



Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Monday, August 3, 2026 · As of Aug 3, 2026 09:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Global energy markets are showing a bullish trend, driven by strong demand and geopolitical tensions impacting crude and shipping. Natural gas prices are rising on August heat forecasts, while tanker newbuilding and secondhand prices continue to hit record highs, reflecting tight vessel supply and robust freight rates. Bunker prices remain elevated, particularly for MGO, despite some pullback in VLSFO and HSFO.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	45,000	42,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	32,000	30,500

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	22,000	25,000
MR, 37	TC2 (UKC-USAC)	18,500	19,200

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)			
Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	102,000	132.0	172.0
Suezmax, 130	65,000	95.0	95.0

LNG (\$/DAY)			
Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	13,000	Flat	30,231
174M3 TFDE (Atlantic)	15,000	Stable	35,000

LPG (\$/DAY)			
VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)			34,643
MGC, 22 (USGC-Europe)			28,000

BUNKERS (\$/MT)			
Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	799.5	655.5	1,443.5
Rotterdam	676.0	550.0	1,250.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES			
Index	Last	Chg	
S&P 500 United States	7,489.72	+52.07	

DEVELOPMENTS

- VLCC Newbuilding Orders Surge Tenfold Toward Record-Breaking Year**
Shipowners placed 183 VLCC orders in the first half of 2026, a dramatic increase from 18 in the same period last year, reflecting strong investor confidence and...
Veson Nautical · Jul 8, 2026
- Secondhand Tanker Prices Hit Record Highs Amid Geopolitical Turmoil**
The market for secondhand tanker vessels has reached unprecedented price levels, with buyers aggressively competing for immediate delivery tonnage in a crude sh...
IndexBox · May 18, 2026
- August Heat Expectations Boost Natural Gas Prices**
Forecasts for enduring heat in the first half of August sent New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) natural gas futures higher on Monday.
NGI · Aug 3, 2026

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	96.95	+5.50
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	84.67	+1.20

PRODUCTS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	324.00	-3.27
Heating Oil NYMEX	c/gal	403.00	-7.30

NATURAL GAS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.77	+0.03

NGL			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	362.18	-7.28

PRICE SPREADS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	28.00	-0.50

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	69.34	69.36

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.15	0.00

- Bunker Prices Pull Back From Last Week's Spike, but MGO Remains a Major Cost Risk**
Global bunker prices entered Friday morning below last week's elevated levels after a volatile sequence, with VLSFO and HSFO lower, but marine gasoil still appr...
ShipUniverse · Jul 31, 2026
- Pan Ocean Accelerates VLCC Fleet Growth with \$244.5 Million Order for Dual Ammonia-Ready Tankers**
South Korean shipping company Pan Ocean continues to expand its VLCC fleet, announcing an additional order for two ammonia-ready VLCCs, bringing its total inves...
iMarine · Jun 30, 2026
- Brent crude oil prices declined during their latest intraday trading**
Brent crude oil prices declined during their latest intraday trading on July 31, amid continued negative signals from relative strength indicators and persisten...
FXEmpire · Jul 31, 2026