

# Benzene and Styrene Europe Price Forecast Methodology

*21 January 2016*



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

- It provides a monthly forecast of the benzene price in Europe, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS pricing benzene report edited by Truong Mellor.
- It includes a monthly forecast of the styrene price in Europe, extending the historical gross prices reported in the ICIS pricing styrene report, also edited by Truong Mellor.
- It provides price forecasts for the following month and the next eleven months in the future, i.e. twelve months in total.
- The forecasts are made by aromatics consultant Rob Peacock, based in the ICIS office in Sutton, UK, with support from Stefano Zehnder (feedstocks).
- 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.
- Prices are published in €/tonne.

Elements within the benzene price forecast include:

- Oil and naphtha price forecasts in Europe, e.g. NYMEX and ICE.
- Supply-demand data for European benzene including imports, exports and plant shutdowns.
- Benzene pricing in North America and Asia.
- 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 Europe, e.g. NYMEX and ICE.
- Global benzene and ethylene prices.
- Supply-demand data for European styrene including imports, exports and plant shutdowns.

- Styrene pricing in North America 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 spot 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 or styrene price forecasting process.

Since January 2016, the price forecast series have been available through a 'Price Forecast' window on the ICIS Dashboard. The window enables price forecast series generated over the last 12 months to be charted and downloaded, along with up to 12 months' worth of price history.

Where a price forecast series is charted and downloaded in a currency other than its assessed currency, the 16:00 UTC foreign exchange rate, as provided by [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com), from the first of the month in which the forecast series was generated is applied to all price forecasts within that forecast series. Where the first of the month is a non-publishing day, the prior publishing day's 16:00 UTC foreign exchange rate is applied. ICIS provides charting and downloads in alternate currencies as a guide only.

Our recommendation would be to chart and download in original assessed currency and to apply your own selected foreign exchange rates.