

## **WINDOW COMMENTARY**



### **FLAT PRICE**

The Jul'25 Brent futures contract initially saw prices rangebound between \$66.17/bbl and \$66.56/bbl before falling off to \$65.73/bbl at 11:10 BST. Prices have slightly recovered to \$65.94/bbl at 11:32 BST (time fo writing). In the news, US President Donald Trump announced the lifting of sanctions on Syria, following a request from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. Syria's foreign minister called the move a "new start" for the country. Trump also signed a \$600B Saudi investment deal and a \$142B US arms package, calling it the largest defence agreement in American history. In other news, US crude oil inventories unexpectedly rose by 4.287mb last week, defying forecasts of a 2.4mb draw, according to API data. This follows a 4.49mb drop the week before and brings the year-to-date inventory gain to over 23mb. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve also increased by 500kb to 399.6 million. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has expressed conditional support for a new pipeline project, emphasising the need for national consensus. In an interview with CTV News, Carney said he was open to backing a pipeline but stressed that it must be part of a broader energy strategy combining oil, gas, and renewables. However, he cautioned that a single pipeline wouldn't be enough, advocating for a mix of major initiatives to ensure long-term prosperity. Finally the front month Jul/Aug spread is at \$0.47/bbl and the 6-month Jul/Jan'26 spread is at \$1.40/bbl.

#### **CRUDE OIL**

This morning in Dated, we saw some Cal May Jun dated buying from Sing and continued selling in 19-23 May Cal Jun down to \$0.04/bbl. There was some buy-side interest in back-end Jun rolls with the 16-20 Jun 2w roll trading up to \$0.26/bbl and buyside interest in the 25-01 Jul Cal Jul roll. Spreads started to come off and the Jun Jul Dated roll traded down to \$0.50bbl, \$0.09/bbl on a DFL equivalent. We also saw continued Aug buying up to \$0.40/bbl and the 9-13 Jun Cal Jun roll traded down to \$0.06/bbl.

This morning we moved higher in Brent/Dubai, with Jun Brent/Dubai opening around 20 cents higher and trading up to highs of \$0.52/bbl before stabilising and finishing the morning at \$0.42/bbl. Buying was mostly on screen. The Dubai spreads all sold off, with Jun/Jul trading down from \$0.47/bbl to \$0.38/bbl. The Brent/Dubai curve moved into backwardation for the first time this year, with boxes moving above 0. However we saw Major selling in all of the boxes. Jun/Jul, Jul/Aug and Aug/Sep boxes traded -\$0.04/bbl to \$0.02/bbl, \$0/bbl and -\$0.02/bbl.

#### **FUEL OIL**

This morning in VLSFO, front Sing crack opened stronger at \$12.75/bbl compared to \$12.45/bbl (yesterday's close). However, we then saw some selling pre window, which pressured the crack down to \$12.45/bbl. During the window, we saw better buying in front sing spreads, with Jun/Jul trading from \$8.75/mt to \$9.25/mt. Structure down the curve also saw bids with Jul/Aug trading at \$6.75/mt. Front crack therefore further strengthened due to some outright buying, trading back up to \$12.75/mt. As the morning progressed, we saw some selling in front Sing Hi-5 at \$65/mt. This therefore caused the front Sing crack to soften to \$12.60/bbl. In Euro, front crack was also stronger following the strength of the front Sing crack, trading up to \$5.70/bbl. Structure in the front also saw bids, as we saw it getting paid up to \$6/mt in Jun/Jul.

This morning in HSFO, front 380 crack was a touch weaker, trading from \$2.55/bbl to \$2.45/bbl. Structure in the front was also weaker, with some selling in Jul/Aug trading from \$13.50/mt to \$13.25/mt, whilst Jun/Jul was quite stable trading at \$14.50/mt the whole morning. 180 MOC in Jun was well offered in the window, and this caused the front VISCO to gap down from \$10/mt to \$9/mt. In barges, front crack saw some selling, pressuring it down from -\$1.60/bbl to -\$1.45/bbl. Structure in the front also softened with Jun/Jul trading from \$7.50/mt to \$7.25/mt.

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#### **DISTILLATES**

This morning in distillates, the front Sing gasoil spreads weakened as ICE gasoil softened into the window while the prompt E/W was sold down to -\$16.25/mt on offered 10ppm MOC. Regrade rallied at the front of the curve, the Jun to -\$0.75/bbl as the Jun/Jul Kero was sold down to \$0.29/bbl.

ICE gasoil spreads softened for the morning, the Jun/Dec to \$11.25/mt as the cracks similarly came off having rallied into the close yesterday, the Jun to \$17.90/bbl. European jet diffs opened higher and were rangebound for the morning, the Jun trading at \$52.25/mt as the Q4 ticked up to \$46.50/mt. Heating oil spreads rallied, as did the HOGOs, Jun to 13.50c/gal.

#### **GASOLINE**

This morning in gasoline we saw 92 flatprice trade end window at \$75.3/bbl with MOC better offered. There was crack selling in the east this morning with front cracks trading down to \$9.65/bbl end window but recovered to \$9.75/bbl as arb selling came in and E/W buying. Spreads were offered with Jun/Jul well offered at \$0.93/bbl sold down from \$0.96/bbl and refiners on the sellside of Sep/Dec at \$2.05/bbl. Front E/W was supported with buying coming in at -\$6.4/bbl but the Q1 E/W was offered again this morning getting sold at -\$0.6/bbl. In Europe, cracks in the front softened from \$16.2/bbl to \$16/bbl in the window trading down to \$15.85/bbl post as well as deferred crack selling with Q4 trading at \$7.15/bbl. RBBRs were a touch softer from yesterday's close this morning but fairly rangebound around \$22.85/bbl and there was initially arb buying in the morning up to 17.5c/gal.

#### **NAPHTHA**

In naphtha, MOPJ MOC was better bid this morning with flatprice trading end window at \$578/mt. There was refiners and Chinese petrochemicals on the buyside on MOPJ flatprice this morning and spreads were initially bid with Jun/Jul trading up to \$8.25/mt and Jul/Dec at \$18.5/mt. E/W was still strong today on eastern strength with the front trading at \$22.25/mt in the window but there was still Q3 selling at \$22/mt. NWE cracks were rangebound around -\$3.3/bbl this morning and the Q3 crack was valued at -\$4/bbl.

#### **NGLS**

This morning in NGL's, FEI was balanced with front structure gaining strength whilst deferred was quiet. In prompt, we saw Jun/Jul and Aug/Sep trade up to \$5/mt and -\$2.5/mt respectively. Physical window saw a bid being made and improved for 1H Jun at Jun FEI plus \$5.5/mt as well as an offer for 2H Jun at Jun FEI plus \$7.5/mt as well. Arbs were supported in the front with Jun trading firm at -\$145/mt. FEI/CP weakened on CP strength with Jun and Jul trading down to -\$30/mt and -\$11/mt; CP went better bid in the front with prompt structure softer with Jun/Jul trading down to \$22/mt. E/W went better offered with Jun trading down to \$72.5/mt.

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#### **GLOBAL MACRO**

- U.S. CPI rose 0.2% m/m in April, below the 0.3% consensus and reversing March's deflation.
- Core inflation matched headline m/m, while y/y core held steady at 2.8%—still above the Fed's target.
- Headline y/y inflation eased to 2.3% from 2.4% in March.
- OIS now pricing -54bps by year end, from -102 at end of April.
- China's vehicle sales rose 9.8% y/y in April 2025 to 2.59 million units, up from an 8.2% gain in March, according to CAAM.
- New energy vehicles (NEVs) surged 44.2% to 1.226 million units, making up 47.3% of total sales.
- Auto production in China is still booming. China built 10.1 million units in the first four months of the year, up 12.9% y/y.
- Sales were also >10 million units, up 10.8% y/y, the first time both have exceeded 10 million.
- Stimulus, such as consumer repurchase purchase programmes is passing through.
- China reports their largest two-month change in copper imports.
- Germany ZEW economic sentiment index surged to 25.2 in May, rebounding from April's near 2 year low, current conditions fell 0.8 points to -82.
- US equities continued to rally on trade deal news. With core indices having eroded liberation day losses. Relative to April 2, Nasdaq no +8.3%, SP500 +3.8%, Russell 2000 +2.8%.

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