

Radchem Products, Inc.



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Market Report

Bill Radostits

Crude Oil has dropped back down to the \$43 per barrel level. The OPEC countries alleviated their expectations of an agreement to lower or limit the production of Crude Oil because of planned increases in production and output by several countries. OPEC members are still planning a meeting on September 28th to discuss the levels of production and the market. Last month the talks about this meeting had oil prices driving upward to just over \$50 per barrel, but the conversation since then has deflated the rally.

Toluene inventories are very high in the United States since the spring of this year and are a result of low feedstock costs to the refineries and a slow demand for gasoline blending. Gasoline inventories are very high in the US, and preventing any strength in Toluene pricing. Spot prices on Toluene could be lower this fall if the demand does not change.

Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Solvents have moved up \$.02 per pound or roughly \$.15 per gallon. Exxon Mobil lead the way with a \$.05 per pound announcement in early September, and soon after that American Refining Group, Citgo Corporation, Calumet Refining, Shell Chemical, and Phillips 66 all announced a \$.02 per pound increase for dates between September 8th and 12th. The market has accepted the \$.02 per pound increase.

Paraffinic and Naphthenic base oil refiners have enjoyed some strengthened margins with the latest decrease in Crude Oil values. However, the volatile Crude Oil market makes consumers cautious about buying base stock volumes and keeping strong inventories because they are unsure which direction the market is heading. If Crude Oil continues to drop in value this fall, spot prices of base oils could slip in October and November.

Several Chemical Producers increased prices between \$.04 per pound to \$.05 per pound for various solvents and intermediates in September. Dow, Eastman, Sasol, and Lyondell raised prices on Acrylates, 2 EH Acid, 2 EH Alcohol, Diacetone Alcohol, DIBK, Diethylene Glycol, Ethyl Acetate, Glycol Ethers DB, DE, DE Acetate, DPM, DPM Acetate, DM, EB, EB Acetate, EP, PM, PM Acetate, and TPM, Isobutyl Acetate, Isobutyl Alcohol, Isopropyl Acetate, Isopropyl Alcohol, MIBK, N-Butyl Acetate, N-Butyl Alcohol, N-Propyl Acetate, N-Propyl Alcohol, Propylene Glycol, and Tripropylene Glycol.

Methanol will increase in October. Spot barge Methanol moved higher immediately after the September contract announcements were made and have held their value throughout September. Spot barge Methanol is still trading at \$0.75 per gallon. It is expected that the contract price could go up as much as \$.010 per gallon for October. There are shortfalls in production in Trinidad because of Natural Gas feedstock restraints.

June 2016 July 2016 Aug. 2016 Sept. 2016

	June 2016	July 2016	Aug. 2016	Sept. 2016
Crude Oil	\$50.09	\$46.00	\$49.00	\$45.15
Diesel	\$1.53	\$1.43	\$1.52	\$1.43
Gas	\$1.61	\$1.30	\$1.42	\$1.39

Nacol Ethers

By Alan May

Radchem Products is proud to announce the addition of the Nacol Ether product line. The chemistry is based on analogous linear alcohols which form biodegradable dialkyl ethers. Nacol Ethers are colorless liquids with a characteristic odor. They are very good replacement products for D-limonene and xylene in a wide range of applications.

While D-limonene demand continues to grow, supplies are becoming tighter because the orange groves in Florida and Brazil are being devastated by citrus greening. Historically, pricing has been volatile due to yearly crop yields, and 2015 represents the lowest crop year in 50+ years. Another limiting factor is that D-limonene's flash point (122F) and VOC rating often present problems in formulations and applications.

Nacol Ether 6 is LVP-VOC exempt and meets the CARB requirements. The characteristics of this product include; a low odor, high flash product (>200F), non-combustible, low pour point (-42C), and good solvency. It is "readily biodegradable" under OECD protocols, DSL and TSCA listed, and is REACH listed for use in Europe. Another advantage is that the Nacol Ethers supply is continuous and market pricing is stable.

Nacol Ethers (C6 to C10) are very low viscosity oils with good flow capabilities. The polar bonding of the Ether structure provides advantageous solubility and solvent characteristics. Each product has strong solvency powers and can be formulated into a wide variety of applications.

For further information, please contact your Radchem Products Regional Manager or call our corporate office at (708) 966 4044.

Physical Properties

	Nacol Ether 6	Nacol Ether 8	Nacol Ether 10
Chemical Name	Dihexyl Ether	Diocetyl Ether	Didectyl Ether
Purity, %	>96	>96	>96
Molecular Wt, g/mol	186	242	298
Acid Number mg KOH/g	0.02	0.02	0.06
Ester Number, mg KOH/g	0.44	1.08	0.96
Water, wt%	0.01	0.01	0.01
Color, Hazen	1	6	5
Density, g/ml@20C	0.793	0.808	0.816
Viscosity, cSt			
@20C	2.1	4.5	8.5
@40C	1.5	2.9	5.0
@95C	-	1.3	2.0
Boiling Point, C (F)	186 (367)	286 (547)	-
Pour Point, C (F)	-42 (-44)	-7 (19)	+17 (63)
Flash Point, C (F)	97 (207)	137 (277)	180 (356)
Surface Tension	26.9	28.3	30.3
mN/m@ 20C			
CAS Number	112-58-3	629-82-3	2456-28-2



To place an order, please call our main office at (708) 966-4044; or email PO's to our NEW Customer Service email address:

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