



Asian Oil Intelligence Desk - Daily Briefing

Saturday, August 22, 2026 · As of Aug 21, 2026 17:15 ET · Sentiment: Bullish

The oil market rallied on Friday, driven by escalating geopolitical tensions between the US and Iran, with the US threatening further sanctions and Iran warning of a devastating response. This has led to concerns over supply disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, pushing crude and product prices higher. Shipping markets are also grappling with these geopolitical risks, alongside ongoing issues like the Panama Canal drought and a resurgence of Somali piracy, leading to increased...

SHIPPING RATES & BUNKERS

DIRTY TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
VLCC, 270	AG-FE	45,000	40,000
Suezmax, 130	WAF-UKC	35,000	30,000
Aframax, 80	Carib-USGC	28,000	25,000

CLEAN TANKER (\$/DAY)			
Vessel	Route	Spot TCE	Avg YTD
LR2, 75	AG-FE	21,000	26,500
LR1, 55	AG-FE	18,500	22,100
MR, 37	TC2	15,500	19,100

TIME CHARTER (KDWT)			
Vessel	1yr	Newbuild	5yr
VLCC, 200+	55,000	135.0	120.0

LNG (\$/DAY)			
Type	Spot	Sent.	52wk
160M3 Tri-fuel diesel electric (East)	12,000	Weak	29,000

LPG (\$/DAY)			
VLGC, 44 (AG-Japan)			34,500

BUNKERS (\$/MT)			
Port	VLSFO	HSFO	MGO
Singapore	509.0	426.0	586.0
Fujairah	516.0	431.0	591.0
Rotterdam	501.0	421.0	581.0

COMMODITIES & MARKETS

EQUITIES			
Index	Last	Chg	
S&P 500 United States	3,840.00	-2.93	
FTSE 100 United Kingdom	7,500.00	-10.00	
Nikkei 225 Japan	66,016.00	-198.05	

DEVELOPMENTS

- Oil Market Rallies on Threat of Wider Economic Pressure Against Iran**

The oil market saw a rally after the U.S. President warned of 'economic warfare and isolation' against Iran, threatening consequences for countries supporting i...

Sprague Energy · Aug 21, 2026
- Crude and Product Prices End the Day, Week Higher Amid US-Iran Tensions**

Crude oil and refined product futures prices closed higher for the day and week as markets factored in potential disruptions to global petroleum supplies due to...

OPIS (Dow Jones Newswires) · Aug 21, 2026
- VLCC Tanker Prices Hit Record Highs Amid Middle East Oil Crisis**

The Middle East oil crisis has driven super tanker prices to all-time highs, with both new and secondhand Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) reaching over \$130 m...

The Shipping Tribune · Aug 21, 2026

ENERGY PRICES

CRUDE			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
Brent ICE	\$/bbl	94.39	+0.61
WTI NYMEX	\$/bbl	87.06	+0.23

PRODUCTS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline NYMEX	c/gal	304.68	+3.77
ULSD NYMEX	c/gal	438.48	+1.13

NATURAL GAS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Henry Hub NYMEX	\$/MMBtu	2.77	+0.04
TTF ICE	\$/MMBtu	10.50	+0.10

NGL			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
US Mont Belvieu Propane NYMEX	\$/mt	379.00	+0.86

PRICE SPREADS			
Instrument	Unit	Last	Chg
RBOB Gasoline/Brent Crack Spread	\$/bbl	53.55	+0.50
ULSD/WTI Crack Spread	\$/bbl	101.72	+1.00

CARBON MARKET DAILY

Instrument	Unit	Bid	Offer
European Union Allowances (Spot)	EUR/ton	69.50	69.52

CURRENCIES

Pair	Last	Chg
EUR/\$	1.11	-0.01
USD/JPY	158.86	-0.16
GBP/\$	1.25	-0.01

- Panama Canal to Reduce Shipping Due to El Niño Drought**

The Panama Canal Authority announced a reduction in daily ship transits starting next month, from 36 to 34, and then to 32, due to low water levels caused by th...

The Guardian · Aug 21, 2026
- Hormuz Disruption to Stall 2026 LNG Trade, Demand to Rise by 2050, says Shell**

Shell projects global LNG trade to remain flat in 2026 due to shipping disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz from the Iran conflict, though it anticipates signifi...

Reuters (via EnergyNow.com) · Aug 19, 2026
- Somali Pirates Resurface, Adding to Global Shipping Inefficiencies**

Somali pirates are once again active around the Gulf of Aden, contributing to global shipping inefficiencies alongside other disruptions like the Panama Canal i...

Splash247 · Aug 21, 2026