

# Benzene US Price Forecast Methodology

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The ICIS Benzene US price forecast report is a brief monthly publication that can be accessed via the Dashboard.

- It provides a monthly forecast of the benzene and styrene price in the US, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS pricing report edited by Bobbie Clark.
- It provides a price forecast for the following month and the next eleven months in the future, i.e. twelve months in total.
- The forecast is made by aromatics consultant Stephanie Kirby, based in the ICIS office in Houston, Texas, with support from Rob Peacock (global benzene), Stefano Zehnder (feedstocks) and Ian Elway (assumptions and methodology).
- Data is compiled in the second full week of a month (Month 0) so that a report can be produced and published in the third full week of Month 0 covering the period Month 1 to Month 12.
- All prices, contract and spot, are published in cents unless otherwise noted.

Elements within the benzene price forecast include:

- Oil and naphtha price forecasts in the US, e.g. WTI, US Naphtha Gulf Coast.
- Supply-demand data for US benzene including imports, exports and plant shutdowns.
- Benzene pricing in North America.
- Arbitrage opportunities for benzene between geographical regions based on (a) freight rates, (b) exchange rates, (c) new manufacturing units.
- Downstream benzene derivative demand forecasts.
- Movement of spot prices and spot margins.
- Benzene production margins.
- Where information is provided from a third party, this data is attributed in a footnote.

Elements within the styrene price forecast include:

- Oil and naphtha price forecasts in the US, e.g. WTI, US Naphtha Gulf Coast.
- Global benzene and ethylene prices.
- Supply-demand data for styrene including imports, exports and plant shutdowns.
- Styrene pricing in Europe and Asia.
- Arbitrage opportunities for styrene between geographical regions based on (a) freight rates, (b) exchange rates, (c) new manufacturing units.
- Downstream styrene derivative demand forecasts.
- Movement of spot prices and margins.
- Styrene production margins.
- Where information is provided from a third party, this data is attributed in a footnote.

ICIS compliance protocols:

- a) The information gathered in the process of making this ICIS price forecast does not flow back to the ICIS price reporting editorial staff.
- b) Confidential information that is gathered by ICIS editorial staff in the process of price reporting is not permitted to be included in the ICIS benzene price forecasting process.