

Weekly Market News

1st - 5th September 2025

Integr8
Research's
Steve Christy
examines recent
bunker market
trends and says:

Supply surge
signals more
downside

READ
REPORT



Shell scraps Rotterdam biofuel plant construction

Shell has cancelled plans to resume construction of its 820,000 mt/year **biofuels facility in Rotterdam**, citing adverse market conditions and high completion costs.

"As we evaluated market dynamics and the cost of completion, it became clear that the project would be insufficiently competitive to meet our customers' need for affordable, low carbon products," said Machteld de Haan, Shell's downstream, renewables and energy solutions president. Shell already produces HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil)-based biofuel for bunkering and recently supplied HVO100 to three vessels operated by German fleet manager Flotte Hamburg. Shell's move comes amid wider industry pressures. In July, UK-based Greenergy launched a consultation to cease production at its Immingham biodiesel plant, citing sustained "market pressures" despite recent cost-cutting measures.

Another German port ready for methanol bunkering

Hamburg Port Authority (HPA) has issued safety and operational guidelines for ship-to-ship (STS) **methanol and LNG bunkering** at the Port of Waltershof, a container terminal within the Port of Hamburg. HPA already permitted LNG and methanol bunkering for cruise ships in Hamburg, and the new guidance will now cover container ships. HPA has deemed supply infrastructure at the Burchardkai and Predöhlkai container terminals in Waltershof "bunker-ready" for methanol and LNG operations. It will now issue permits for methanol bunker suppliers. With this move "the Port of Hamburg is strengthening its position as a Sustainable Energy Hub and contributing to the Green Corridor agreements concluded," HPA said.

Furetank turns to biomethane for FuelEU compliance

Swedish shipping firm Furetank has signed a contract to secure "large-scale deliveries of **mass-balanced biomethane**" for its LNG dual-fuel fleet. Mass balancing ensures accurate tracking of sustainable feedstocks along the supply chain, blending renewable and non-renewable materials while maintaining an exact record of the sustainable portion.

Last year, Furetank said it had converted its entire fleet to run on LNG under a new vessel series and ordered additional LNG dual-fuel ships, bringing the total count to 21. The company plans to run all dual-fuel ships in the EU on biomethane throughout this year.

"This gives us the opportunity to trade surplus emission reductions - both for ourselves and for others," said Viktoria Höglund, chief executive of Furetank's subsidiary CO2mpliance.

J-ENG completes trials of ammonia-capable engine

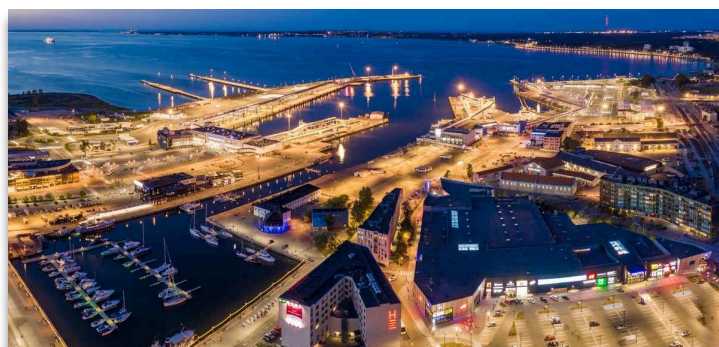
Engine manufacturer Japan Engine Corporation (J-ENG) has completed testing of its newly developed **ammonia-capable 50-bore dual-fuel engine** under the supervision of NYK Line, Nihon Shipyard, Japan Marine United (JMU) and classification society ClassNK.

The engine was tested in both ammonia and heavy fuel oil operating modes. Before developing the full-scale model, J-ENG had carried out around 1,000 hours of trials on a single-cylinder ammonia-fuel test engine at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries' R&D Center in Nagasaki between May 2023 and September 2024. Drawing on those results, J-ENG built its first commercial-scale engine and began ammonia test runs in April. The unit is scheduled for shipment in October and will be installed on an ammonia-capable medium gas carrier under construction at JMU's Ariake Shipyard. The vessel is expected to enter into service in 2026. J-ENG is also developing a larger 60-bore ammonia-capable engine for bigger vessels.



TotalEnergies delivers first STS LNG bunker stem in Le Havre

The Port of Le Havre has completed its first ship-to-ship (STS) **LNG bunkering** operation at a RoRo terminal. French energy company TotalEnergies' chartered LNG bunker vessel Gas Agility supplied 1,073 mt of LNG to the RoRo vessel Lake Travis. This operation follows the terminal receiving an "LNG Ready" certification in June, confirming that its safety procedures and staff training have been adapted to accommodate LNG-fuelled vessels.



New e-methanol project in Estonia targets bunker market

Singapore-based renewable energy startup Destiny Energy plans to build a 10,000 mt/year **e-methanol plant** in Estonia, its chief executive Vijay Sirse said. The plant will use 100% biogenic CO2 and green hydrogen as inputs. The CO2 will be sourced from two local biomethane producers while the hydrogen will be produced on-site. E-methanol production is expected to begin by 2028 and will cater to the bunker industry, Sirse added.

Fujairah fuel oil stocks
in August

7.04m bbls

Fujairah fuel oil stocks
in July

9.53m bbls

Fujairah's fuel oil stocks plunged by 26% in August

Fujairah's fuel oil inventories averaged **26% lower** in August than in July, according to Fujairah Oil Industry Zone (FOIZ) and S&P Global data.

The port's fuel oil imports averaged 174,000 b/d in August, down from 254,000 b/d in July, according to cargo tracker Vortexa. Exports slipped by a marginal 2,000 b/d to 207,000 b/d in August, shifting Fujairah's trade balance into a net export position.

In August, the bulk of imports came from Iran (24%), Russia (21%) and Iraq (19%).

On the export side, most volumes were shipped to Singapore (57%), followed by Malaysia (18%) and Oman (10%).

Middle distillate stocks also declined, averaging 11% below July levels.

Prompt bunker supply remains tight across all grades in Fujairah, with recommended lead times of 5-7 days. Similar conditions persist in the nearby Khor Fakkan port.

Weekly Brent developments

Front-month ICE Brent is set to **fall 1%** on the week as investors focus on Sunday's OPEC+ meeting, where a further hike in production targets is expected.

Downward pressure:

The Saudi Arabia-led group has already unwound 2.2 million b/d of voluntary output cuts over the past six months and is now widely expected to consider another hike.

"OPEC+ is floating the idea of production hikes at this weekend's meeting," SPI Asset Management managing partner Stephen Innes said.

Meanwhile, the release of downbeat US job data for July has raised concerns about a weakening labour market and a broader economic downturn in the country.

Upward pressure:

The US has imposed sanctions on several shipping companies and vessels for allegedly smuggling Iranian oil disguised as Iraqi product. By tightening sanctions, the US administration aims to drive Iran's oil exports to zero.

Additionally, risks to oil supply have intensified as Russia and Ukraine continue cross-border shelling. These attacks come "as the US looks to increase sanctions on Russia to force it to the negotiating table," said ANZ Bank senior commodity strategist Daniel Hynes.

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