ASIAN OIL GROUP

Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Monday, August 17, 2026 · As of Aug 17, 2026 17:00 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

Energy markets were dominated by geopolitical tensions surrounding the US-Iran ceasefire expiry and Strait of Hormuz disruptions, leading to a significant surge in crude oil prices. This upward pressure on crude, coupled with tightening shipping capacity due to blank sailings and Panama Canal cost hikes, drove tanker freight rates higher and raised concerns about inflation. Natural gas prices also saw gains amid the broader energy market strength.

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	150,000	80,000

CLEAN TANKER ($/DAY)

Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	28,000	25,000

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)

Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	117,000	129.0	120.0

LNG ($/DAY)

Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	15,000	Flat	30,231

LPG ($/DAY)

VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)	38,000

BUNKERS ($/MT)

Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	817.0	647.0	1,240.0

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	$/bbl	90.87	+2.39

PRODUCTS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	318.02	+8.36

NATURAL GAS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	$/MMBtu	2.69	-0.04

NGL

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	$/mt	385.00	+2.00

PRICE SPREADS

Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	$/bbl	35.00	+1.50

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	81.50	81.70

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES

Index	Last	Chg
S&P 500 United States	7,745.06	-40.70

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/$	1.16	+0.00

DEVELOPMENTS

Oil Prices Edge Higher Ahead of US-Iran Ceasefire Expiry, Hormuz Disruptions Persist

Crude oil prices rose significantly as the US-Iran ceasefire agreement neared its expiry, with ongoing disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz raising supply fears...

DTN Progressive Farmer / Crux Investor · Aug 17, 2026

Panama Canal Costs Surge, Blank Sailings Threaten Peak Season Shipping

Shipping markets faced challenges as Panama Canal costs increased and fourteen blank sailings were scheduled across US trades, threatening to squeeze transpacif...

VESYL · Aug 17, 2026

VLCC Time Charter Rates Hit Record Highs, Newbuild and Secondhand Prices Elevated

One-year time charter rates for VLCCs reached unprecedented levels, with aged tonnage reportedly selling for above newbuild prices, signaling a peaking market....

Baird Maritime / Splash247 · Aug 17, 2026

Natural Gas Prices Strengthen Across Major Markets

Natural gas prices, including Henry Hub, strengthened last week, with futures bouncing off technical floors amid slipping production and firming power burn. Eur...

Vertex AI Search / NGI · Aug 17, 2026

EU Carbon Allowances Top €80/tonne Amid Energy Price Hikes and Geopolitical Tensions

European Union Allowances (EUAs) remained stubbornly above the €80 per tonne mark, supported by higher energy prices and ongoing geopolitical tensions. The mark...

advantag.de / Trading Economics · Aug 17, 2026

Saudi Aramco Offers Crude Outside Strait of Hormuz

In a strategic move, Saudi Aramco began offering crude oil to some Asian refiners outside the Strait of Hormuz through private negotiations, mirroring a strateg...

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