

# **WINDOW COMMENTARY**



#### **FLAT PRICE**

The Feb'26 Brent futures is trading higher than levels from Thursday afternoon, when prices briefly fell below \$61/bbl. Prices touched highs of \$61.80/bbl on Friday morning before falling by 50c since 17:00 SGT to \$61.30/bbl by 17:45 SGT (time of writing). Prices have been seeing lower lows since the end of October, reinforcing the short term bearish trend. In the news, a reported overnight drone attack may have struck Russia's 300kb/d Slavneft-YANOS refinery in Yaroslavl, though the extent of damage and impact on operations remains unclear. US officials say the seizure of a Venezuelan oil tanker could be followed by further confiscations, signalling a broader effort to choke off oil revenues and intensify pressure on Nicolás Maduro's government. Indeed, more than 30 OFAC-sanctioned tankers remain in Venezuelan waters and within reach of US naval forces. Finally, the front-month (Feb/Mar) and 6-month (Feb/Aug) Brent futures spreads are at \$0.22/bbl and \$0.36/bbl respectively.

#### **CRUDE**

Quiet this morning in Dated with Jan DFL trading down to \$0.22/bbl. We saw some buying out of 15-19 Dec with the 1-week trading at \$0.25/bbl and buy side interest in 15-19 Dec v Cal Jan. We saw sell side interest out of 22-26 Dec with 1-week sold at \$0.28/bbl and offered over whilst the 2-week got hit at \$0.46/bbl. 5-9 Dec v Cal Jan was offered at \$0.39/bbl whilst 5-9 Dec v Cal Jan was offered at \$0.2/bbl.

This morning we traded rangebound in Brent/Dubai. Jan B/D traded between -\$0.05/bbl to \$0.03/bbl. There was Chinese selling of BD and Major buying. The Dubai spread traded slightly lower in a tight range between \$0.09/bbl to \$0.05/bbl. There was some Jan/Feb box buying trading \$0.07/bbl to \$0.1/bbl.

### **FUEL OIL**

Front 380 spreads saw bids this morning, with Jan/Feb traded from -\$3.50/mt to -\$3.25/mt. This supported structure down the curve. Front crack was strong as well, as we saw flat price buying and EW buying from \$5/mt to \$6/mt, therefore front crack was supported at -\$7.80/bbl. In barges, front crack was also stronger this morning, traded from -\$8.80/bbl to -\$8.65/bbl. Front spread was supported at -\$3/mt as a result.

Front Sing crack opened strong this morning at \$4.30/bbl. Front crack continued to be strong in the window, traded up to \$4.35/bbl. Sing structure was also well bid, with Jan/Feb trading from -\$1/mt to -\$0.75/mt. Cal26 Sing crack also saw buyside interests at \$5.15/bbl which supported the front crack. In Euro, front crack traded at -\$1.35/bbl and implied stronger due to the strength of the front Sing crack. Structure also saw bids with Jan/Feb trading at -\$2.75/mt.

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#### **DISTILLATES**

This morning in distillates, Sing gasoil spreads opened weaker, with Jan/Feb trading \$0.35/bbl before firming to \$0.43/bbl. The Jan East/West strengthened, trading at -\$26.25/mt initially before being lifted post-window at -\$24.75/mt. Regrade rallied initially in Jan, trading from \$0.35/bbl up to be lifted on screen at \$0.40/bbl, before coming off to last trade at \$0.30/bbl, while the Jan/Feb regrade roll firmed to \$0.54/bbl before easing to \$0.50/bbl.

Prompt ICE gasoil spreads traded from highs of \$10.5/mt down to \$9.25/mt before firming to \$10/mt then coming off again to \$8.75/mt, while the Feb crack traded down from \$24.0 to \$23.5/bbl. Both heating oil spreads and HOGOs sold off into the window, with the Jan HOGO falling from 19.7c/gal to 19.3c/gal.

#### **GASOLINE**

This morning in gasoline, flat price traded end window at \$74.08/bbl with MOC well bid. The East was strong with Jan/Feb rallying from \$1.12/bbl to \$1.18/bbl. 92 cracks were mixed in the front and softened from \$12.50/bbl to \$12.43/bbl on weaker RBBR's. E/W opened higher at -\$0.35/bbl and traded up to -\$0.15/bbl as Jan EBOB cracks fell from \$13.05/bbl to \$12.70/bbl. Front spreads saw mixed interest but came off with Jan/Mar trading down from \$0.50/mt to -\$0.75/mt.

#### **NAPHTHA**

This morning in naphtha, MOC was quiet with fp trading \$542.5/mt end window. MOPJ cracks saw balanced interest, trading at -\$0.4/bbl in Jan. MOPJ spreads were bid, seeing buying again in Jun/Dec and Q1/Q2 deferred. The front saw balanced trading with Jan/Feb remaining at \$6/mt. EW had more buyside interest, trading up 50c to \$34.25/mt. Naphtha cracks were bid as well, firming from -\$4.2/bbl to -\$4.05/bbl. Naphtha spreads had similar buying in Jun/Dec at \$7/mt.

### **NGLS**

This morning in NGLs, FEI came off aggressively trading down to \$520/mt with bids in the physical window getting hit. Spreads weakened alongside it, with Jan/Feb falling from \$23/mt to \$18/mt and Feb/Mar trading down to \$12/mt. The arb strengthened on the FEI weakness, with Jan trading at -\$165/mt. CP was also soft, with April FP selling at \$472/mt and January at \$512/mt. FEI/CP firmed slightly as CP was marginally weaker than FEI, moving from \$9/mt up to \$10/mt. CP spreads came off as well, with Jan/Feb trading down to \$11/mt. Europe was quiet, though EW softened on the FEI weakness, trading down to \$66/mt, where some buying interest emerged.

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#### **GLOBAL MACRO**

- Silver new ATH, copper up another +2.5%, gold breaks higher, platinum breaks out, dollar another down day, U.S. yield curve breaks higher 2s/10s +0.63, S&P500 creeps towards the highs and hangovers spike to year-to-date highs in West London.
- UK economy shrank unexpectedly by 0.1% in October, official figures show. Very soft UK GDP numbers for October -0.1% 3m/3m. Likely to be worse for November given the pre-Budget caution on display across the consumer sector. Nails on a rate cut for next week and raises the chances of multiple cuts in H1 2026.
- Weekly jobless claims numbers included the biggest jump in initial claims in five years an increase of 44,000 to 236,000, above the consensus forecast of 220,000. Admittedly last weeks number was clearly impacted by Thanksgiving holidays.
- Helter-skelter ride in Australian rates markets, Having priced hikes for 2026 the data suddenly turns sour. November employment falls -21.3K (est +20k, prior +41.2k), worst still full-time employment falls -56.5k (last +53.5k), bringing an abrupt reversal to the recent AUDUSD rally.
- China's official gold reserves rose +30,000 troy ounces in November to a record 2,305 tonnes. This marks their 13th consecutive monthly purchase. As a result, China's gold reserves are now up to a record \$311 billion. This represents 9.3% of the country's total official FX reserves. China's gold reserves have TRIPLED since 2020, driven by both the purchases and surging gold prices. Gold remains extremely hot.
- No key data today.

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