10600	per MT	■
	F1002B	10300	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Daqing Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:15

Daqing Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9800	per MT	■
	T38F	9900	per MT	■




■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of GPPS China as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:10

Domestic China GPPS prices as of 22nd July 2010








Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Yanshan Petrochemical	666D	9000	9000	■
Yangzi-Basf	158K	9700	9700	■
Zhenjiang Chi Mei	PG-33	9500	9500	■
Zhanjiang new Sino-US	525	9800	9800	■
Guangzhou Petrochemical	525	9200	9200	■
Shanghai Secco	GPPS-123	9300	9300	■
Shanghai Secco	GPPS-251	9400	9400	■
Jiangsu Leiden	GPS-525	10000	10000	■




	Denotes no change in Prices		Denotes a decline in Prices		Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of HIPS China as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:05

Domestic China HIPS prices as of 22nd July 2010





Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Panjin Ethylene	825	10500	10000	
Zhenjiang Chi Mei	PH-88	10400	10400	
Yangba Styrene	466F	10500	10500	
Guangzhou Petrochemical	GH660	10200	10200	
Shanghai Secco	HIPS-514	10300	10300	
Shanghai Secco	HIPS-622	10400	10400	
Jiangsu Leiden	688	11000	11000	




	Denotes no change in Prices		Denotes a decline in Prices		Denotes an increase in Prices
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Panjin Ethylene Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 07:00

Panjin Ethylene Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010




Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	F401	10250	per MT	
	J340	10050	per MT	
	P340A	10200	per MT	
	PPB240	11050	per MT	




	Denotes no change in Prices		Denotes a decline in Prices		Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic China prices of POM as of 22nd July 2010 - 06:55

Domestic China POM Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010 (Prices are in Yuan/T)

Producer	Prices	Trend
Yuntianhua Group (M90)	11000	
Yuntianhua Group (M270)	11000	
Shanghai Bluestar New Chemical Materials Plant (BS090)	11500	

	Denotes no change in Prices		Denotes a decline in Prices		Denotes an increase in Prices
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China XD Plastics Announces Updated 2010 Total Revenue and Non-GAAP Adjusted Net Income Guidance - 06:50

China XD Plastics Company Limited ("China XD Plastics" or the "Company"), (Nasdaq: CXDC), one of the leading Chinese producers engaged in the development, manufacture, and distribution of modified plastics primarily for use in automotive applications in China, announced that it has updated its

revenue and non-GAAP adjusted net income guidance for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010 from what was previously announced in April 2010. The Company now expects its 2010 revenue to be in the range of \$185 million and \$215 million and it expects its 2010 non-GAAP adjusted net income to be in the range of \$30 million and \$33 million, excluding any non-cash charges related to the change in fair value of the existing derivative liabilities and stock-based compensation.

Mr. Jie Han, Chairman and CEO of China XD Plastics, commented: "We believe that our updated guidance for fiscal year 2010 reflects successful execution of our strategy to drive profitable growth, as we continue to benefit from favorable automotive industry trends and positive macroeconomic conditions in China."

The Company had previously expected its 2010 revenue to be in the range of \$170 million and \$200 million and it had expected its 2010 non-GAAP adjusted net income to be in the range of \$27 million and \$30 million.

About China XD Plastics Company Limited

China XD Plastics Company Limited, through its wholly owned subsidiary, Harbin Xinda Macromolecule Material ("Xinda"), develops, manufactures, and distributes modified plastics, primarily for use in the production of automobile parts and components. The Company's specialized plastics are used to produce: exterior parts, such as automobile bumpers, rearview and sideview mirrors and license plate parts; interior parts, such as door panels, dashboard, steering wheel, glove compartment and safety belt components; and functional components, such as air conditioner casings, heating and ventilation casings, engine covers, and air ducts. The Company's specialized plastics are utilized in more than 30 automobile brands manufactured in China, including Audi, Red Flag, Volkswagen and Mazda. The Company's wholly-owned research institute is dedicated to the research and development of modified plastics, and benefits from the cooperation with well-known scientists from prestigious universities in China. At present, 152 of 263 of Xinda's automotive-specific modified plastic products have been certified by one or more of the automobile manufacturers in China.

Fuwei Films Announces Successful Launch of New Dry Film Product - 06:45

Fuwei Films (Holdings) Co. Limited (Nasdaq: FFHL) ("Fuwei Films" or the "Company"), a manufacturer and distributor of high-quality BOPET plastic films located in China, announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Fuwei Films (Shandong) Co. Ltd. ("Shandong Fuwei"), has successfully completed the development of a new dry film product. The test sample has passed the strict examination by Hitachi Chemical Shanghai and Asahi ASEI.

Dry film is a high demand product in the global market. Because of the barriers to entry due to sophisticated R&D, technology and production criteria, Fuwei is one of only two major manufacturers in the Chinese BOPET industry currently producing this kind of dry film.

Dry film is generally used in circuit boards (PCB & FPC) production, in addition to nameplate and crafts etching. It is not only the most widely used mask film for PCB graphics but also indispensable image material for manufacturing precision circuits.

According to Mr. Xiaohan He, Chairman and CEO of Fuwei, "R&D has always been one of the key competitive advantages of our company. We have successfully introduced the new dry film product into the market and we expect to expand the production in the future."

About Fuwei Films

Fuwei Films conducts its business through its wholly owned subsidiary Shandong Fuwei Films Co., Ltd. ("Shandong Fuwei") Shandong Fuwei develops, manufactures and distributes high-quality plastic films using the biaxial oriented stretch technique, otherwise known as BOPET film (biaxially oriented polyethylene terephthalate). Fuwei's BOPET film is widely used to package food, medicine, cosmetics, tobacco and alcohol, as well as in the imaging, electronics, and magnetic products industries.

Domestic China prices of PMMA as of 22nd July 2010 - 06:40

Domestic China PMMA Ex-factory Price as of 22nd July 2010 (Prices are in Yuan/T)

Producer	Prices	Trend
Zhenjiang Qi Mei (CM-211)	16400	■
Zhenjiang Qi Mei (CM-207)	16400	■
Zhenjiang Qi Mei (CM-205)	16400	■
Evonik Degussa (China) Co.,Ltd (8N)	16000	■
Shanghai Jingqi Chemical (MG888)	16000	■
Heilongjiang Longxin Chemical Co.,Ltd (LX-040B)	16000	■
Heilongjiang Longxin Chemical Co.,Ltd (LX-025B)	16000	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Specialty Polymers Company ATRP Solutions Picks Up Steam With New Leadership, Products and Funding - 06:35

Randy Eager has been named CEO at ATRP Solutions, a Carnegie Mellon University spin-out which develops polymeric materials for personal care products, paints, adhesives, coatings and life sciences applications. Randy is the former Founder and CEO of the Carnegie Mellon spin-out, DesignAdvance Systems,

built a successful business unit within the polymers division of BASF, and most recently was Executive in Residence at Innovation Works, one of the nation's most active investors in seed-stage technology companies. In addition to building out the leadership team, ATRP is preparing its next breakthrough products for commercial launch and has had the initial close on a round of funding.

Building sales and product development momentum has led to investment from industry insiders, seasoned angels and follow-on funding from Innovation Works. "Over the last two years, ATRP Solutions has experienced rapid revenue growth for its existing products and an expanding product pipeline. We are excited to attract a CEO with a rich track record of building large polymer product businesses," said Patrick McCarthy, President of ATRP Solutions. "With his considerable experience as a CEO and with his management role at BASF, Randy has the right mix of skills and experience to lead ATRP Solutions through the next phase of its development."

"We are happy to see Randy step into a leadership role with one of our high potential portfolio companies," says Rich Lunak, President & CEO of Innovation Works. "Randy's prior experience as the CEO of a start-up, knowledge of the polymer industry and experience in raising early-stage finance will be a real plus for the company. ATRP Solutions is building a high-quality team around their breakthrough chemistry solutions. We are even more bullish than ever about ATRP's prospects to become a fast-growing, regional technology company."

Early customers are testing a new thickening agent by ATRP engineered to address weaknesses in thickening ingredients currently in use in the personal care and cosmetic industry. The new product, Advantomer™, thickens things like lotions and shampoos with a very small amount of material and has the unique ability to absorb and deliver small molecules – such as fragrances and drugs – over time. "We are able to utilize the atom transfer radical polymerization (ATRP) process to produce engineered polymers with superior qualities over existing polymers," said Mr. McCarthy. "These qualities are highly sought-after. We're seeing an increase in product sales from customers across North America, Asia and Europe and anticipate continued growth through 2011."

About ATRP Solutions, Inc. - ATRP Solutions, Inc. (www.atrpsolutions.com) is an innovative specialty polymers company that spun out of Carnegie Mellon University to commercialize atom transfer radical polymerization (ATRP) technology. It is a revolutionary process for manufacturing polymers engineered for specific properties. This technology resulted from 15 years of research at CMU and was funded by more than \$10 million in government grants. ATRP is a platform technology that is being used to address persistent problems across the broad \$20 billion specialty polymer industry. The company has chosen personal care and cosmetics market as the market of entry because polymers are the critical value adding component of most of the products in this very dynamic industry. ATRP is an Innovation Works portfolio company.

About Innovation Works - Innovation Works is the Ben Franklin Technology Partner (BFTP) of Southwestern PA. As one of the nation's most active investors in seed-stage technology companies, Innovation Works provides regional startups in all technology sectors with the risk capital and business mentoring they need to grow and succeed. Over the last ten years, Innovation Works has invested over \$45 million in roughly 125 companies. These companies have gone on to raise more than \$800 million in follow-on capital.

Solutia Seeks to Expand Saflex® Interlayer Manufacturing Capacity in South America - 06:30

Solutia Inc. announced that it is optimizing and expanding its Saflex® polyvinyl butyral (PVB) interlayer manufacturing capacity in South America as part of its strategic plan to continue serving as a leading supplier of PVB technology into the region's architectural and automotive glass markets.

"Solutia's steadfast commitment to the South American market continues to grow. This region, specifically Brazil and Argentina, is a rapidly expanding market for the key automotive and construction industries," said Timothy J. Wessel, president and general manager of Solutia's Advanced Interlayers division. "We are optimizing our current operations and will be implementing future expansions to better position our customers to seize opportunities in the market."

Saflex is the most trusted name in polyvinyl butyral (PVB) interlayer technology for laminated glazing, delivering outstanding performance and durability backed by reliable and knowledgeable service. Saflex interlayers are found in nearly 40 percent of laminated architectural and automotive glass worldwide, and are also used to encapsulate thin film photovoltaic solar cells, providing outstanding processability and durability. Solutia currently has six manufacturing sites worldwide that produce Saflex PVB interlayers and encapsulants, including a facility in San Jose dos Campos, Brazil.

"As the global economic recovery continues, increased demand for quality interlayer products has followed," said Eric S. Nichols, vice president of business management for Solutia's Advanced Interlayers division. "Solutia will continue to invest in its manufacturing capabilities to meet increased market demand."

Solutia is a market-leading performance materials and specialty chemicals company. The company focuses on providing solutions for a better life through a range of products, including: Saflex® polyvinyl butyral interlayers for glass lamination and for photovoltaic module encapsulation and Vistasolar® ethylene vinyl acetate films for photovoltaic module encapsulation; LLumar®, Vista™, FormulaOne®, Gila®, EnerLogic™, V-KOOL®, Hüper Optik®, IQue™, Sun-X® and Nanolux® aftermarket performance films for automotive and architectural applications; Flexvue™ advanced film component solutions for solar and electronic technologies; and technical specialties products including Crystex® insoluble sulfur, Santoflex® PPD antidegradants, Therminol® heat transfer fluids and Skydrol® aviation hydraulic fluids. Solutia's businesses are world leaders in each of their market segments. With its headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, the company operates globally with approximately 3,300 employees in more than 50 worldwide locations.

Unique Borealis solution achieves market first for VW "under-the-bonnet" component - 06:25

Borealis' unique glass fibre reinforced polypropylene (PP) compound XMOD GB306SAF is helping Volkswagen (VW) and parts manufacturer MAHLE Filter Systems UK improve production cost-efficiency and achieve both performance and environment-friendly benefits for the Air Intake Manifolds (AIMs) used on a wide variety of VW car models. Their choice of high-performance XMOD GB306SAF from Borealis, a leading provider of chemical and innovative plastics solutions, makes VW the first automotive OEM to switch from glass reinforced Polyamides to PP for this high tech under-the-bonnet application.

"Plastic air intake manifolds are used in the majority of vehicles produced worldwide today because of the optimised air flow, design freedom and general reductions in weight and cost they offer over their metal counterparts," comments Dennis Nicholls, project manager MAHLE UK. "However, rising under-the-hood temperatures, demands for improved function integration capability, noise reduction and ever-lighter components, plus the need to reduce our own and our customers' overall system costs, means we have had to look beyond Polyamides to meet these challenges."

Borealis worked in close co-operation with MAHLE Filter Systems, providing material development and computer aided design and testing support, to ensure XMOD GB306SAF was the optimum solution for producing AIMs that would satisfy VW's specific requirements. These are lower system costs without significant change in tool and part design, better acoustic behaviour and use of an environment-friendly material. To eliminate MAHLE's need for equipment investment, same-speed production with existing injection moulding processes and post-moulding techniques, such as direct screwing, was a key stipulation.

XMOD GB306SAF is a high stiffness 35% glass fibre reinforced PP compound that offers long-term high heat and chemical resistance, vibration resistance combined with high fatigue and a broad operating temperature between -40°C and +120°C. Existing manufacturing equipment and processes for AIMs can be used. In addition, as a lighter-weight, lower density material it enables weight reductions for AIMs of up to 15%, while offering exceptional sound damping that surpasses current acoustic behaviour for AIMs.

XMOD GB306SAF contributes to lowering overall production costs for AIM parts through its lower material price and its lightweight benefits of improved handling and reduced energy usage. Lower processing temperatures and the lack of pre-drying further reduce overall energy consumption and eliminate manufacturing steps, achieving more cost-effective production.

"Polypropylene is already the most widely used thermoplastic material in cars and under the bonnet", adds Harald Hammer, Vice President Business Unit Mobility. "As proven with the Air Intake Manifold, this XMOD material leads the way in further diversifying automotive applications for PP, delivering the step change in cost-efficiency, weight reduction and environmental performance the industry requires."

Borealis Business Unit Mobility

Borealis' Mobility business specialises in supplying advanced polyolefin plastics to leading manufactures in the automotive industry. The portfolio of products includes materials for exterior, interior and under the bonnet applications, such as bumpers, body panels, trims, dashboard, door cladding, climate control units, air intake manifolds as well as battery cases. Through close collaboration with our customers, innovative technologies and our extensive product portfolio, Borealis has established a leading position on the automotive market across Europe and South America.

Borealis is a leading provider of chemical and innovative plastics solutions that create value for society. With sales of EUR 4.7 billion in 2009, customers in over 120 countries, and 5,200 employees worldwide, Borealis is owned 64% by the International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC) of Abu Dhabi and 36% by OMV, the leading energy group in the European growth belt. Borealis is headquartered in Vienna, Austria, and has production locations, innovation centers and customer service centers across Europe and the Americas. Through Borouge, a joint venture between Borealis and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), one of the world's major oil companies, the company's footprint reaches out to the Middle East, Asia Pacific, the Indian sub-continent and Africa. Established in 1998, Borouge employs approximately 1,400 people, has customers in more than 50 countries and its headquarters are in Abu Dhabi in the UAE and Singapore.

Building on the unique Borstar® technology and their experience in polyolefins of more than 50 years, Borealis and Borouge provide innovative, value creating plastics solutions for the infrastructure (pipe systems and power and communication cables), automotive and advanced packaging markets. In addition, Borealis offers a wide range of base chemicals from melamine and plant nutrients to phenol and acetone.

Today Borealis and Borouge manufacture over 4 million tonnes of polyolefins (polyethylene and polypropylene) per year. Borouge is currently tripling its polyolefins manufacturing capacity to 2 million tonnes per year (t/y) by mid-2010 and an additional 2.5 million t/y is scheduled for 2013. The companies continue to invest to ensure that their customers throughout the value chain, across the globe, can always rely on product quality, consistency and security of supply.

Borouge and Borealis are committed to the principles of Responsible Care® and proactively contribute to addressing the world's water and sanitation challenges through their Water for the World™ initiative.

LCY operates etac plant at normal rates - 06:20

A Far Eastern source informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of an ethyl acetate (etac) plant operated by LCY Group, Taiwan.

The source said, "located at Kaohsiung, Taiwan, the plant has a production capacity of 60,000 mt/year. Since late May, the plant is operating at 85 percent of production capacity. The reduced run rates are a result of prevalent poor demand fundamentals in the domestic markets. The company may be forced to reduce run rates further if there is no improvement in market sentiments."

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Far East source comments on ECH plant of Hanwha Chemicals - 06:15

A Far East industry source informed a polymerupdate team member on the operational status of an epichlorohydrin (ECH) plant operated by Hanwha Chemicals.

The source said, "located at Yeosu, South Korea, the plant has a production capacity of 250,000 mt/year. At present, the plant is operating at normal rates. The product is currently enjoying steady demand fundamentals in the domestic markets."

The source added, "the plant had been under a shutdown from May 17 till May 29 for repairs due to a leak."

Nippon Oil operates IPA plant at normal rates - 06:10

An industry source based in Far East Asia informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of an Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) plant operated by Nippon Oil Corporation, Japan.

The source said, "located at Kawasaki in Japan, the IPA plant has a production capacity of 85,000 mt/yr. The company has witnessed stable demand from the downstream markets. The company supplies materials mainly to South East Asia."

The source added, "currently, the plant is operating at normal rates."

When asked to comment on the turnaround schedule at the plant this year, he said, "the company plans to shut operations at the plant in October for a period of around nine days."

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Bavaria refinery to undergo maintenance turnaround in 2011 - 06:05

A European source informed a polymerupdate team member on the turnaround schedule of a refinery operated by Bayernoil Raffineriegesellschaft mbH.

The source said, "located in Neustadt an der Donau in Bavaria, the refinery has a processing capacity of 120,000 bpd. The company has scheduled maintenance turnaround at some units at the refinery. The entire Neustadt site will undergo maintenance in the first quarter of next year. This turnaround,

which mainly will entail cleaning and inspection work, will affect the whole facility and involve 15 operational units. The estimated downtime will be 26 non-production days, including processing units such as the 92,000 bpd Topping 1 unit; the 34,700 bpd Vacuum 1 unit; the 28,000 bpd FCC; the 13,900 bpd Reformer 1; the 8,200 bpd Reformer 2; and others."

hetal@polymerupdate.com

Wuhan Phoenix Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 06:00

Wuhan Phoenix Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9800	per MT	■
	T36F	9800	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Tianjin Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:55

Tianjin Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9900	per MT	■
	EPS30R	10000	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of ABS China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:50

Domestic China ABS prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Tianjin	0215A	15200	15200	■
CNPC East China	0215A	14800	14800	■
Jilin Petrochemical	0215A	15000	15000	■
CNPC Southwest	0215A	15250	15250	■
Ningbo LG	HI-121H	16200	16200	■
Lanzhou Petrochemical	301	15000	15000	■
Daqing Petrochemical	750A	15000	15000	■
Zhenjiang Chi Mei	PA-757K	15400	15400	■
Zhenjiang Chi Mei	PA-707K	15200	15200	■
Panjin Ethylene	CH510	14700	14700	■
Zhenjiang States Hang	D-180	15300	15300	■
CNPC in South China	0215A	14800	14800	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of PVC China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:45

Domestic China PVC prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan/ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Qilu Petrochemical	S-1000	7150	7150	■
Qilu Petrochemical	S-700	7300	7300	■
Shanxi Yushe	SG-5	6750	6750	■
Shandong	SG5	6950	6950	■
Henan IAF	SG3	7100	7100	■
Sichuan resin	SG5	7000	7000	■
Qingdao Hai Jing	SG3	7250	7250	■
Tianjin Chemical Industry	SG7	7000	7000	■
Tianjin Taku	SLK-1000	7500	7500	■
On the chlorine Shenfeng	WS-1000S	7600	7600	■
On the chlorine Shenfeng	WS-1300S	7600	7600	■
On the chlorine Shenfeng	WS-800S	7600	7600	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Fushun Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:40

Fushun Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	10000	per MT	■
	T38FE	10050	per MT	■
	HY525	10200	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Luoyang Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:35

Luoyang Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	F401	9650	per MT	■
	S800-1	9700	per MT	■
	YS835	9750	per MT	■
	YS830	9700	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of LLDPE China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:30

Domestic China LLDPE prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Yangzi Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9000	9150	↑
Shanghai Secco	LL0220AA	8900	8900	▬
Guangzhou Petrochemical	DFDA-2001	9300	9300	▬
Guangzhou Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9250	9250	▬
Qilu Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9150	9250	↑
Jilin Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9300	9100	↓
Maoming Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9200	9200	▬
CNPC Southwest	DFDA-7042	9200	9200	▬
CNPC in South China	DFDA-7042	9000	9000	▬
Daqing Petrochemical	DFDA-7042	9300	9100	↓
Zhongyuan Ethylene	9050K	9100	9200	↑
Tianjin joint	1820	8750	8850	↑
Tianjin joint	1875	8700	8800	↑
Shanghai Secco	LL0209AA	9200	9200	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of LDPE China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:25

Domestic China LDPE prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Yangzi BASF	1810D	10600	10600	▬
CNPC Southwest	1810D	10850	10850	▬
PetroChina East China	18D	10350	10400	↑
Daqing Petrochemical	18D0	10250	10250	▬
Daqing Petrochemical	18G	11100	11100	▬
Yanshan Petrochemical	1C7A	11100	11100	▬
Yanshan Petrochemical	112A-1	11800	11800	▬
Qilu Petrochemical	2100TN00	10600	10600	▬
Qilu Petrochemical	2102TN00	10100	10100	▬
Yangzi-BASF	2420H	10200	10200	▬
Daqing Petrochemical	18D	10400	10400	▬
Daqing Petrochemical	2426F	10200	10400	↑
Qilu Petrochemical	2102TN26	10100	10100	▬
Northeast Petroleum	2426F	10200	10200	▬

▬	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:20

Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T300	9950	per MT	■
	M700R	10050	per MT	■
	M180R	10050	per MT	■
	M2600R	10100	per MT	■
	M800E	10800	per MT	■
	M250E	10800	per MT	■
	GM1600E	10800	per MT	■
	Y1600	10150	per MT	■
	Y2600	10150	per MT	■
	F280S	9900	per MT	■
	F800E	10500	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Guangzhou Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:15

Guangzhou Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	F401	10000	per MT	■
	J501/JF501	10000	per MT	■
	S800	10150	per MT	■
	CJS700	10150	per MT	■
	F400H	10030	per MT	■
	J641	10000	per MT	■
	CS820	10150	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▼	Denotes a decline in Prices	▲	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of HDPE China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:10

Domestic China HDPE prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Daqing Petrochemical	2200J	8600	8600	■
Yanshan Petrochemical	2300XM	9600	9600	■
CNPC Southwest	2911	9500	9500	■
Fushun ethylene	2911	9300	9300	■
Yanshan Petrochemical	3000JE	10000	10000	■
Yanshan Petrochemical	3300J	10000	10000	■
CPC South	5000S	10000	9600	▼
Daqing Petrochemical	5000S	9800	9800	■
YPC	5000S	10000	10000	■

Yanshan Petrochemical	5200B	9600	9600	■
Daqing Petrochemical	5300B	9500	9500	■
CNPC Southwest	5300B	9700	9700	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of PP China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:05

Domestic China PP prices as of 22nd July 2010

Manufacturers	Grades	Price (yuan / ton)		Trend
		21-7-10	22-7-10	
Liaoyang Petrochemical	5004	10000	10000	■
Liaoyang Petrochemical	70126	10600	10600	■
Liaoyang Petrochemical	71735	10600	10600	■
Yanshan Petrochemical	B4808	10550	10550	■
Guangzhou Petrochemical	CJS700	10150	10150	■
Guangzhou Petrochemical	CS820	10150	10150	■
Maoming Petrochemical	EPC30R-H	10000	10000	■
Dushanzi	EPS30R	10000	10000	■
Maoming Petrochemical	EPS30R	10000	10000	■
Qilu Petrochemical	EPS30R	10150	10150	■
Tianjin	EPS30R	10150	10150	■
Maoming Petrochemical	EPT30R	10000	10000	■
Yangzi Petrochemical	F1002B	9900	9900	■
Maoming Petrochemical	F280M	10000	10000	■
Shanghai Petrochemical	F280S	9950	9950	■
Zhenhai Refining & Chemical	F280Z	9900	9900	■
Guangzhou Petrochemical	F400H	10030	10030	■
Guangzhou Petrochemical	F401	10000	10000	■
Luoyang Petrochemical	F401	9900	9750	↓
Yangzi Petrochemical	F401	9950	9950	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	↓	Denotes a decline in Prices	↑	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Domestic Prices of Naphtha China as of 22nd July 2010 - 05:00

Domestic China Naphtha ex-factory prices as of 22nd July 2010.

Manufacturers	Price in Yuan	Unit
Dongming Petrochemical	6630	per MT
Hongyuan	6150	per MT
Yong Xin	5950	per MT
Xinhai	6800	per MT
Lijin Petrochemical	5850	per MT
CNOOC Petrochemical	6000	per MT

Hunan Refinery Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 04:55

Hunan Refinery Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	T30S	9650	per MT	■
	T38F	9750	per MT	■
	V30G	9800	per MT	■
	Z30S	9900	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Maoming Petrochemical Polymer Product Prices as of 22nd July 2010 - 04:50

Maoming Petrochemical Prices of PP as of 22nd July 2010

Product Name	Specifications Model (Grades)	Prices in Yuan	Unit price	Trends
PP	N-T30S	10000	per MT	■
	T30S	10000	per MT	■
	N-MPHM-160	10000	per MT	■
	N-F280M	10050	per MT	■
	EPS30R	10000	per MT	■
	EPC30R-H	10000	per MT	■
	EPT30R	10000	per MT	■
	HHP4	10600	per MT	■
	HHP6	10350	per MT	■
	HHP8	10450	per MT	■

■	Denotes no change in Prices	▾	Denotes a decline in Prices	▴	Denotes an increase in Prices
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Asahi Kasei operates PMMA plant at maximum rates - 04:45

A Far East Asian source informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a PMMA plant operated by Asahi Kasei.

The source said, "the company operates two PMMA plants in Japan. Located at Kawasaki, the PMMA plant has a production capacity of 30,000 mt/yr while the Chiba plant has a production capacity of 25,000 mt/yr. Currently, both plants are operating at maximum rates. The company has witnessed an improved demand for optical-grade PMMA in the production of new generation flat screen panels."

The source added, "the company sources feedstock MMA from its own MMA plant at Kawasaki having a production capacity of 100,000 mt/yr."

GP-grade PMMA is used in everyday applications, such as photo frames, souvenirs, illuminated signs, bathtubs and vehicles.

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Far East source comments on SM plant of Asahi Kasei - 04:40

A source based in Far East Asia informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a Styrene Monomer (SM) plant operated by Asahi Kasei, Japan.

The source said, "located at the Mizushima Petrochemical Complex in Okamoto Prefecture in Japan, the SM plant has a production capacity of 710,000 mt/yr. The plant comprises of two production lines. The No 2 line has a production capacity of 390,000 mt/yr. Earlier, this line was taken offstream for maintenance in mid-March 2010. The shutdown lasted for a period of around one month. The line was brought back on-stream on April 5 and is currently operating at near full production capacity rates."

The source added, "the company operates a 320,000 mt/yr No 1 line, at the same site, which was taken off stream in mid-Feb for around 70 days of maintenance. The company had restarted operations in the second half of April. Currently, the line is operating at 70% production capacity rates."

He said, "the company supplies mainly to the domestic market and also exports some quantities to its contract customers in Far East Asian countries like Taiwan, Korea and China."

Commenting further on the SM price trend in Asia, he said, "on July 22, FOB Korea prices of SM were assessed up at the USD 980/mt while CFR Japan prices were assessed up at the USD 1000/mt CFR mark."

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China source comments on BDO plant of Fujian Meizhouwan - 04:35

A Chinese source informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of a Butanediol (BDO) plant operated by Fujian Meizhouwan Chlor-Alkali Industry Co Ltd, China.

The source said, "located at Fujian province in China, the Butanediol (BDO) plant has a production capacity of 35kt/yr. The plant was taken offstream for maintenance during second half of last month. The shutdown lasted for between 10-12 days. The plant had resumed production in early July. Currently, the plant is operating at around 80% production capacity rates. The company is in the process of ramping up operational rates at the plant."

He said, "the company supplies its materials mainly to contract customers."

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Mitsubishi Chemicals operates EO plant at maximum rates - 04:30

An industry source based in Far East Asia informed a polymerupdate team member on the current status of an Ethylene Oxide (EO) plant operated by Mitsubishi Chemicals, Japan.

The source said, "located at Kashima in Japan, the EO plant has a production capacity of 290,000 mt/yr. Currently, the EO plant is operating at maximum rates."

The source added, "the ethylene oxide produced at the plant is mainly used for captive consumption to produce Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG). The company operates an MEG plant at the same site having a production capacity of 300,000 mt/yr. The company sells MEG only to the domestic markets."

Meanwhile, on July 22, the MEG prices were assessed up at USD 705/mt on CFR South East Asia levels.

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Source comments on refinery of Murphy Oil - 04:25

An industry source based in USA informed a polymerupdate team member late last evening on the status of the refinery operated by Murphy Oil Corp.

The source said, "the company operates, a 108,000 barrels per day Milford Haven oil refinery in Wales. The production was stopped for a short period of time at the refinery on late Tuesday, July 20, following a fire at one of the processing unit."

The source added, "the processing unit was hit by fire on account of a power failure. However, the fire was doused immediately."

Chinese source comments on Dalian Petrochemicals - 04:20

An industry source based in China informed a polymerupdate team member on the current operational status at CNPC Dalian Petrochemicals, China.

The source said, "a 400,000 barrels per day refinery has come back to normal operations from Thursday. The company has cut the refinery's output after a pipeline explosion at the port on July 16 disrupted supply of crude throughput to its refinery."

He said, "the run rates at the refinery will be ramped up to full levels, as soon as the terminal resumes and repairs are completed at the pipeline."

Mitsui shuts down MEG plant for maintenance - 04:15

An industry source based in Japan informed a polymerupdate team member on the shutdown of an MEG plant operated by Mitsui Chemicals, Japan.

The source said, "located at Osaka, Japan the MEG plant has a production capacity of 50,000/year. The plant was shutdown on July 22 for a maintenance turnaround. The turnaround is expected to remain in force for about 30 days."

The source added, "before being taken offstream, the plant was operating at lower rates of around 70% of production capacity levels due to poor demand fundamentals in the domestic and Asian markets."

The source added, "the company was operating an MEG plant at Chiba, Japan with a production capacity of 170,000 mt/year. The company has permanently shutdown the plant, last year, in July 2009."

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FIPC to shutdown PC plant for maintenance - 04:10

An industry source based in Taiwan informed a polymerupdate team member that the No.1 and No.2 polycarbonate (PC) units operated by Formosa Idemitsu Petrochemicals (FIPC), Taiwan are likely to be shutdown for maintenance.

The source said, "the company operates the No.1 PC unit and the No.2 PC unit at Mailiao, Taiwan with production capacities of 60,000 mt/year and 50,000 mt/year respectively. The company has planned a maintenance turnaround at the plant towards the end of 2010. The shutdown will start in December 2010. The outage will last for a period of about one month.

The source added, "Currently, both the units are running at maximum production rates."

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Thai source comments on new BPA plant of PTT Phenol - 04:05

An industry source based in Thailand informed a polymerupdate team member that construction on a new BPA plant by PTT Phenol, Thailand is progressing as per schedule.

The source said, "the plant is being built at the Map Ta Phut Industrial Estate and will have a production capacity of 150,000 mt/year. Construction on the plant commenced in March 2009. The construction has been completed during last month. It is expected to start commissioning process at the plant in November/December 2010. Commercial production is slated to start by early next year."

The source added, "phenol feedstock for the plant will be procured from an existing phenol and acetone plant operated by the company at the same site with production capacities of 200,000 mt/year and 124,000 mt/year respectively."

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Overseas producers hike PVC price offers in the Indian markets - 04:00

A domestic industry source informed a polymerupdate team member on the import offers for PVC in the Indian markets.

The source said, "LG, South Korea has increased PVC resin suspension grade offers to USD 950/mt levels. Formosa, Taiwan has also up adjusted its PVC resin suspension grade price offers to USD 950/mt levels. These offers are higher by about USD 20/mt levels as compared to the last offers from these companies to India."

The source added, "these offers are based on a CIF Nhava Sheva basis for shipment in August 2010."

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