



Butadiene (Asia-Pacific)

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Please click [here](#) for full details on the criteria ICIS uses in making these price assessments.

The weekly analysis on 27 December will not be published. Please click [here](#) for the ICIS publishing schedule.

OVERVIEW

- **Sentiment up with derivative rubber futures gains in China**
- **Buying interest for imports supported in line**
- **But suppliers more preoccupied with term talks**

Discussions for Asian butadiene (BD) imports edged up this week, with sentiment buoyed by some gains seen in the week in China's derivative rubber futures market.

But substantive spot transactions remained elusive, as buyers and sellers still failed to see eye to eye.

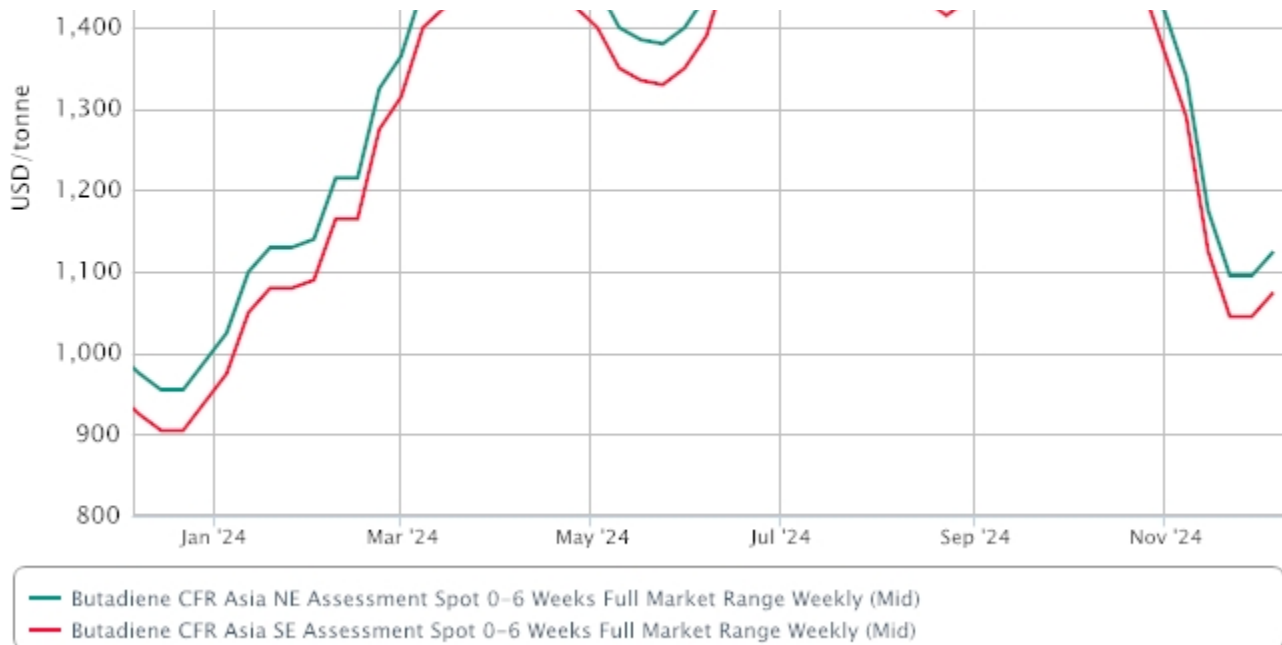
In China, domestic yuan-denominated prices picked up, supported by some early week's gains in derivative rubber futures.

However, because derivative rubber futures trades were volatile during the week, amid some mid-week slumps and late-week recovery, many players were cautious to commit at this juncture, preferring to defer procurement decisions until the futures market has stabilised.

That said, buying appetite for imports did pick up, as end-users start to contemplate on potential requirements for January and forward. As 2025 term talks are still ongoing, and may drag for some time, some end-users are heard not disinclined to taking in some supplemental spot parcels in January.

However, concrete offers are scant this week, with suppliers mostly still absorbed in term negotiations, and not keen to embark on spot sales until term talks are wrapped up, possibly by end-December at the earliest, market sources said.





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OUTLOOK

- Spot requirements may pick up if term 2025 talks stretch
- Spot supplies to stay tight on plant closures
- Buy-sell gap to prevail

PRICES

SPOT PRICES - PRICE RANGE FOR THE WEEK

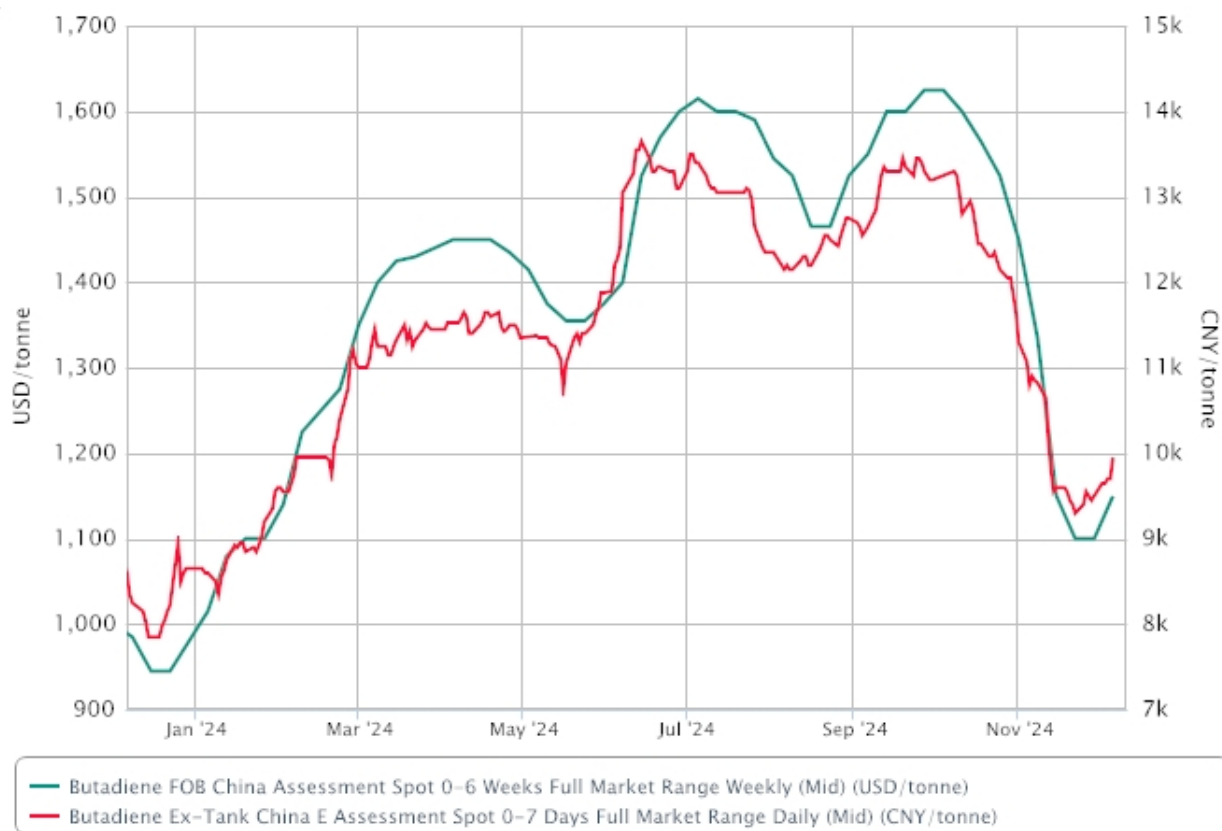
			Price Range		Four Weeks Ago	US CTS/lb
Butadiene						
FOB China	USD/tonne	+50	1100.00-1200.00	+50	1320.00-1350.00	49.90-54.43
CFR NE Asia	USD/tonne	+50	1100.00-1150.00	+10	1300.00-1380.00	49.90-52.16
CFR SE Asia	USD/tonne	+50	1050.00-1100.00	+10	1250.00-1330.00	47.63-49.90

China

FOB China assessments are up, with bids heard at the low end, against selling indications at the high end.

But no substantive discussions ensued, market sources said.

Domestic prices in east China fluctuated this week, up early week, fizzled out mid-week, but rebounded late week.



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Northeast Asia

CFR NE Asian assessments rose, taking into account more upbeat buying indications, even if concrete selling indications were scant.

China-based buyers were heard prepared to pay more for January shipment parcels, and this formed the low end.

Selling indications were heard at the high end and above, although no concrete offers emerged in the week, albeit on a fixed price basis. Suppliers were more inclined to discussing only on formula-linked terms, market sources said.

A southeast Asia-origin cargo available to lift in early January was floated for spot sales, via tender, during the week. It was heard sold at the low-to-mid \$1,000s/tonne, albeit on an FOB SE Asia basis.

Monthly Contract	Nov 24	Oct 24	Sep 24	Aug 24	Jul 24	Jun 24	May 24
DEL, \$/tonne							
Taiwan FPCC	1,205	1,480	1,470	1,465	1,515	1,395	1,355

Korea	1,190	1,530	1,550	1,500	1,565	1,493	1,390
YNCC							

Southeast Asia

CFR SE Asian assessments rose, in tandem with changes in CFR NE Asian assessments.

SPOT PRICES - PRICE RANGE AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS FRIDAY

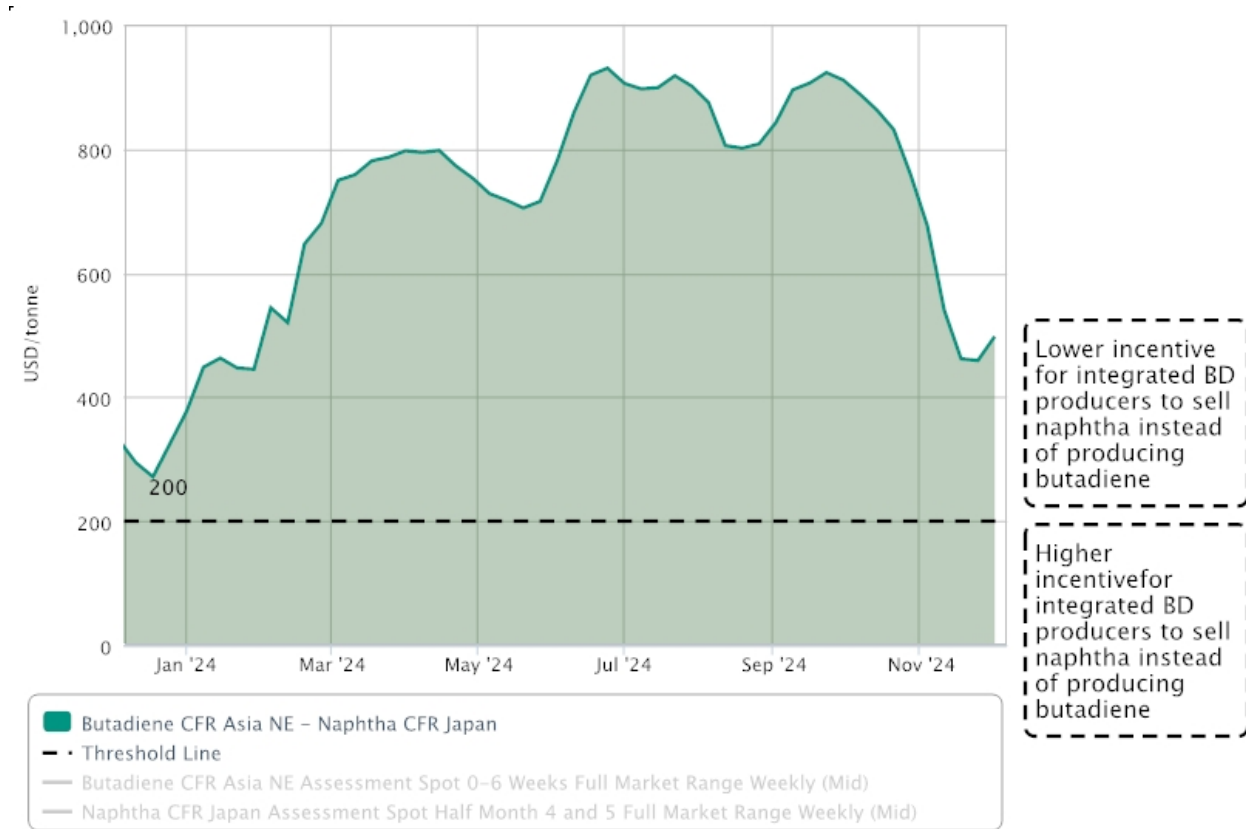
			Price Range		One Week Ago	/
Butadiene						
Ex-Tank E China	CNY/tonne	+200	9900-10000	+300	9400-9600	-

UPSTREAM

Naphtha

- Intermonth spread on 5 Dec lowest in about two weeks
- High Nov arb volume weighs on sentiment
- Cracker shutdown in SE Asia also has some downward impact

[Feedstock spread between Naphtha CFR Japan and Butadiene CFR NE Asia](#)



Click [here](#) for the Asia feedstocks and petrochemicals weekly summary.

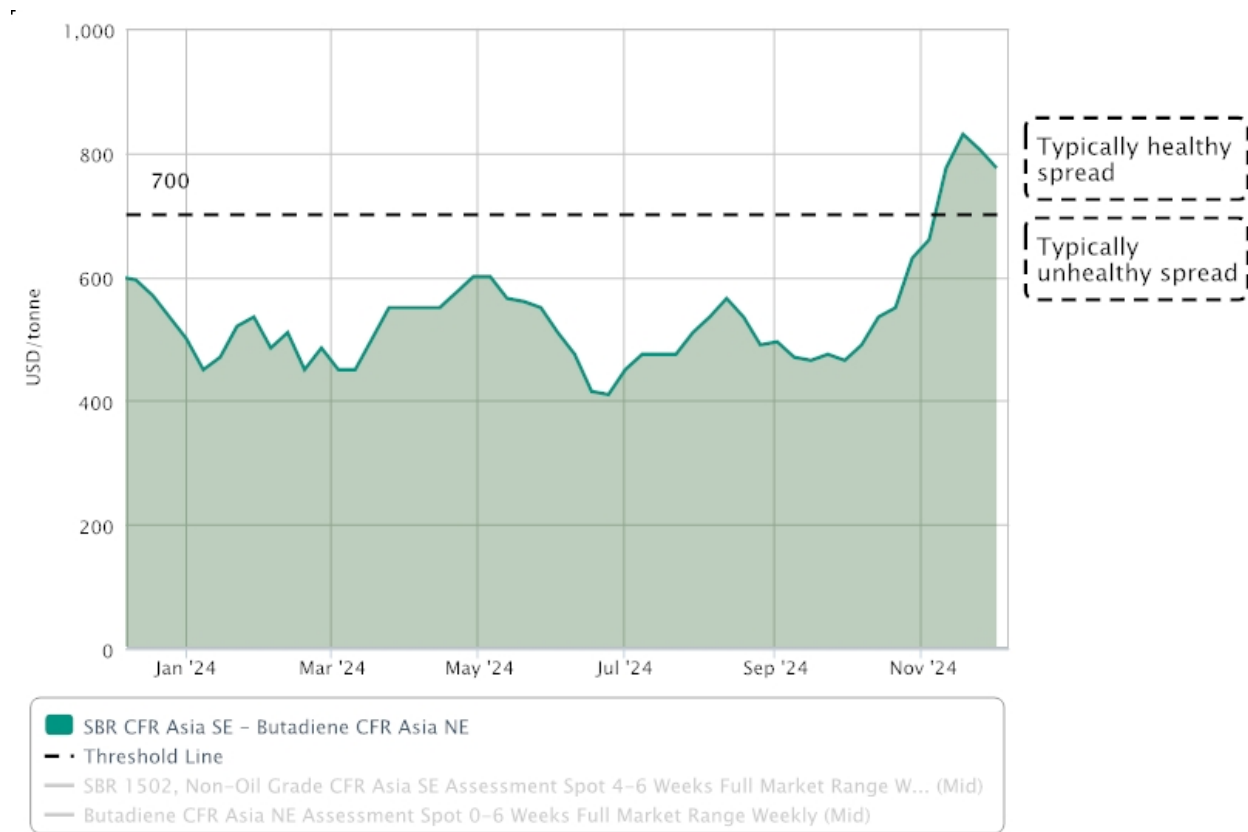
DOWNSTREAM

Styrene-butadiene-rubber (SBR)

- Uneven sentiment across outlets
- China and SE Asia flat as players wait and see
- India down with influx of non-Asian availabilities

The chart below shows the spread between BD and SBR in Asia.

[Spread between Butadiene and Styrene Butadiene Rubber Asia](#)

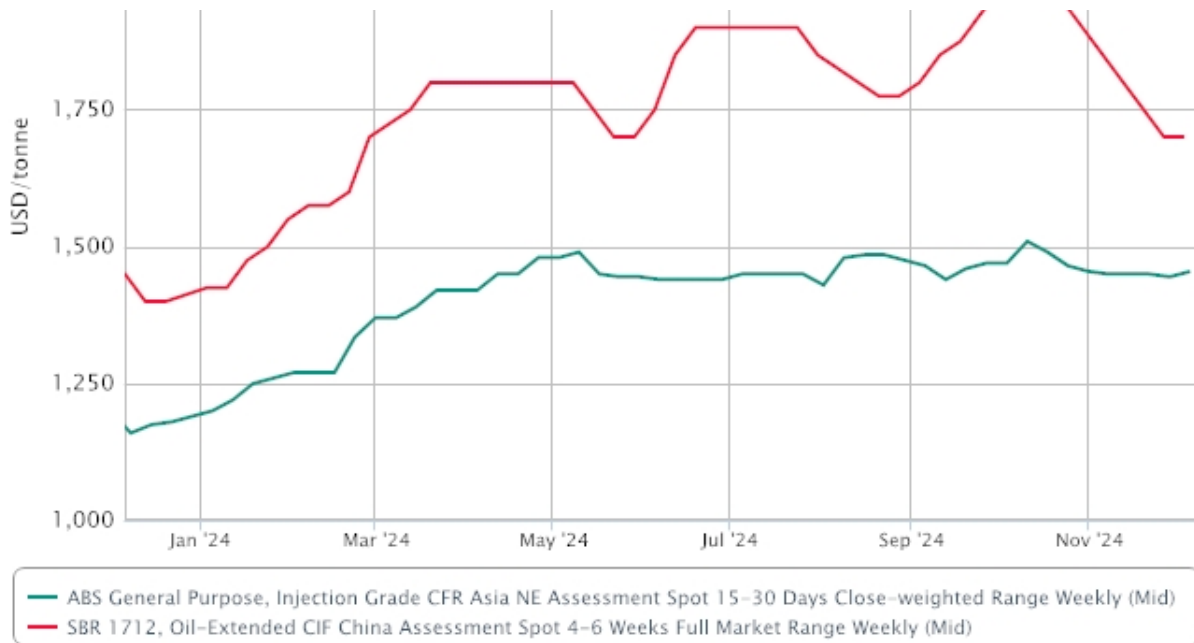


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Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS)

- Asia ABS strengthens, reverses last week's decline
- Ongoing maintenance, pre-Lunar New Year stocking bolster sentiment
- Producers relieved by stay in positive margin zone





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PRODUCTION

Several plants in southeast Asia will be off-line on economics consideration.

Click [here](#) for the Live Disruption Tracker.

Company	Location	Status	Capacity (MT/year)	Start	End
Sinopec Shanghai	Shanghai, China	Maintenance/ Commercial	53,000 (#1)	Sep 2023	Unknown
Zeon	Tokuyama, Japan	Maintenance	180,000	H2 September	End November
FPCC	Mailiao, Taiwan	Commercial	162,000 (#2)	August	Unknown
Long Son	Long Son, Vietnam	Commercial	110,000	H2 October	Unknown
Lotte-GS	Yeosu, South Korea	Maintenance	90,000	End September	End November
JG Summit	Batangas, Philippines	Cracker closure	70,000	Early 2025	Unknown

OTHER REGIONS

Europe

- Unchanged market fundamentals week on week
- Market well-balanced - slow demand matched by supply constraints
- Cracker rates trimmed; one BD unit restarting; possible issues at another
- Spot prices softer notionally following CP drop last week and generally seasonally softer tone

US

- [US BD contract settles down](#) on improved feedstock allocation and newly added capacity
- [TPC Group](#) completes debottleneck project
- Some buyers waiting for market direction before securing material

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