

# Weekly Market News

16th - 20th June 2025

## Combustion engines can also benefit fuel cells

ENGINE's  
Konica Bhatt  
interviewed  
hydrogen fuel cell  
manufacturer  
PowerCell

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## Pilbara gears up for ammonia bunker pilot next year

The Pilbara Ports Authority plans to begin **ammonia bunkering trials** at Port Hedland in Western Australia by 2026, building on a ship-to-ship (STS) transfer pilot conducted last year at the Port of Dampier. It has released a roadmap to establish Pilbara as a “clean fuel bunkering hub” by 2030, with focus on sourcing locally produced green and blue ammonia for bunkering. Norwegian firms Yara Clean Ammonia and NH3 Clean Energy have planned separate projects to begin green and blue ammonia production at Dampier by 2026 and 2029, respectively. Meanwhile, the BP-led Australian Renewable Energy Hub (AREH) project at Port Hedland aims to produce 9 million mt/year of green ammonia by the mid-2030s. The Pilbara Ports Authority intends to leverage these and other regional projects to support ammonia bunkering at Port Hedland.

## Seaspan completes first LNG bunkering in Nanaimo

Seaspan Energy has completed the first LNG bunkering operation at Canada's Port of Nanaimo, supplying the Eukor-chartered car carrier **Lake Saint Anne**. Seaspan's LNG bunker tanker **Seaspan Garibaldi** delivered an LNG stem to the Lake Saint Anne, which is managed by Singapore-based Eastern Pacific Shipping and chartered by South Korean shipping line Eukor. The operation marked the port's first-ever LNG bunkering, according to the port authority. Seaspan operates three LNG bunker vessels along the West Coast of North America. It has previously supplied LNG to container ships, car carriers and bulk carriers in Vancouver.

## FincoEnergies goes digital on paperwork in the ARA

FincoEnergies will issue **electronic bunker delivery notes (eBDNs)** for all of its marine **biofuel** deliveries across the ARA hub, replacing the paper forms signed once pumping is complete. The electronic notes should cut paperwork time, reduce transcription errors and let invoices go out sooner, according to the company. Dutch barge operator VT Group and the DNV tech spin-off Ofiniti are partners on the project. Electronic BDNs are the exception, not the rule in bunker ports around the world. But according to FincoEnergies this will reduce admin and speed things up, especially as increased biofuel bunker demand puts more pressure on its operations. “Schedules are becoming increasingly tighter as demand for sustainable biofuels grows,” FincoEnergies trading and operations director Leon Arets said.

## European farmers urge biofuel import fraud crackdown

European farmers coalition Copa and Cogeca has raised concerns that the European Union's Renewable Energy Directive (RED) has opened the door for “fraudulent” feedstocks to enter the bloc's **biofuel supply chain**. The coalition has urged the EU to act against a surge in fraudulent waste and residues imports for biofuels production. Advanced biofuels made from feedstocks listed in Part A of Annex IX in the EU's RED lack transparency but still qualify for double counting, Copa-Cogeca said. Imported feedstocks range from used cooking oil (UCO) and palm oil mill effluent (POME) to ethanol, and have incited unfair competition against EU crop- and waste-based biofuels, the coalition argues. “Contrary to its original purpose, the energy content multiplier - or double counting - applied under the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) transport targets is increasingly being misused, turning into an entry point for a wave of fraudulent feedstock imports,” it said.





## Van-Oil launches bunker supply at berth in Peru's Chancay port

Bunker supplier Van-Oil has started supplying **VLSFO** and **LSMGO** grades at berth at the Peruvian port of Chancay. Located on Peru's central coast, about 80 km north of Lima, the newly built port began bunker supply operations in July last year, when Van-Oil made its first delivery. In addition to Chancay, the company also supplies **LSMGO** and **VLSFO** grades at the Peruvian ports of Pisco, San Nicolas and Matarani.



## Maersk kicks off new methanol vessel series with latest delivery

A.P. Moller-Maersk has taken delivery of its **14th methanol-capable** dual-fuel vessel, Berlin Mærsk - the first in its 17,480-TEU class series. Earlier this month, Maersk concluded its 16,000-TEU methanol-capable vessel series with the delivery of 12 ships. In addition, it has retrofitted one of its conventionally-fuelled container ship to run on methanol, bringing its current fleet total to 13. Berlin Mærsk will operate on the East Asia-Northern Europe trade route.

### Singapore bio-bunker sales in May

139,000 mt

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111,000 mt

## Singapore bio-bunker and LNG sales rose in May

Singapore's bio-blended bunker sales **rose by 25%** in May, rebounding after a decline in the previous month, according to preliminary data from the port authority. Total sales reached 139,000 mt, up from 111,000 mt in April. Of this, around 96,000 mt was **VLSFO blended with a bio component** - typically 24% in Singapore. **Bio-HSFO** accounted for 41,000 mt, while **bio-LSMGO** made up the remaining 2,000 mt. No **bio-ULSFO** sales were recorded in May. For the January-May period, total biofuel bunker sales reached 610,000 mt - around 2.5 times more than the 241,000 mt recorded during the same period last year. **LNG** bunker sales rose for a third straight month. Some 1,450 mt/day of LNG was sold, up from 1,400 mt/day in April. **B100** (100% biofuel) appeared in the sales data for the third time this year, with around 1,900 mt sold in May. No **methanol** bunker sales have been reported so far this year.

## Weekly Brent developments

Front-month ICE Brent is heading for a **huge 6% rise** on the week, backed by mounting geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and a massive draw in US crude inventories.

### Upward pressure:

Hostilities between Israel and Iran escalated this week after Israeli strikes on two Iranian nuclear sites and Iran's retaliatory airstrikes that hit a hospital in southern Israel. The recent exchange of fire between the two nations has raised fears of a wider conflict in the oil-rich Middle East, with growing speculation over potential US involvement.

"The market is being held in suspense over US President Donald Trump's next move on the Israel-Iran conflict, more specifically whether he would authorise a direct US attack on the Islamic Republic," Vanda Insights' founder and analyst Vandana Hari remarked.

Commercial US crude oil inventories declined by 11.5 million bbls to touch 421 million bbls for the week ending 13 June, according to the US Energy Information Administration.

### Downward pressure:

Brent has felt some downward pressure due to a steady rise in OPEC+ production in recent months. Total crude output from OPEC+ members averaged 41.23 million b/d in May, an increase of 180,000 b/d from April, according to the group's latest monthly oil market report.

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