

Radchem Products, Inc.



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Market Report

Bill Radostits

Oil prices rose over 12% in the last two weeks after OPEC agreed to cut production by 1.2 million barrels a day. Crude Oil futures closed up last week to \$51.50 per barrel. The OPEC agreement becomes effective January 1, 2017. Russia also made a commitment to cut their output by 600,000 barrels per day. The market should stay firm in the low to mid 50's if OPEC and Russia follow through with the cuts. The result could trigger some increased production in the United States. The actual production levels in January will not be visible until early February when the numbers are available. Gasoline is trading near \$1.53 per gallon and diesel is trading about a dime higher at \$1.63 FOB the rack.

Higher distillate and gasoline price levels have increased the value in the Toluene and Xylene market. Toluene value in the Gulf Coast has increased over \$.35 per gallon in the last two weeks. Xylene values have moved up in similar fashion, but Xylene availability is still tight. One supplier in the Gulf announced a \$.04 per pound increase on Toluene, and \$.01 per pound increase on Xylene that is effective today. PBF Refining in Toledo has announced a \$.04 per pound increase on Toluene for December 19th. Aromatic 100, 150, 200, 150 ND, and 200ND have rolled over from November into December, but some suppliers are talking about a raise for January 1st.

ExxonMobil has announced an increase on all Aromatic and Aliphatic Hydrocarbon Fluids, and all of their petroleum solvents. The increase is effective December 21st. Calumet has announced an increase for all their Hydrocarbon Solvent Products effective January 15th. Your Radchem Regional Sales Manager will advise you of the products that these increases will impact for your supply.

Citgo Petroleum reported that their UDEX Unit in Lemont, Illinois is running well again after being down for three weeks maintenance. They say they have solid production of Heptane, Hexane, Textile Spirits, and Special Lactolite.

The Methanol market has been impacted by production outages in Texas from two major plants. Spot barge prices on Methanol have spiked up slightly over \$1.00 per gallon. The spot barge numbers are up \$.15 per gallon since the beginning of the month. Cold weather demand has increased for windshield washer fluids and other cold weather applications as demand for construction has started to slow down.

The Acetone market has dropped in value by \$.03 to \$.04 per pound because Cumene has stabilized in the market as a feedstock and refinery grade propylene has dropped in value in the last three weeks.

Paraflex HT Fluids *By Alan May*

Radchem Products represents Petro-Canada and their Paraflex HT Process fluids product line. The Paraflex HT hydrogenation process eliminates most of the polar and aromatic components, resulting in fluids that are 99.9% pure saturated hydrocarbon chain mixtures that are water white and very low in toxicity. These are among the purest white oil products in the market and are used in manufacturing a wide range of chemicals, elastomers, and specialty products.

The advantages of formulating with the Paraflex HT Fluids include:
 ^Three to five times greater oxidation resistance in lubricant formulations compared to competitive solvent refined oils.
 ^High viscosity index resulting in lower pour points and excellent low temperature properties.
 ^*Virtually non-toxic due to very low aromatic content....less than 0.5%

Paraflex HT Fluids are recommended in a wide range of applications including the manufacture of lubricants, chemicals, plastics, rubber, leather, adhesives, polishes, and plate glass. Paraflex HT 3 is used widely in the Agricultural Sciences industry as a carrier in many herbicides including "Right of Way" products. These products are used to reduce vegetation along utility line right of ways, railroad beds, and road sides.

*Paraflex 3 and 5 aromatic content is 1-5%.

Technical Performance Data

Property	Test Method	Paraflex HT Fluids										
		3	4	5	9	10	15	22	32	46	68	100
Density, lbs. @ 60F	D4052	7.05	6.88	7.13	6.93	7.15	7.10	7.07	7.21	7.22	7.24	7.26
Color ASTM	D1500	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
Viscosity cSt @ 40C	D445	3.6	3.7	5.7	9.8	11.0	15.5	20.6	35.6	45.9	68.4	101
cSt @ 100C		1.4	1.4	1.8	2.6	2.8	3.5	4.2	5.7	6.8	8.9	11.5
SUS @ 100F	D2161	38.5	38.8	45.8	60.5	65.4	84.5	108	184	237	354	526
SUS @ 210F		<32	<32	32.2	34.8	35.3	37.7	40.3	45.0	48.8	55.9	65.3
Flash Point F	D92	259	274	303	356	355	390	410	421	421	464	518
Pour Point	D5950	-11	-69	10	-39	-11	-11	-6	0	5	5	5
Aniline Point F	D611	169	194	180	217	205	212	230	228	228	244	253
Aromatics, wt %	PCM 435	2.2	<0.5	3.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5

If you have any questions, need further information, or samples, contact your Radchem Products, Inc. Regional Manager or our corporate office at 708-966-4044.

	Sept. 2016	Oct. 2016	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016
Crude Oil	\$45.15	\$50.46	\$48.02	\$53.08
Diesel	\$1.43	\$1.58	\$1.53	\$1.68
Gas	\$1.39	\$1.53	\$1.41	\$1.56

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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

