

# WINDOW COMMENTARY





# **FLAT PRICE**

The Jan'25 Brent futures contract saw weakness this morning, trading from \$75.20/bbl at 07:00 GMT down to \$74.30/bbl at 11:20 GMT (time of writing). This selling likely highlights rising uncertainty as traders weigh in the likely impact of another Trump Presidency on the oil market. An added source of volatility comes from Hurricane Rafael, which has hit Cuba as a Category 3 hurricane. Rafael is presently expected to weaken before hitting the US Gulf Coast, with the threat to oil production declining to ~1.55mb/d – possibly contributing to today's weakness. Finally, the market will also be shifting its attention away from the US election to interest rate announcements by the US Federal Reserve and the Bank of England, with both central banks expected to cut 25 basis points. In other macroeconomic news, German chancellor Olaf Scholz fired Finance Minister Christian Lindner and has said he would call a vote of confidence in his government early next year. At the time of writing, the Jan/Feb'25 and Jan/Jul'25 Brent futures spreads stand at \$0.33/bbl and \$1.27/bbl, respectively.

#### **CRUDE**

A very quiet morning in Dated, with things slowing down after a sharp sell-off yesterday and spreads opening lower. Balmo went offered down from \$0.35/bbl to \$0.20/bbl and there was buy-side interest in Dec/Jan Dated which traded at \$0.38/bbl. There was also refiner buying of 7-13 Nov vs Cal Nov at -\$0.05/bbl and 2-6 Dec vs 27-03 Jan at \$0.36/bbl.

It was a quiet morning today in Dubai. Brent/Dubai roughly remained unchanged. Dec Brent/Dubai and Jan Brent/Dubai traded rangebound between \$.75/bbl to \$.80/bbl and \$0.99/bbl to \$1.05/bbl respectively, and are currently trading at \$0.78/bbl and \$1.02/bbl. Front Brent/Dubai boxes traded slightly higher, with the Dec/Jan Brent/Dubai box trading between -\$0.28/bbl to -\$0.23/bbl, which currently is trading near the highs at -\$0.24/bbl. Although we observed early buying interest in Dubai spreads, spreads sold off during the morning. Dec/Jan Dubai traded between \$0.48/bbl to \$0.56/bbl and Jan/Feb Dubai traded between \$0.26/bbl to \$0.32/bbl. Both are currently near the lows, trading at \$0.49/bbl and \$0.27/bbl respectively.

### **FUEL**

In HSFO, 380 was a touch better offered to start the morning, with structure offered out the East early on. Dec/Jan 380 sold down a ticket to \$6.00/mt from \$6.25/mt. The spread weakness put some pressure on the front crack, selling down to -\$8.00/bbl from -\$7.70/bbl. The barge crack was stronger earlier on, trading up to -\$9.10/bbl from -\$9.45/bbl. Post window the crack did come under some pressure, selling back down to -\$9.35/bbl. Barge spreads were weaker as a result of the crack sell off, with Dec/Jan barges trading down to \$4.75/mt from \$5.50/mt.

In VLSFO, as has been the trend this month, Sing 0.5 opened the day stronger relative to levels we closed yesterday. The Dec Sing crack began the morning at \$12.40/bbl, however some selling came in fairly early on, which saw the front crack trade down to \$12.05/bbl as the morning. There was also sell side pressure on Sing structure into 2025. The Dec/Jan spread sold down to \$8.50/mt from \$9.00/mt. A characteristically quiet start to the day on Euro 0.5. There was some Dec E/W selling at \$48.50 which supported Euro 0.5 to an extent. The Euro crack did come off as the morning progressed, with Dec selling down to \$4.40/bbl from \$4.60/bbl. It was a similar story on Euro spreads, with Dec/Jan Euro selling down to \$4.50/mt from \$5.00/mt.

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### **DISTILLATES**

This morning in distillates, the Sing gasoil spreads came off across the curve with the Dec/Jan opening at \$0.42/bbl and getting hit down to \$0.33/bbl at the end of the window as the Jan/Sep traded down from flat to -\$0.05/bbl. The Dec E/W was rangebound, trading between -\$18.00/mt and -\$17.50/mt as the Q2'25 saw buying, rallying to -\$17.75/mt. Regrade rallied at the front of the curve, the Dec to \$0.92/bbl as the kero spreads were rangebound, the Dec/Jan getting lifted on screen at \$0.70/bbl.

The ICE gasoil spreads came off, the Nov/Dec and Dec/Jun to -\$0.25/mt and \$3.75/mt as the cracks continued to come off, the Q4 to \$16.40/bbl. Heating oil spreads came off across the curve while the hogos were rangebound, the Q4 at 9.9 c/gal.

### **GASOLINE**

This morning in gasoline we saw 92 MOC valued at \$79.84/bbl with MOC flows mixed. 92 cracks in Dec were initially better offered in the window at \$5.15/bbl before to \$5.25/bbl end of window and continuing to be bid up to \$5.50/bbl. Dec/Jan also firmed in the window and continued after to be trading 10c/bbl higher on the day from \$0.02/bbl during the window. E/W in the prompt was well bid trading up to -\$0.90/bbl from -\$1.25/bbl just before the window as well as Q2'25 seeing buyside interest during the window and valued at -\$6.25/bbl and firming to trade up to -\$6.15/bbl post window. EBOB cracks were range bound this morning between \$6.45/bbl-6.55/bbl while Q3'25 found value at \$10.95/bbl this morning. Dec/Jan was supported with buying at \$3.00/mt to get lifted up to \$3.25/mt later in the morning. RBBRs were better bid this morning strengthening slightly during the window then rallying from \$9.36/bbl up to highs of \$9.56/bbl post window.

#### **NAPHTHA**

This morning in naphtha we saw Dec MOPJ flat price valued at \$660.25/mt at the end of the window on a -\$0.35/bbl crack equivalent as MOC was balanced. MOPJ cracks saw little trading with Q1'25 cracks bid at -\$1.20/bbl pre-window and indicated value -\$1.15/bbl at the end of the window. Dec/Jan MOPJ was offered as it softened from \$5.50/mt to \$5.25/mt and Jan/Feb traded at \$5.75/mt. Dec E/W weakened from \$20.50/mt to \$20.25/mt on stronger NWE cracks with Q1'25 E/W valued at \$18.75/mt. Dec NWE cracks traded from -\$2.70/bbl to -\$2.40/bbl as Cal'25 cracks were valued at -\$4.35/bbl and spreads saw little action with Dec/Jan trading at \$4.75/mt.

## **NGLS**

A quieter morning in NGLs, FEI spreads were rangebound for most of the morning with Q1/Q2 and Dec/Jan trading at \$48/mt and \$3.50/mt respectively while Jan/Feb stayed sticky at \$9/mt level. In the physical window, a mixture of bids and offers were made with a bid for 1H Dec at Nov FEI minus \$1.25/mt and an offer for 2H Dec at Dec FEI + \$3.5/mt and FEI flatprice was bid in the paper with \$635/mt handles lifted end window although it softened after . FEI/CP weakened as crude came off with Dec trading down to \$4/mt and CP flatprice remained bid at \$630/mt levels. Arbs were quiet yet supported with the Q1/Q2 LST/FEI roll trading at -\$21/mt. Europe Balmo propane prices continued to be well supported as \$15/mt traded in Nov/Dec NWE and Europe spreads were supported with the Jan/Dec E/W box trading at \$1/mt.

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### **GLOBAL MACRO**

- Fed FOMC and BoE MPC today. Both expected to cut 25 bps. OIS is pricing 23bps for today's FOMC, but less in the back, with 102bps priced by August 2025, compared to almost 140bps a month ago.
- Higher yields and dollar strength have pressured gold, historically an inflation hedge. Gold retraced from ATH down 3% yesterday. Higher benchmark yields in the US are also hitting mortgage applications. Even before yesterday's selloff, rising yields drove a 10.8% fall in mortgage applications for the week ending 01 Nov. The 6th consecutive weekly decline, and reflects a 35% fall throughout October.
- US equities reached all-time highs yesterday, but not all saw equal reactions. Super Micro continues to plummet, down 24.5% in the last week and 52% in the last month.
- European sovereign curves bull steepened, as demand worries and Trumponomics spillovers pressured the front of the curve ahead of the next ECB meeting.
- More concerning data from Germany. Exports fell 1.7% m/m in September (exp -1.4%), reversing August's 1.2% increase. On a y/y basis, exports are 1% lower. German industrial production fell 2.5% m/m in September, below consensus of -1%. Industrial production is 4.6% down y/y.
- Scholz called for a vote of no confidence in January, setting the stage for a snap election as the German Govt disintegrates.
- China exports surge 12.7% in October as many look to front load non-perishable orders ahead of Trump tariffs. Data was well received by Chinese equities reversing earlier losses this week. The CSI 300 up 3% and the Hang Seng up 1.9%. Markets await further fiscal stimulus to be announced on Friday.
- Today we have the Fed meeting the BoE meeting, US jobless claims, Euro retail sales, Euro construction PMIs.

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