Specifications Guide
Global Biofuels

Latest update: September 2020

Definitions of the trading locations for which Platts publishes indexes or assessments

Asia 2
Europe 4
Americas 9

Revision history 17

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Definitions of the Trading Locations for Which Platts Publishes Indexes or Assessments


These guides are designed to give Platts subscribers as much information as possible about a wide range of methodology and specification questions.

This guide is current at the time of publication. Platts may issue further updates and enhancements to this guide and will announce these to subscribers through its usual publications of record. Such updates will be included in the next version of this guide. Platts editorial staff and managers are available to provide guidance when assessment issues require clarification.

The following global biofuels guide contains the primary specifications and methodologies for Platts biofuels assessments throughout the world. The various components of this guide are designed to give Platts subscribers as much information as possible about a wide range of methodology and specification issues.

### Asia

#### Bioethanol (Fuel Grade)

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<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>CURRENCY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>Mavg</th>
<th>Wavg</th>
<th>CONTRACT TYPE</th>
<th>CONTRACT BASIS</th>
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<th>MAX SIZE</th>
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<td>AAWAA03</td>
<td>AAWAA04</td>
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#### Ethanol (Industrial)

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<td>Ulsan</td>
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#### Biodiesel

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<td>AVSVE00</td>
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<td>FOB</td>
<td>Pasir Gudang, Port Klang, Lahad Datu</td>
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<td>10,000</td>
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</table>

### Asia

**Bioethanol CIF Philippines**

Platts Asia fuel grade bioethanol assessments are daily assessments basis CIF Philippines based on latest information sourced from the market up to the close of the assessment period at 16:30 Singapore time.

**Timing:** Platts assesses three half-monthly cycles on arrival basis. The daily CIF Philippines marker (AAWAA00) averages the three cycles. The three cycles that Platts publishes are as follows:

1) Second-half May
2) First-half June
3) Second-half June

These assessments would be rolled over on April 16. They would then read as:

1) First-half June
2) Second-half June
3) First-half July

**Basis and locations:** CIF Philippines reflect prices basis CIF
Specifications Guide
Gloal Biofuels: September 2020

Subic Bay. Pricing information for other Philippines ports may be taken into account but would be normalized back to the basis location.

**Volume:** Cargo size of 3,000 – 5,000 cu m, normalized to 3,000 cu m. Other volumes may be taken into consideration but will be normalized back to 3,000 cu m.

**Unit:** Assessments are published in $/cu m.

**Terms and conditions:** CIF Philippines are assessed Letter of Credit at sight up to 30 days. For deals with usance of greater than 30 days, the value of the extra credit allowance will be normalized.

**Quality and Product Purity specifications:** Assessments reflect undenatured anhydrous bioethanol and conform to the Philippines National Standard (PNS/DOE QS 007:2005) specifications under the current definitions 3.1 and 3.2 of the standard for use as a blending component in unleaded gasoline.

These specifications include:

- **Ethanol content/purity:** 99.3% min (by volume)
- **Density at 20 degrees Celsius:** 0.7915 kg/liter max
- **Water content:** 0.5% max (by mass)
- **Methanol:** 0.5% max (by mass)
- **Total acids (as acetic acid):** 0.007% max (by mass)

The CIF Philippines assessments reflect product at a temperature of 20 degree Celsius.

**Ethanol Grade B CFR Ulsan**

Platts Ethanol Grade B CFR Ulsan is a daily physical spot price assessment based on latest information sourced from the market up to the close of the assessment window at 16:30 Singapore time. In the absence of representative CFR Ulsan price information, Platts may also refer to FOB prices from relevant supply origins using prevailing vessel sizes and spot freight rates.

**Timing:** Ethanol Grade B CFR Ulsan reflects spot cargoes arriving in Ulsan 60-90 days forward from the day of publication.

**Basis and locations:** CFR Ulsan, South Korea.

**Unit of measurement:** $/cu m

**Volume:** Typical cargo sizes normalized to 5,000 cu m.

**Terms and conditions:** Industry standard payment terms.

**Quality specifications:** The assessment will reflect typical Grade B ethanol specifications, from non-GM sugarcane, normalized to standard Ethanol Grade B at 20 degrees Celsius with a maximum of 40 mg/100 ml of higher alcohols.

**Biodiesel FOB Southeast Asia**

Platts FOB Southeast Asia daily assessment is based on the latest information sourced from the market up to the close of the assessment window at 18:00 Singapore time.

**Quality:** The assessment reflects palm methyl ester product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications, with a maximum CFPP of plus 13 degrees Celsius, a maximum water content of 350 ppm, and monoglycerides value at 0.5% or lower. The PME assessed adheres to the ISCC certification scheme, in compliance with the EU’s Renewable Energy Directive or RED requirements. The assessment reflects PME with Green House Gas (GHG) savings of 48% - 60%. Bids, offers or trade indications for PME with higher or lower GHG than this may be normalized. Unit: Biodiesel assessments are published in $/mt.

**Timing:** Assessment reflects cargoes loading one calendar month forward. The assessment laycan will roll to the next calendar month on the first publication day after the 14th of each month. For example, from September 15-October 14, the assessment will reflect parcels loading in November. The assessment will roll to December cargoes from October 15.

**Basis and location:** Assessment includes all biodiesel exported on a spot basis from Malaysia at the loading ports of Pasir Gudang, Port Klang and Lahad Datu.

**Cargo size:** 2,000 mt -10,000 mt. Larger cargo sizes may be taken into consideration but will be normalized back to reference volume range.
**EUROPE**

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<th>Assessment</th>
<th>CURRENCY CODE</th>
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<th>Wavg</th>
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<th>CONTRACT BASIS</th>
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<td>AAVLD08</td>
<td>AAVLD03</td>
<td>AAVLD04</td>
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<td>FOB</td>
<td>Rotterdam</td>
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<td>AAAMQ03</td>
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**Modelled Prices**

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<th>Product</th>
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<th></th>
<th>Spot</th>
<th>ex-refinery</th>
<th>NWE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>HVMD08</td>
<td>HVMD03</td>
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<td>ex-refinery</td>
<td>NWE</td>
<td>metric ton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)</td>
<td></td>
<td>BJMD08</td>
<td>BJMD03</td>
<td>Spot</td>
<td>ex-refinery</td>
<td>NWE</td>
<td>metric ton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Europe

**T2 Ethanol FOB Rotterdam**

**Basis and Locations:** Prices for T2 ethanol barges are assessed daily on a FOB ARA basis, with nomenclature of FOB Rotterdam. T2 product (duty paid for European-qualified material and free from origin restrictions) in Eur/cu m. Platts also publishes a $/cu m value for T2 product, using a 16:30 London time assessed value for the Eur/USD exchange rate.

**Loading Options:** Platts FOB ethanol assessments reflect Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp loading. The seller will not incur additional freight costs for loading from ARA loading points, compared to loading from Rotterdam, provided that costs do not exceed standard market rates. The seller will notify the buyer of the port of loading in a time-frame as per standard market practice. The seller must also be prepared to make the volume available through early loading to allow for timing differences between ports to prevent delays and consequent financial losses.

**Sustainability Criteria:** Platts ethanol assessments reflect fuel ethanol that holds proof of sustainability obtained in the framework of voluntary schemes approved by the EU Commission. Furthermore and upon buyer’s request, the seller shall exercise reasonable efforts to provide all necessary documentation for validation of the product batch against Germany’s biomass web application system Nabisy. The seller may opt to nominate a vessel instead of a typical barge, provided transfers can take place as long as mutually agreed. A buyer however parties involved in transactions may also opt to load on a vessel or do pump overs. Performance by ship-to-ship transfers can take place as long as mutually agreed. A buyer may opt to nominate a vessel instead of a typical barge, provided the physical dimensions of the performing vessel comply with the requirements of the designated port. Should a buyer opt to nominate a vessel and delay in loading occurs, the seller will face demurrage exposure limited to the transacted size, while the buyer will face demurrage costs consequential to his choice of vessel.

For example, if the sale was done for 2,000 mt and the buyer nominates a 12,500 mt vessel, the seller will incur demurrage cost for 2,000 mt, while the buyer will face the demurrage cost of the remaining 10,500 mt. In this instance leading to a consequential demurrage cost, the seller must show good endeavor and not wilfully obstruct the timely loading process in order to disadvantage the buyer.

1) Effective October 1, 2012, Platts assesses T2 FOB Rotterdam ethanol quote fully at par with the T2 FOB Rotterdam German spec assessment.

2) Platts European ethanol assessments reflect products that are lawfully sourced within the marketplace. Platts considers in its assessment process ethanol based on its chemical structure and is not currently distinguishing between feedstocks used in its manufacture.

**T2 Ethanol futures**

T2 ethanol futures trade in lots of 100 cu m and settle on the arithmetic average of the mid-point of the high and low quotations for physical T2 undenatured ethanol assessments published by Platts during the determined contract month.

Platts T2 ethanol futures values are assessed for the next six calendar months from the date of publication and are denoted in Eur/cu m. The assessments roll forward on the first business day of each month and reflect the close of European markets time stamped at 18:30 London time, subject to the typical guidelines of the Platts Market On Close assessment process.

**T1 Ethanol Northwest Europe**

**Basis and Locations:** Prices for T1 (European Union duties
unpaid) ethanol barges and cargoes are assessed daily on a FOB Rotterdam and CIF NWE basis, respectively, in $/cu m.

**Sustainability Criteria:** Platts ethanol assessments reflect fuel ethanol that holds proof of sustainability obtained in the framework of voluntary schemes approved by the EU Commission.

**Minimum greenhouse gas saving:** Platts FOB Rotterdam T1 ethanol assessments reflect material with sustainability documentation showing a minimum greenhouse gas saving of 50% when compared to the fossil fuel comparator, as per the European Union’s Fuel Quality Directive calculation. This operates in addition to the prevailing Renewable Energy Directive (RED) requirement, with the highest requirement for GHG savings taking precedence.

**Timing:** Platts ethanol assessments for T1 FOB Rotterdam barges reflect loading 3-15 days forward (Monday-Tuesday) and 5-15 days forward (Wednesday-Friday) from the date of publication. Platts European ethanol assessments for T1 CIF Northwest European T1 cargoes reflect delivery 10-25 days forward from date of publication.

**Volume:** Standard transactable size of 1,000-2,000 mt, normalized to 1,000 mt, the equivalent in cu m for FOB Rotterdam barges and a minimum of 3,000 mt or the equivalent in cu m for T1 CIF NWE cargoes.

**Product Purity and Specification:** Assessments are for anhydrous, undenatured ethanol conforming to the latest edition of the European standard EN 15376 specifications for automotive fuels — ethanol as a blending component for gasoline. The ethanol must also conform to the Netherlands’ customs TARIC code of CN 2207 1000, under the European Commission’s latest definition of “Undenatured ethyl alcohol of an alcoholic strength by volume of 80% vol. or higher.

**Temperature:** The European automotive fuel ethanol assessment reflects product at a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius with a reference conversion mt to cu m: 0.7887.

**T1 ethanol assessment method:** The Platts T1 ethanol CIF NWE cargoes and T1 ethanol FOB Rotterdam barge assessments represent the lowest calculated net-forward value from a basket of daily established values, basis 16:30 London time, for FOB Santos anhydrous and FOB Chicago Argo Terminal ethanol, as provided by Platts’ regional teams.

For the Platts European T1 CIF NWE assessment, a premium is applied to convert ASTM to EN spec in the case of the Chicago Argo Terminal value. Premiums are applied to convert ANP to EN spec and for Bonsucro Proof of Sustainability in the case of the FOB Santos anhydrous value. All premiums are based on market feedback. The net-forward calculation uses an assessment of freight rates based on freight reports and market feedback. The assessment uses a density value of 0.7887 g/cu m for converting metric tons into cu m.

**T1 FOB Rotterdam barges are assessed at a fixed premium of $12/cu m versus the T1 CIF NWE assessment, which represents logistics costs.**

Platts European ethanol assessments reflect products that are lawfully sourced within the marketplace. Platts considers in its assessment process ethanol based on its chemical structure and is not currently distinguishing between feedstocks used in its manufacture.

**Biodiesel FOB ARA**

**Basis and Locations:** Prices are assessed daily on a FOB Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp basis. The assessments are for T2 product; duty paid for European-qualified material and free from origin restrictions.

**Unit:** Assessment is published in $/mt and Eur/Mt for UCOME.

**Sustainability Criteria:** Platts biodiesel assessments reflect product that holds proof of sustainability obtained in the framework of voluntary schemes approved by the EU Commission. Proof of Sustainability documentation should be provided to the buyer within a maximum of 20 working days from the date of Bill of Lading. All biodiesel barge assessments reflect material of 100% virgin vegetable oil (VVO) origin except for UCOME. This applies to both physical material and sustainability certification delivered to the buyer. Platts will continue to publish bids, offers and trades for non-VVO product and the associated data points will be normalized to reflect 100% VVO as part of the assessment process. All Platts FOB ARA biodiesel assessments except for SME and UCOME reflect material with sustainability documentation showing a minimum greenhouse gas saving of 50% when compared to the fossil fuel comparator, as per the European Union’s Fuel Quality Directive calculation.

Platts will only consider bids, offers and transactions where, upon buyer’s request, the seller shall exercise reasonable efforts to provide documentation describing:

1) the biodiesel feedstock type and percentage of each feedstock in case of blendstocks;
2) the country of origin of the feedstock;
3) a declaration of land use on which feedstock was grown on or after January 1, 2008.
4) The buyer holds a right to audit the sustainability documentation for the sole purpose of determining the validity and veracity of these documents.

**Timing:** The assessments reflect barges loading 3-15 days forward (Monday-Tuesday) and 5-15 days forward (Wednesday-Friday) from the date of publication.

**Volume:** a standard size of 1,000-3,000 mt, normalized to 1,000 mt. The operational tolerance reflected for European biodiesel barge assessments is plus or minus 2%.
Product Purity Specification:

Platts assesses six grades of biodiesel - Fatty Acid Methyl Ester minus 10 (FAME -10), FAME 0, Soy Methyl Ester (SME), Rapeseed Methyl Ester (RME), Palm oil Methyl Ester (PME) and Used Cooking Oil Methyl Ester (UCOME).

- FAME -10 assessments reflect product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications with a maximum cold filter plugging point (CFPP) of minus 10 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 350 ppm.
- FAME 0 assessments reflect product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications with a maximum CFPP of 0 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 350 ppm.
- SME assessments reflect product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications with maximum Iodine of 135g/100g, minimum Cetane of 47, a maximum CFPP of minus 3 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 400 ppm.
- RME assessments reflect product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications with a maximum CFPP of minus 12 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 300 ppm.
- PME assessments reflect product that conforms to EN 14214 specifications with a maximum CFPP of plus 12 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 300 ppm.
- UCOME assessments reflect product meeting the EN14214 specification, with a maximum CFPP of 0 degrees Celsius and a maximum water content of 350 ppm.

Biodiesel blended with any non-bio additives will not be included in the assessment, with the exception of the BHT anti-oxidant.

The assessment excludes tax refunds or other rebates.

Calculation for FAME -10 assessments: Platts assessed RED FAME -10 biodiesel using a fixed calculation based on FAME 0, RME, PME and SME assessments. Platts determines the RED FAME -10 assessment as the most competitive method of replacement, using the ratios of blendstocks in the following table, plus a $5/mt logistic cost. Should the assessment for RED RME be lower than the corresponding RED FAME -10 replacement calculation, logistical costs will be ignored.

Blendstock ratios:

1) 10% FAME 0 and 90% RME
2) 15% SME and 85% RME
3) 8% PME and 92% RME

The logistical costs reflect recirculation and retesting costs. In the event that price indications for FAME -10 are received, then Platts may also reflect those in the assessments.

Biodiesel premium assessments: The majority of spot physical and paper biodiesel trades in Europe are transacted as premiums over the ICE 10ppm low Sulfur Gasoil futures contract. Platts publishes the outright price of all biodiesel qualities and grades and the corresponding premiums for a select number. The premium for each assessment is determined by subtracting from the full outright price assessment the weighted average value of the front month(s) ICE low sulfur gasoil future(s) across the date range reflected in the price assessment.

The weighted average ICE low sulfur gasoil value for the biodiesel assessment laycan is calculated per the following:

Front-month ICE low sulfur gasoil future value x (number of days front-month contract not expired during assessment laycan / total number of days in assessment laycan) plus

Second-month ICE low sulfur gasoil future value x (number of days front-month contract is expired during assessment laycan / total number of days in assessment laycan)

Biodiesel Feedstock: Used Cooking Oil (UCO) CIF ARA

Basis and Locations: Prices are assessed daily on a CIF Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp basis. The assessments are for T2 product; duty paid for European-qualified material and free from origin restrictions.

Unit: Assessment is published in $/mt

Timing: The assessment reflects flexi bags loading 15-30 days forward from the date of publication.

Volume: a standard size of 300-1500 mt.

Product Purity Specification: UCO assessments reflect material with a maximum of 5% FFA (or a maximum of 6% from May 16 to August 15 to reflect summer spec), a maximum of 2% MIU (or a maximum of 3% from May 16 to August 15 to reflect summer spec), maximum 50ppm sulfur and a minimum of 80gr iodine per 100gr of used cooking oil.

Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO)

HVO, also known as renewable diesel, is an ex-refinery price based on cost calculations from our Platts Analytics team. The cost-based assessment for HVO is published on an ex-refinery NWE basis, and is comprised of a number of existing Platts assessments and other fixed costs.

The HVO inputs are Used Cooking Oil CIF ARA [AUCOA00] and Hydrogen Netherlands SMR [HXNMA00] added to fixed renewable diesel refinery costs, then deducting the by-product...
credits to include FOB ARA Propane [PMAAS00] and Naphtha CIF NWE cargoes [PAAAL00].

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)

SAF, also known as biojet, is an ex-refinery price based on cost calculations from our Platts Analytics team. The cost-based assessments for SAF is published on an ex-refinery NWE basis, and is comprised of a number of existing Platts assessments and other fixed costs.

The SAF inputs are Used Cooking Oil CIF ARA [AUCOA00] and Hydrogen Netherlands SMR [HXRMA00] added to fixed renewable biojet refinery costs, then deducting the by-product credits to include FOB ARA Propane [PMAAS00], Naphtha CIF NWE cargoes [PAAAL00] and Diesel CIF NWE ARA Cargoes [AAVBG00].
### AMERICAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>CURRENCY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>Mavg</th>
<th>Wavg</th>
<th>CONTRACT BASIS</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>DELIVERY PERIOD</th>
<th>MIN SIZE</th>
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*In codes such as RD620XX, XX refers to the calendar year. E.g., RD62020
### AMERICAS

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<th>Assessment</th>
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<th>Wavg</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FOB</td>
<td>New York Harbor</td>
<td>Second-month</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>barrels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol Houston 5-15 Barge</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AATG001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FOB</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>5-15 days forward</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>barrels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North California Rail Car Ethanol</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AAMF001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dlvrd rail</td>
<td>Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals</td>
<td>This week (Monday through Thursday) Next Week (Friday)</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol North California Rail 70 CI</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AENCA00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dlvrd rail</td>
<td>Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals</td>
<td>This week (Monday through Thursday) Next Week (Friday)</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol NorCal Rail Premium to Ethanol Chicago IL Swap Mo01</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AAVX100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dlvrd rail</td>
<td>Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals</td>
<td>This week (Monday through Thursday) Next Week (Friday)</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol NorCal Rail 70 CI to Chi Spread Mo01</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AENC001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dlvrd rail</td>
<td>Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals</td>
<td>This week (Monday through Thursday) Next Week (Friday)</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>gallons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Carbon Fuel Standard credits (LCFS)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Carbon Fuel Standard Carbon Credits Front Quarter</td>
<td>$/mt of CO2e</td>
<td>AXYA00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AXYA03</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>metric tonnes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Carbon Fuel Standard Carbon Credits Second Quarter</td>
<td>$/mt of CO2e</td>
<td>AXYZ00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AXYZ03</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>metric tonnes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol CI Value Per Point</td>
<td>$/gal</td>
<td>AC1VA00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Distiller Grains (DDG)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Distiller Grains CIF New Orleans barge</td>
<td>$/st</td>
<td>AADD000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CIF</td>
<td>New Orleans</td>
<td>Delivery on a barge that has loaded in the front-month; rolls on 25th of month</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>short ton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dried Distiller Grains FOB Chicago truck</td>
<td>$/st</td>
<td>ACDD000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FOB</td>
<td>Channahon, Illinois</td>
<td>Delivered to railhead during calendar month; 25 rolls on 21st day of the month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>short ton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Americas

The assessments listed below reflect the prevailing market value of the specified product at the following times:

- **Brazil daily ethanol assessments**: 13:30 Central Time.
- **Brazil weekly ethanol assessment**: 16:30 Sao Paulo time every Friday or the last publishing day of the week.
- **US biofuel and RIN daily assessments**: 13:30 Central Time.
- **Brazil ethanol**
  - **Ethanol FOB Brazil Cargo (Anhydrous)**
    - **Quality**: Standard ANP anhydrous quality ethanol.

### Timing

- **Loading**: 10-30 days forward from date of publication.
- **Volume**: Minimum 10,000 cu m.
- **Location**: Basis FOB Santos. In the absence of FOB Santos pricing data, Platts may look at related markets such as the domestic anhydrous ex-mill Ribeirao price assessment adjusted for freight, terminal costs and taxes.
**Units:** The assessment is published in $/cu m and $/gal. This is converted to Real/cu m using a 13:30 CT Platts Real/USD exchange rate assessment.

**Anhydrous ANP domestic ex-mill Ribeirao with taxes**

**Quality:** Standard ANP anhydrous quality ethanol

**Timing:** 1-7 days forward from date of publication

**Volume:** Minimum volume of 500 cu m and maximum volume of 1,500 cu m.

**Payment:** The assessment reflects payment on the day of the product transfer to 10 days after the transfer.

**Location:** Basis Ex-mill Ribeirao Preto, Sao Paulo. Other ex-mill locations may be normalized, taking into account key regional destinations.

**Unit:** Real/cu m.

**Taxes:** The assessment reflects the current PIS/Cofins tax of Real 130.90/cu m effective July 21, 2017. No ICMS tax is included.

In the absence of Brazil anhydrous ethanol bids, offers or trades, Platts typically applies a percentage premium as defined by the market to the value of Brazil hydrous ethanol.

**Hydrous ANP FOB Santos**

**Quality:** Standard ANP hydrous quality ethanol.

**Timing:** Loading 20-30 days forward from date of publication.

**Volume:** Minimum 5,000 cu m.

**Location:** Basis FOB Santos. In the absence of FOB Santos pricing data, Platts may look at related markets such as the domestic anhydrous ex-mill Ribeirao price assessment adjusted for freight, terminal costs and taxes.

**Unit:** $/cu m.

**Hydrous ANP Domestic Ex-mill Ribeirao with taxes**

**Quality:** Standard ANP hydrous quality ethanol.

**Timing:** Loading 1-7 days forward from date of publication.

**Volume:** Minimum volume of 500 cu m and maximum of 1,500 cu m.

**Payment:** The assessment reflects payment on the day of the product transfer to 10 days after the transfer.

**Location:** Ex-mill Ribeirao Preto, Sao Paulo; other ex-mill locations may be normalized taking into account key regional destinations.

**Unit:** Real/cu m.

**Taxes:** The assessment includes the 12% ICMS tax, as well as the PIS/Cofins tax as of Real 130.90/cu m effective July 21, 2017.

**Ex-mill Ribeirao Hydrous Raw Sugar equivalent**

Platts publishes an ex-mill Ribeirao Preto hydrous ethanol raw sugar equivalent value in cents/lb. This is calculated using the Hydrous ANP domestic ex-mill Ribeirao with taxes assessment, and taking into account the ICMS and PIS tax as well as freight and elevation costs to Santos. Platts also converts the ethanol price to ATR (Total Recoverable sugar) value, then to sugar equivalent. To allow an accurate comparison between the Platts raw sugar equivalent value and the ICE New York Sugar No. 11 futures contract, Platts normalizes the polarization quality to 96 degrees from an assumed polarization of between 99.2 to 99.3 pol.

**Grade B FOB Santos/Paranagua**

**Quality:** Standard Grade B industrial ethanol.

**Timing:** Loading 20-30 days forward from date of publication.

**Volume:** Minimum 5,000 cu m

**Location:** Basis FOB Santos/Paranagua.

**Unit:** $/cu m

**NNE Brazil delivered Suape anhydrous weekly**

**Quality:** Standard ANP anhydrous quality ethanol

**Timing:** 1-15 days forward from date of publication

**Volume:** Minimum volume 250,000 liters, or 250 cu m, and maximum volume 1,000,000 liters, or 1,000 cu m.

**Location:** DAP (Delivered At Place) basis Suape, Pernambuco. Other locations and Incoterms such as FOB/CIF may be normalized back to the basis location. Platts also takes into consideration product produced regionally, transfers from the Center-South region as well as volumes delivered from international locations.

**Payment:** Platts assessments reflect payment within 10 days of delivery.

**Unit:** Real/cu m.

**FOB Santos anhydrous to NYH**

Platts publishes an anhydrous ethanol delivered to New York Harbor price. This is calculated using the anhydrous FOB Santos assessment in $/cu m, and taking into account freight, insurance, water loss, the ad valorem tax and the values of the D5 and D6 renewable identification numbers. This is published in $/cu m and converted to $/gal.

**US Ethanol**

All Platts US ethanol assessments reflect domestic, denatured, refinery grade ethanol meeting ASTM D4806 specification. They
are published in cents/gal.

**US Atlantic Coast ethanol**

**Basis and Location:** FOB New York Harbor

**Volume:** Minimum of 25,000 barrels.

**Timing:** Assessments reflect material loading two months forward on an any-month basis, i.e. loading at any point during the assessed month. The assessments roll to the next forward month seven calendar days before the end of the month. If the seventh calendar day falls prior to the end of the month, the roll will take place on the publishing day preceding the seventh calendar day.

**Note:** Platts considers LEAP terms standard in the New York Harbor ethanol market.

**US Gulf Coast ethanol**

**Basis and Location:** FOB Houston

**Volume:** Minimum of 10,000 barrels.

**Timing:** Loading 5-15 days forward from date of publication.

**RIN Transfer:** For transactions in this market, if ownership of the physical product transfers between January 1 and January 31 it is the seller’s option to transfer current or prior-year RINs. Transfers after January 31 for the rest of the calendar year must carry current-year RINs. The physical ethanol transfer date determines what RIN vintage may be attached, not the trade date.

**Chicago Terminal ethanol**

**Basis and Location:** Intertank Transfer (ITT) in the Kinder Morgan Argo and Chicago fungible system, which includes the Argo and Chicago (Stony Island) terminals

**Timing:** Loading 5-15 days forward from date of publication.

### Offtake Options

**Buyer** has the option to take delivery of the product in a method other than by ITT at the Kinder Morgan terminals such as by barge, rail and truck. All incremental costs associated with the chosen offtake option would be borne by the buyer. A seller should not unreasonably withhold any offtake option, and any associated costs for non-ITT offtake options must be demonstrably reasonable and typical.

Platts expects incremental costs, which would include throughput fees for physical offtake, to be around 2.5 cents/gal for barge loading, and 1.5 cents/gal for rail loading and offtake via truck at the Kinder Morgan fungible ethanol system. These costs may be subject to change due to market conditions; any such change in costs for transactions published during the Platts MOC process may be subject to review by Platts, and must be demonstrably reasonable and typical.

**Nomination guidelines:** In the ITT market, the buyer retains the option to nominate the transfer date within a 5 to 15 day forward range; this nomination should take place at least one calendar day in advance of the transfer date.

- **For offtake via barge,** a buyer should nominate a three-day loading period within the 5-15 day assessment laycan as well as a performing vessel, at least five calendar days prior to the first day of the three-day loading period, subject to terminal acceptance. The seller should nominate a loading terminal at least 48 hours prior to the first day of the three-day loading period.

- **If a buyer chooses to take delivery of product via truck,** the buyer should nominate a specific lifting date at least one calendar day prior. For offtake via rail, a buyer should nominate a lifting date at least five calendar days prior.

For all nominations, there will be an end-of-day time cut-off of 15:00 CT (16:00 ET). Any nomination provided after this time would be considered as being for the next day.

Sellers for transactions published during the MOC process should ensure that they make best efforts to seek terminal dates that meet the reported transaction laycan. Platts is aware that physical conditions regarding logistics which are beyond the control of the seller or buyer may result in issues such as late loading. If it becomes clear that it is not possible to secure offtake of product within the 5-15 day assessment laycan via the means nominated by the buyer, the buyer should seek resolution to perform on the transaction via other means, including alternative offtake mechanisms and bookouts.

In addition, since offtake via rail at the Kinder Morgan ethanol fungible system is available only at the Chicago (Stony Island) terminal, if there is insufficient product at that terminal, a seller may reasonably reject an offtake nomination via rail.

**Demurrage:** Platts understands that ethanol trades that involve barge loading at the Kinder Morgan fungible system typically include a public dock clause. For transactions published in the MOC process, sellers should ensure that they seek terminal dates that meet the reported transaction laycan and have product available for said laycan. In the event that terminal dates do not meet the reported transaction laycan, the availability of which neither the buyer or seller have control over, the public dock clause would apply. Platts understands that under the commonly used public dock clause for barges loading ethanol at the Kinder Morgan fungible system, laytime commences when the vessel is at the dock.

**Volume:** Minimum of 2,500 barrels.

**RIN transfer:** For transactions in this market, if ownership of the physical product transfers between January 1 and January 31 it is the seller’s option to transfer current or prior-year RINs. Transfers after January 31 for the rest of the calendar year must carry current-year RINs. The physical ethanol transfer date determines what RIN vintage may be attached, not the trade date.
Chicago ethanol derivatives
Platts assesses Chicago ethanol derivatives, which settle against the physical Platts assessments for Platts Chicago Terminal ethanol. The derivative assessments are published as outright values in cents/gal. Platts publishes Chicago ethanol derivatives for the first two forward months. These roll to the next month on the first publishing day of each month.

Chicago Rail (Rule 11)
Basis and Location: Platts daily Rule 11 Chicago assessment, reflects ethanol that is railed basis Chicago. Rule 11 is a railroad accounting term that refers to a seller paying for freight up to an intermediate point and the buyer pays for freight beyond that point, without either party incurring switching costs.

Volume: Minimum of five rail cars or 145,000 gallons.

Timing: Assessments reflect this-Week-Shipment (TWS) Monday through Wednesday and Next-Week-Shipment (NWS) Thursday and Friday.

RIN transfer: For transactions in this market the bill of lading date is used to determine what RIN vintage may be attached. Bills of lading on or between January 1 to January 31, it is the seller’s option on whether to transfer prior-year RINs or current year RINs. Bills of lading after January 31 through the rest of the calendar year must carry current-year RINs.

North California Rail Car Ethanol
Platts publishes North California Rail Car Ethanol assessments that reflect two different carbon intensity (CI) levels: an annual gasoline standard carbon intensity (CI) and 70 CI.

Platts understands that ethanol delivered into Northern California by rail reflects material with a range of CI values. Therefore for any trades published in the Platts Market on Close assessment process for the North California 70 CI or the gasoline standard CI, Platts expects buyers and sellers to apply a value normalization based on the CI of the ethanol physically delivered.

This can either be via direct payment or the transfer of carbon credits (partial obligation), with the seller retaining the option to choose the method of compensation. Platts expects the seller to notify the buyer of this option by the close of business on the day of the trade. As part of any direct payment, buyers and sellers are expected to apply a value normalization based on the value per point of CI per gallon of ethanol on the day of the trade.

North California Rail Car Ethanol (gasoline standard):

Basis and Location: North California delivered rail cars basis the Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals.

Quality and CI: Reflects Carbon Intensity (CI) equal to the annual gasoline CI standard as set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). CI scores for fuel pathways consist of the sum of the greenhouse gases emitted throughout each stage of the ethanol’s production and use. CI is expressed in grams of carbon dioxide equivalent per mega-joule (gCO2e/MJ).

Assessments reflect transactions where the seller retains any obligation for credits or deficits generated by the actual CI of the ethanol sold.

In the absence of pricing information for the gasoline standard CI North California rail car assessment, Platts would value it based on its North California 70 CI rail car ethanol assessment and daily-published Carbon Intensity ethanol CI value per point which uses the LCFS carbon credit and the energy density of denatured ethanol at 81.51 MJ/gallon.

Here is an example of the normalization:

To find the value in cents/gallon of the difference between a stated CI in a bid, offer or trade and the basis assessment CI, Platts takes the annual gasoline standard CI in gCO2e/MJ as set by CARB minus the CI of the stated bid, offer or trade. The LCFS carbon credits as published daily by Platts, under the code AAXYAO0, is then divided by 1 million, and multiplied by 81.51 MJ/gallon (the energy density of ethanol). The result of this calculation (CI value per point) is multiplied by the CI difference previously calculated to get the $/gal value.

For example:

Platts publishes a 82 CI ethanol trade basis North California Terminal at 125 cents/gal; the 2020 annual gasoline standard CI is 91.98.

- The difference between the two CI levels is 9.98.
- The value of LCFS carbon credits for the front quarter published by Platts on the corresponding day is $200/mt.
- $200/mt divided by 1,000,000 then multiplied by 81.51 (energy density of ethanol) equals $0.0163/Ci.
- 21.98 (the difference in the CI values) multiplied by 0.0163 equals $0.1627/gal or 16.27 cents/gal.

The 82 CI ethanol trade of 125.00 cents/gal can be normalized by 16.27 cents/gal to give 108.75 cents/gal; an equivalent value for a 91.98 CI ethanol trade.

Timing: Assessment reflects Monday through Thursday this-week-shipment (TWS); while on Friday, it reflects next-week-shipment (NWS).

Platts expects the buyer to nominate a destination to the seller by close of business on Thursday of the shipment week; and the seller to provide a bill of lading to the railroad by end of day Saturday of the shipment week.

Volume: Minimum of five rail car lots or 145,000 gallons.

Unit: Platts publishes North California ethanol assessments as both a flat price in cents/gallon and as a premium to the Platts Ethanol Chicago front-month derivative.
North California Rail Car Ethanol 70 CI

Basis and Location: North California delivered rail cars basis the Richmond, Stockton, McClellan Park and Sacramento terminals.

Quality and CI: Assessment reflects ethanol with a reference 70 CI.

Timing: Assessment reflects Monday through Thursday this-week-shipment (TWS); while on Friday, it reflects next-week-shipment (NWS).

Platts expects the buyer to nominate a destination to the seller by close of business on Thursday of the shipment week; and the seller to provide a bill of lading to the railroad by end of day Saturday of the shipment week.

Volume: Minimum of five rail car lots or 145,000 gallons.

Unit: Platts publishes North California 70 CI ethanol assessments as both a flat price in cents/gallon and as a premium to the Platts Ethanol Chicago front-month derivative.

Low Carbon Fuel Standard credits (LCFS)

Platts assesses carbon credits under the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) as defined by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Transfer dates: Platts assesses current quarter and next quarter carbon credits that are to be transferred before the end of the respective quarters.

Timing: Assessments roll on the first publishing day after the 14th of the last month of the quarter.

Units: US dollars per metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent.

Carbon Intensity value calculation

Platts publishes a valuethat reflects the value of each point of Carbon Intensity (CI) per gallon of ethanol under California’s Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

The published CI price per point is calculated daily using the Platts assessment of front-quarter California LCFS credits ($/mt) and the energy density of denatured ethanol, as published by the California Air Resources Board at 81.51 MJ/gal, then divided by 10,000 to give a cents/CI per gallon value.

Unit: Cents/gallon

US Dried Distillers Grain with Solubles (DDGS)

DDGS FOB Chicago

Basis and Location: Basis FOB Chicago, assessment reflects trucks delivered to the Channahon, Illinois, railhead.

Quality: Assessments will reflect export quality DDGS, protein content minimum of 25%, minimum color of 50 (according to the Hunter L test), fat minimum of 6%, and a moisture level in the range of 10% to 12%, standardized to 11.5%.

Volume: 25 short tons (22.6mt).

Timing: Assessment reflects delivered trucks on a calendar month basis. Platts assesses delivery in the current month until the 20th of that month; this rolls the next calendar month on the first publication day after the 20th.

Units: $/short ton.

DDGS CIF New Orleans barge

Basis and Location: CIF basis New Orleans

Quality: Assessments will reflect export quality DDGS, protein content minimum of 25%, minimum color of 50 (according to the Hunter L test), fat minimum of 6%, and a moisture level in the range of 10% to 12%, standardized to 11.5%.

Volume: 1,500 short tons (1,360 mt).

Timing: The assessment reflects barge shipments in the current month, for delivery into New Orleans. This rolls to the next shipment month on the first publication day after the 25th of the month.

Units: $/short ton.

US Biodiesel

Biodiesel delivered Chicago

Basis and Locations: Assessments reflect truck or rail volume delivered at Kinder Morgan Argo and Chicago fungible system, which includes the Argo and Chicago (Stony Island) terminals, and other major storage facilities in the Chicago area.

Volume: Truck volume of 150 barrels; rail volume of 700 barrels. Volumes of 1,000 to 3,000 barrels sold FOB in-tank at terminals in Chicago may also be considered and normalized for assessment purposes.

Quality: ASTM specification D6751 for biodiesel (B100). Assessment reflects soy methyl ester (SME). Price data for B99 may be normalized to B100.

Timing: Three to 10 days forward from date of publication.

Units: Cents/gal.

Notes: Platts assessments reflect a 50%/50% split of the biodiesel blender’s tax credit between buyer and seller. Other splits of the credit may be normalized to the current value of the credit when the federal tax credit is not in effect. The assessment reflects product with a D4 renewable identification number attached; Platts may normalize RIN-less indications using the Platts assessment of the current-year D4 RIN. Platts typically assesses US biodiesel by applying differentials heard in the market to the daily settlement of the front-month NYMEX ULSD futures contract.

Biodiesel delivered Houston

Basis and Locations: Assessments reflect truck or rail volume delivered in the Houston area.
Volume: Truck volume of 150 barrels; rail volume of 700 barrels. Volumes of 1,000 to 3,000 barrels sold FOB in-tank at terminals in the Houston Ship Channel may also be considered and normalized for assessment purposes.

Quality: ASTM specification D6751 for biodiesel (B100). Assessment reflects soy methyl ester (SME). Price data for B99 may be normalized to B100.

Timing: Three to 10 days forward from date of publication.

Units: Cents/gal.

Notes: Platts assessments reflect a 50%/50% split of the biodiesel blender's tax credit between buyer and seller. Other splits of the credit may be to the current value of the credit when the federal tax credit is not in effect. The assessment reflects product with a D4 renewable identification number attached; Platts may normalize RIN-less indications using the Platts assessment of the current-year D4 RIN. Platts typically assesses US biodiesel by applying differentials heard in the market to the daily settlement of the front-month NYMEX ULSD futures contract.

Renewable Identification Number (RIN) assessments

A RIN is a credit issued by the US Environmental Protection Agency, for the purpose of tracking renewable fuel usage. Applicable refiners and importers, called “obligated parties,” use RINs to demonstrate to the EPA they have fulfilled their government mandated use of renewable fuels. If the obligated party has not used enough physical product, such as ethanol, it can satisfy the quota by purchasing RINs.

Platts assesses RINs for conventional biofuels or “corn-based ethanol” (D6), biomass-based diesel (D4), cellulosic biofuel (D3) and advanced biofuel (D5) for the previous year, current year and next-year vintage RINs.

In the absence of spot market values for D3 RINs, Platts may look at the value of the Cellulosic Waiver Credit (CWC) and D5 RIN value.

The EPA has historically published the value of the next year’s CWC around December of the current year, however the final underlying data for calculating the CWC is published in early September. Platts may publish next-year D3 RIN assessments using a projected value calculated from the available underlying data the EPA uses starting from the first publishing day of July, which is when Platts begins publishing next-year RIN assessments. From early September, Platts may use a calculated CWC using the final underlying data the EPA uses to calculate the next-year CWC.

Volumes:
D6: Typical volume of 500,000 RINs per trade.
D4: Typical volume of 250,000 RINs per trade.
D3: Typical volume of 100,000 RINs per trade.
D5: Typical volume of 100,000 RINs per trade.

Transfer dates: For current-year and previous-year RIN trades, the seller is obligated to transfer RINs to the buyer during the first full calendar month forward from date of execution. For example, a seller of a RIN on June 7, 2020, has the obligation to transfer that RIN to the buyer no later than the last working day of July 2020. For year-ahead RIN assessments, the seller is obligated to transfer RINs to the buyer no later than January 31 of the following year. Vintage rolling schedule: Platts begins assessing next-year RINs on the first publishing day of July. The final publishing day for prior-year RIN assessments is the last publishing day of January two years after the RIN vintage. For example, the last assessment for 2020 RINs will be on January 31, 2022.

Calendar RINs codes: These codes correspond to the calendar year of the RIN to supplement the existing rolling codes and accompany a specific RIN vintage throughout its entire lifecycle, from launch to discontinuation, even as the vintage may be previous, current or forward year. The codes contain the calendar year, e.g., RD62020.

Renewable Volume Obligation

Platts publishes the US Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) calculated values in line with the release of the blending mandates under the Renewable Fuel Standard. RVO is the aggregate cost of the RIN percentages per gallon of transportation fuel as mandated by the EPA in the RFS.

Platts publishes RVO values for three calendar years: the previous year, current year and next year. Each year’s RVO will follow the same calendar and publication timings as the corresponding RIN assessments.

The RVO is calculated by taking each category and vintage RIN from daily Platts assessments (e.g., 2020 D6, D4, D5 and D3 RINs), multiplying by its EPA mandated percentage and then adding them together.

For example:
- D6 ethanol RINs daily assessment: 26.50 cents/RIN
- D5 advanced biofuel daily assessment: 49 cents/RIN
- D4 biodiesel daily assessment: 51 cents/RIN
- D3 cellulosic biofuel daily assessment: $1.34/RIN

2020 RVO formula:
RVO= 8.63% (D6) + 0.49% (D5) + 2.1% (D4) + 0.34% (D3)
RVO= 8.63% (26.50) + 0.49% (49) + 2.1% (51) + 0.34% (134)
RVO= 4.0537 cent/gal (cents/gal)

The 2019 and 2020 RVO percentages as stated by the RFS are:
As these renewable fuels are mandated by the EPA and hence subject to change without prior notice, Platts may update the Platts RVO formulas at any time and inform the market of the changes through subscriber notes.

Global

Futures and Foreign Exchange

Platts publishes assessments reflecting the prevailing market value precisely at the MOC close for several futures contracts on Bursa Malaysia (BMD), Intercontinental Exchange (ICE), Euronext and Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) and foreign exchange values, as well as the settlements for certain futures contracts on the above exchanges.

18:00 Singapore assessments

An assessment for the third-month crude palm oil futures contract listed on the BMD reflecting the prevailing value at 18:00 Singapore is published daily in MYR/mt. The BMD contract rolls forward on the 15th of each calendar month, or if this falls on a holiday, on the preceding business day. From the start of the calendar month until rolling, the assessment reflects the traded value for BMD contract representing the balance of the current month. After the contract rolls until the end of the calendar month, the assessment reflects the traded value for the next month.

The assessed spread between the BMD crude palm oil third-month futures assessment and the ICE gasoil futures contract (PO-GO) for corresponding contractual months is also published reflecting the prevailing value at 18:00 Singapore time. Platts publishes this spread in US dollars per mt and uses the published and prevailing USD/MYR exchange rate at 18:00 Singapore time to convert the BMD palm oil assessment from MYR/mt to USD/mt.

16:30 London assessments

Assessments for the two front months of the gasoil futures contract listed on ICE Futures reflecting prevailing values at 16:30 London time are published in USD/mt. The assessments will roll over to the second and third month contracts on the 5th day of each calendar month until the official expiry of the front month futures contract.

Assessments reflecting the front month of the milling wheat, rapeseed and corn futures contracts listed on Euronext reflecting prevailing values at 16:30 London time are published in Eur/mt. Assessments reflecting the front month of the soybean oil (USc/lb), corn (USC/bu) and soybean meal (USD/st) contracts listed on CBOT reflecting prevailing values at 16:30 London time are published. The front month assessment will roll to the second month on the 5th of each calendar month (until the official expiry of the existing front month contract).

Platts also reflects in USD/mt, the spread between the first- or second-month soybean oil futures contract as listed on CBOT and the corresponding calendar month’s ICE gasoil futures contract (BO-GO). This assessment reflects the front month soybean oil contract until the 5th day of the calendar month of contract expiry. The assessment will roll over to reflect the second-month soybean oil futures contract listed on CBOT on the 5th day of the calendar month of futures contract expiry until the official expiry of the front-month contract. If the 5th day of the calendar month is not a business day in London the spread assessment will roll to reflect the second month futures contract on the next business day.

Platts also publishes an assessment of the prevailing USD/BRL and EUR/USD exchange rate at 16:30 London time.

13:30 CT Houston

Platts publishes the settlement values for the front month soybean oil, corn and soybean meal CBOT futures contracts. Platts also publishes USD/BRL and USD/MXN foreign exchange rate assessments that reflect the prevailing market value at 13:30 CT.
REVISION HISTORY

September 2020: Platts completed an annual review of the Biofuels specifications guide. Platts reviewed all content, corrected typos and made minor edits to language.

August 2020: Platts changed the timing and laycan for its biodiesel FOB Southeast Asia assessment, as well as its calculation of the palm oil-gasoil spread, effective July 1, 2020.

April 2020: Platts launched Carbon Intensity per point per gallon of ethanol value and North California delivered rail 70 CI assessment. Platts updated gasoline standard CI North California delivered rail assessment and discontinued South California delivered rail assessment. Updated this guide with 2020 RVO percentages and calculation.

March 2020: Platts updated the guide with new UCO and UCOME assessments.

November 2019: Platts completed an annual review of the Biofuels specifications guide. Platts reviewed all content, corrected typos and made minor edits to language.

July 2019: Platts updated this guide to reflect the change in Ethanol Chicago (terminal) assessment methodology, with effect from June 3, 2019, including new offtake options and nomination guidelines. Platts completed an annual update to sections 1 to 6 of Platts Methodology and Specifications Guides in April 2019, and moved these sections into a standalone Methodology Guide.

April 2019: Platts updated CS Brazil domestic ethanol assessment credit terms, volume.

February 2019: Update RIN code labelling and RVO percentages.

January 2019: Platts reviewed the guide as part of its annual methodology review and made a number of minor edits.

October 2018: Platts clarified T2 ethanol sustainability criteria.

July 2018: Platts revamped sections I-VI.

June 2018: Platts clarified its Ethanol Grade B CFR Ulsan specifications reflecting sugarcane based industrial ethanol.

May 2018: Platts clarified RIN transfers with trades in US ethanol Market on Close assessment processes. Platts changed the basis of the T2 ethanol assessment to FOB ARA from FOB Rotterdam.

November 2017: Platts reviewed the guide as part of its annual methodology review. Updated Loading rate, dates, timing and locations, adding normalization. In addition, ICE Settlements, Open Interest and Volumes were also updated with correct contract references. Platts launched NNE Brazil delivered Suape weekly anhydrous ethanol assessment.

October 2017: Platts specified terms of POS in European T2 ethanol.

July 2017: Platts updates California ethanol Carbon Intensity basis and timing reflected in the assessment.

June 2017: Platts updates the ex-mill Ribeirao Hydrous expressed as Raw Sugar equivalent methodology.

March 2017: Platts revised roll dates for CIF NOLA DDGS barge and FOB Chicago DDGS truck assessments.

December 2016: Platts added a minimum 50% greenhouse gas saving requirement for T2 and T1 ethanol assessments.

November 2016: Platts made changes to the formatting and updated language for the Europe section.

October 2016: Annual review: Platts made a number of minor edits and updated language for the Asia, Europe and Americas sections. Platts discontinued its assessment of fuel-grade ethanol FOB Thailand.

July 2016: Platts changed Americas biofuels Market on Close assessment time to 14:30 Eastern Standard Time (13:30 CT) from 1515 EST (14:15 CT). Platts updated the guide to reflect a clarification regarding the delivery ports taken into consideration for the CIF Philippines ethanol assessments. Platts amended language for the Asian section of Futures and Foreign Exchange assessments to clarify the assessment month used on Bursa Malaysia (BMD) and the process in which the front month rolls over. Platts updated the guide to reflect changes made to the Biodiesel FOB Southeast Asia assessment. Beginning 1 July, 2016, Platts assesses RED compliant PME at the Malaysian loading ports of Port Klang, Pasir Gudang and Lahad Datu which adheres to EN14214 quality specifications with monoglyceride levels of 0.5% or less.

May 2016: Platts updated its methodology to reflect an alternate assessment methodology for D3 cellulosic RINs when market activity is not available.

April 2016: Platts updated the guide to reflect changes made to the FOB Rotterdam T2 ethanol assessments. As of April 1, 2016, Platts FOB Rotterdam T2 assessments reflect a FOB Rotterdam basis with loading options in Amsterdam and Antwerp. Platts updated Chicago terminal ethanol ITT methodology to include nomination time as originally stated in 2009.

January 2016: References to non-RED biodiesel FOB ARA assessments removed, following the discontinuation of those assessments effective January 1, 2016.

December 2015: The methodology guide was updated with further description and clarification of calculated values of the US Renewable Volume Obligation in accordance with the release of the blending mandates under the Renewable Fuel Standard. Platts also removed references to the FOB Singapore ethanol, following the discontinuation of its assessment effective Dec
Specifications Guide | Global Biofuels: September 2020

21. References to non-RED biodiesel FOB ARA assessments removed, following the discontinuation of those assessments effective January 1, 2016.

October 2015: Platts updated the guide with the new assessment Ethanol Grade B CFR Ulsan, effective October 1. Platts updated guide with new assessments of US Dried Distillers Grain CIF basis New Orleans barge and FOB Chicago truck or rail launched October 1, 2015.

September 2015: Platts updated the guide with: new US ‘lifetime’ RINS codes; updated methodology around the roll dates for the Atlantic Coast ethanol assessments; a clarification on specifications for its FOB Southeast Asia biodiesel assessment; a clarification on methodology for T1 ethanol CIF NWE cargo and FOB Rotterdam barge assessments.

July 2015: Platts clarified and updated its RINS rolling dates and launch cycles, as well as improving the wording around each individual RIN name to align with industry standards on corn-based and biomass-based RINS.

June 2015: Platts removed references to non-RED SME biodiesel FOB ARA barges, following the discontinuation of its assessment effective June 1.

February 2015: This methodology guide was updated to include further description of Platts’ processes and practices in survey assessment environments.

January 2015: Platts added a requirement for all FOB ARA biodiesel assessments (except for non-RED and RED-compliant SME) to reflect material with sustainability documentation showing a minimum greenhouse gas saving of 50% when compared to the fossil fuel comparator, as per the European Union’s Fuel Quality Directive calculation.

October 2014: Platts clarified for European biodiesel barges, operational tolerances and the maximum number of days for delivery of Proof of Sustainability documentation.

August 2014: Platts revamped all Agriculture and Biofuel Methodology And Specifications Guides, including its Global Biofuels guide, in August 2014. This revamp was completed to enhance the clarity and usefulness of all guides, and to introduce greater consistency of layout and structure across all published methodology guides. Methodologies for market coverage were not changed through this revamp, unless specifically noted in the methodology guide itself.