

BAIINFO Chlor-alkali Weekly

Oct.11, 2018 Issue 18-39



Highlights:

- China Liquid Caustic Soda Market Price Increased
- Domestic Caustic Soda Flakes Prices Registered Upward Movement
- Liquid Chlorine Selling Prices Became Mixed
- Domestic ADC Blowing Agent Market Was Pulled up
- Hydrazine Hydrate Market Price Ran Higher
- Chloroacetic Acid New Orders' Price Came out
- Trichlorosilane Price Rose Constantly
- ECH Market Ran Ordinary
- Chlorobenzene Market Did Not Improve
- Chlorinated Paraffin Prices Edged down in North China
- CPE Manufacturers Issued New Order Prices
- Domestic Propylene Epoxide Market Prices Were Pushed up Narrowly
- Methane Chloride Prices Showed Ups and Downs

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**Methanol
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**Liquid Chlorine
Weekly**

**Sulfuric Acid
Weekly**

**Soda Ash
Monthly**

Caustic Soda**Liquid Caustic Soda****➤ Review & Analysis**

This week, China liquid caustic soda market price increased. The price in Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui and Jiangxi in east China, Hubei in central China increased significantly and the price continued the increasing trend. In south China, northwest China and north China, liquid caustic soda market was good dafter National Day in Guangxi, Inner Mongolia, Shandong and Hebei. Liquid caustic soda market was stable in other areas and enterprises adopted wait-and-see attitudes.

Specifically, partial devices of chlor-alkali in Shandong Xinfra Group shut down and stopped the decreasing trend of north China, and the market was stable in National Day. After National Day, liquid caustic soda prices in north China was tentative to increase as partial devices in Shandong Bohui Chemical shut down, and the support of the favoring receiving of downstream demander. Liquid caustic soda transaction price in Hubei and east China continued increasing affected by the local concentrated turnaround. The price of caustic soda for aluminium oxide industry use was continued the price level as September in Shanxi, Henan, and Guangxi before National Day. Local price was stable, and the market was good after National Day. Shipment price in Shanxi, Henan and Guangxi increased by RMB 50-100/T, and liquid caustic soda price was stable in other districts.

The trading data from BAIINFO showed that the price index of 32% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was RMB 1,051/T on Oct.11, up 1.19% than Sep. 28.

➤ Regional Market**Shandong:**

The price of caustic soda increased. Low concentration caustic soda price increased RMB 20-30/T in Shandong. Some downstream enterprises began to stock up for other uses. Upstream stock pressure decreased recently, and the price showed slightly adjustment. In terms of price, from Sep. 27, Shandong alumina enterprises executed the spot price of RMB 880/T for 32% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda. Local high concentration price: in Dongying, the acceptance price of 50% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was RMB 1,520-1,540/T; in Zibo, the acceptance price of 50% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was RMB 1,530-1,540/T; in Weifang, the acceptance price of 50% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was RMB 1,540-1,550/T.

Hebei:

This week, the price of caustic soda was likely to increase in Hebei.

Tianjin:

Liquid caustic soda market was stable. Liquid caustic soda market slightly improved in Shandong after National Day. High concentration liquid caustic soda price slightly increased, and enterprises mainly adopted wait-and-see attitudes in Tianjin.

Caustic Soda**Liquid Caustic Soda****Solid Caustic Soda****Downstream****Liquid Chlorine****ADC Blowing Agent****Hydrazine Hydrate****Chloroacetic Acid****Trichlorosilane****ECH****Chlorobenzene****Chlorinated Paraffin****CPE****Propylene Epoxide****Methane Chloride**

Shanxi:

Long-term order price of liquid caustic soda market was stable. In Shanxi, delivery price of caustic soda for aluminum oxide industrial use was RMB 3,430-3,450/T (100% basis). Caustic soda volume for aluminum oxide industrial use increased in Shanxi and the demand was good. Output of chlor-alkali devices was normal and caustic soda overall supply was mainly for large orders.

Zhejiang:

Caustic soda market moved high in Zhejiang. Stock of caustic soda was low in Zhejiang after National Day, and local output of chlor-alkali was less. Liquid caustic soda price increased RMB 50/T in Zhejiang affected by the rising price of Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Anhui. The average price of 30% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was at RMB 1,160-1,190/T, arrival to Xiaoshan and Shaoxing. The average price of 32% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was at RMB 1,180-1,230/T, arrival to Xiaoshan and Shaoxing. Local market was good, and it was expected that the market would be stable after this turn of increasing.

Jiangsu:

Caustic soda market price was stable in Jiangsu after National Day. Because of the shipment problem of liquid chlorine around National Day in Jiangsu, many enterprises of chlor-alkali reduced production. Some chlor-alkali in southern Jiangsu was sent to Zhejiang. It was expected that enterprises would adopt wait-and-see attitudes towards peripheral market, and the market would be stable recently.

Anhui:

Caustic soda market continued to move up in Anhui and caustic soda market in East China developed well on the whole. Price of caustic soda increased in Jiangsu due to turnaround, which gradually influenced the prices in Anhui and Zhejiang. Price for new orders of 32% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was at RMB 1,140-1,180/T. In Anhui, the downstream enterprises using alkali were mainly from papermaking and fine chemical industries. It was predicated that caustic soda market in Anhui would keep stable and merchants would hold a wait-and-see attitude for a period.

Jiangxi:

Liquid caustic soda market edged up in Jiangxi after the National Day holidays. During the holidays, chlor-alkali load in Jiangxi was compressed to some extent. In addition, supply of caustic soda in Hubei was tight the price moved up, which was favorable to the market price in Jiangxi. After the holidays, the transaction price for new orders was at RMB 1,140-1,180/T. In Jiangxi, the local caustic soda was mainly consumed by viscose staple fiber, ceramic and dyeing industries and the local demand did not change too much. The overall supply and demand were in balance. It was estimated that merchants of caustic soda in Jiangxi would mainly wait and see the market in Jiangsu and Zhejiang.

Inner Mongolia:

Caustic soda market moved up by RMB 100-150/T (on 100% basis) in Inner Mongolia. Inventories of caustic soda in enterprises were not high.

Caustic Soda[*Liquid Caustic Soda*](#)[*Solid Caustic Soda*](#)**Downstream**[*Liquid Chlorine*](#)[*ADC Blowing Agent*](#)[*Hydrazine Hydrate*](#)[*Chloroacetic Acid*](#)[*Trichlorosilane*](#)[*ECH*](#)[*Chlorobenzene*](#)[*Chlorinated Paraffin*](#)[*CPE*](#)[*Propylene Epoxide*](#)[*Methane Chloride*](#)

Fujian:

Caustic soda market sustained stable in Fujian. The price of liquid caustic soda remained stable in Shandong after the National Day holidays. The price of liquid caustic soda in Jiangsu and Zhejiang moved up. And as for Fujian, many merchants of caustic soda hold a wait-and-see attitude and the demand within the province was stable temporarily. And the enterprise quotations were stable. The sent-to-station price within the province of 32% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was RMB 1,130-1,140/T and that of 50% ionic membrane liquid caustic soda was stable at RMB 1,900-1,925/T.

Henan:

Caustic soda market was stable in Henan. Chlor-alkali plants operated in full load basically and part of resources were mainly for alumina enterprises. In October, price sent to Sanmenxia of 50% ionic membrane caustic soda in alumina enterprises was RMB 3,550-3,600/T (on 100% basis), which is basically the same as that in last month.

Hubei:

In Hubei, resources of liquid soda were tight. During the National Day holidays, liquid chlorine was forbidden. Many enterprises within the province operated with low load. After the holidays, there were still arrangements such as electricity limitation. It was estimated that the market would move up among stability on the whole.

Hunan:

In Hunan, shipment of liquid soda was stable. The local demand ran stable. However, influenced by the drastically decreased price of high concentration alkali in Shandong, dealers in Guangdong accepted more orders.

Sichuan:

In Sichuan, liquid soda market kept stable and caustic soda flakes market was firm. With high operation rate of downstream alumina enterprises and chemical fiber enterprises, shipment of liquid soda was smooth.

Liaoning:

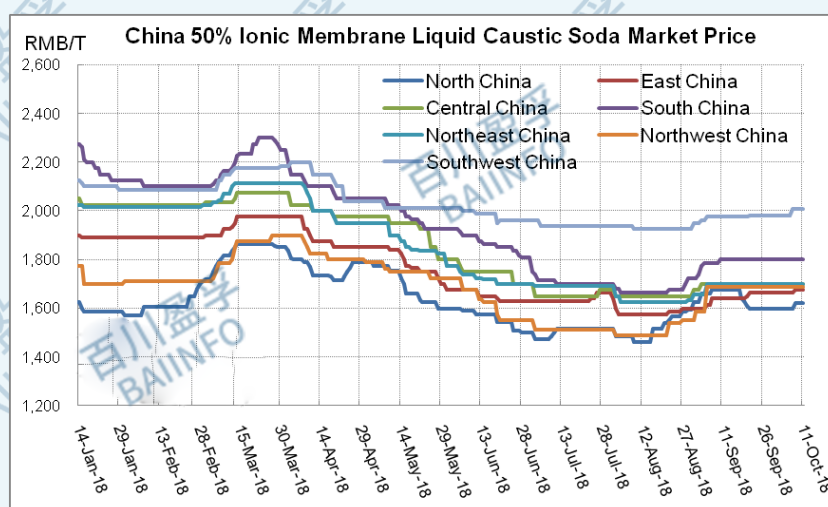
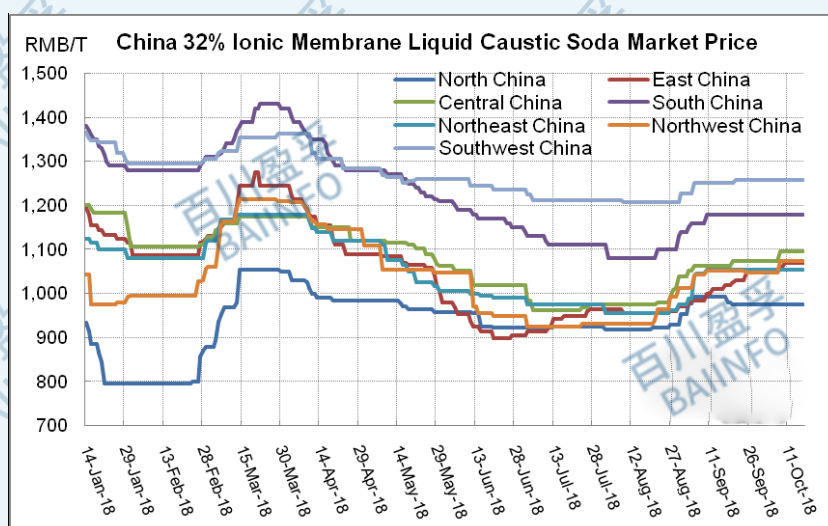
In Liaoning, merchants on liquid soda market held a wait-and-see mood. After the National Day holidays, price of liquid soda edged up. Since customer groups were different, prices varied.

[**Back to the Top**](#)

➤ Price Summary

Up to Oct 11, liquid soda prices were as follows: (All prices were in cash payment, while for acceptance, price was RMB 15/T and RMB 30/T higher for low grade and high grade soda.)

[**Caustic Soda**](#)[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)[Solid Caustic Soda](#)[**Downstream**](#)[Liquid Chlorine](#)[ADC Blowing Agent](#)[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)[Chloroacetic Acid](#)[Trichlorosilane](#)[ECH](#)[Chlorobenzene](#)[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)[CPE](#)[Propylene Epoxide](#)[Methane Chloride](#)



[Back to the Top](#)

➤ Forecast

1. Newly added capacities of alumina were released gradually with industrial operation rate remaining. Soda consumed by alumina industry kept at high level and in a short run, the industry would be active towards procurement of soda. In a long run, as alumina price kept falling and production cut in heating season was unclear, merchants' moods toward order acceptance of caustic soda would be influenced from the last ten days of October to November.
2. In Hubei, chlor-alkali plants operated with low loads and in Jiangsu, turnaround for chlor-alkali plants would be conducted in the third ten-day period of October. Overall, supply of chlor-alkali in China would edge down.
3. It was estimated that next week, overall supply of liquid soda in North China, East China and South China would be decreased and price of liquid soda would run at high levels.

[Caustic Soda](#)

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

[Downstream](#)

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

[Back to the Top](#)

Solid Caustic Soda

➤ Review & Analysis

This week, domestic caustic soda flakes prices registered upward movement overall. During the national day holidays, domestic caustic soda flake market remained firm. Besides, railway transport was restricted in Xinjiang. Upstream and downstream enterprises all held low inventories of caustic soda flakes. Therefore, caustic soda flakes prices moved up frequently in Inner Mongolia. In Shandong, caustic soda flakes prices also went up due to tight supply. In Xinjiang, enterprises suspended offering and fulfilled previous contracts. There was no offer in Xinjiang for this week.

➤ Forecast

Operation rate of downstream alumina industry keep stable, which will lead to active purchase on solid caustic soda in the near future. But in a long term, demand for caustic soda may be depressed by decreasing alumina prices and uncertain policy on output cut in the heating season. As some enterprises conduct turnarounds, supply for solid caustic soda is likely to be in shortage next week. Overall, domestic solid caustic soda market is expected to sustain firm scenario in the short run.

[Back to the Top](#)

➤ Price Summary

Market Price of 99% Caustic Soda Flakes (Unit: RMB/T)

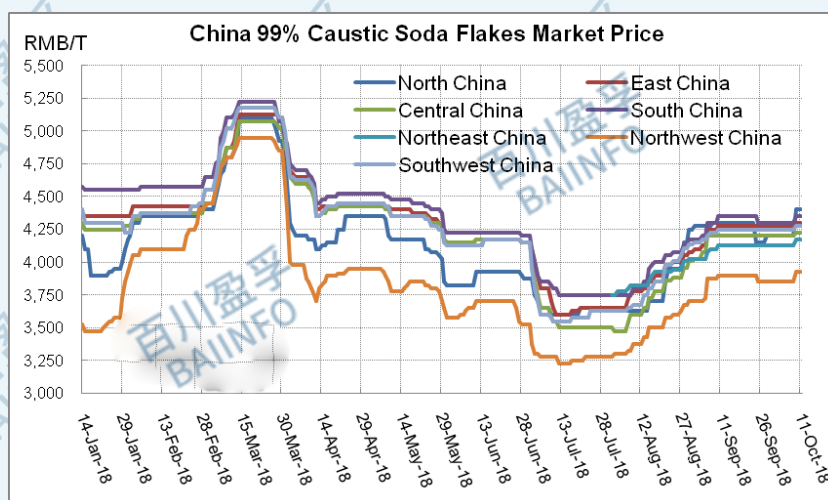
Region	11-Oct-18	10-Oct-18	9-Oct-18	8-Oct-18	28-Sep-18
North China	4,400	4,400	4,400	4,200	4,200
East China	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,275	4,275
Central China	4,225	4,225	4,225	4,200	4,200
South China	4,350	4,350	4,350	4,300	4,300
Northeast China	4,175	4,175	4,175	4,125	4,125
Northwest China	3,925	3,925	3,925	3,850	3,850
Southwest China	4,275	4,275	4,275	4,250	4,250

Caustic Soda

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

Downstream

[Liquid Chlorine](#)[ADC Blowing Agent](#)[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)[Chloroacetic Acid](#)[Trichlorosilane](#)[ECH](#)[Chlorobenzene](#)[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)[CPE](#)[Propylene Epoxide](#)[Methane Chloride](#)



[Back to the Top](#)

Downstream

Liquid Chlorine

➤ Review & Analysis

During this week, liquid chlorine selling prices became mixed due to weak response to price surge from downstream. Middle traders sell off cargo at low prices and a downtrend was seen from Sep. 30. Producers were unwilling to cut production due to good profitability. Liquid chlorine tank price even slumped to RMB 1/T in East China. Meantime, daily demand for liquid chlorine increased as leading buyers restarted procurement.

In Hebei, liquid chlorine market went down in tandem with the downtrend seen in Shandong and began to pick up after the holiday. In Shanxi, shipment was observed as acceptable during the holiday.

In Henan, shipment was ordinary during the holiday and producers cut price to stimulate sales. Considering bad profits in downstream, liquid chlorine prices were difficult to increase. In Hunan, liquid chlorine market extended the stable scenario.

In Anhui, liquid chlorine prices moved up by RMB 200/T after the holiday.

➤ Forecast

Producers cancelled discount nationwide and cargoes were difficult to buy at low prices. Next week, pricing in Shandong remains uncertain as producers tend to set the price in accordance with demand. Price rise by RMB 200-300/T might be seen in East China next week.

[Back to the Top](#)

Caustic Soda

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

Downstream

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

ADC Blowing Agent

➤ Review & Analysis

Domestic ADC blowing agent market was pulled up by cost. Caustic soda, liquid chlorine, urea and sulfuric acid prices rose rapidly. Many plants raised ADC blowing agent price to RMB 700-800/T. Besides, Yaxing Chemical shut down to overhaul from Oct 9 to Oct 19, which was favorable to the market, so price rose rapidly. As for price, in Northwest China, mainstream delivery price was at RMB 13,300-13,500/T. In Shandong, delivery price of supply at lower price was at RMB 15,000/T, while delivery price of supply at higher price was at RMB 16,800/T. Many plants were active in delivery.



[Back to the Top](#)

Hydrazine Hydrate

➤ Review & Analysis

Hydrazine hydrate market price ran higher this week. Cost of raw materials went up rapidly. There were more previous orders. It is predicted that hydrazine hydrate will keep stable and rise shortly. In Jiangsu, Shandong, Shanxi, Sichuan and Chongqing, trading price was mainly at RMB 22,000/T.

Caustic Soda

Liquid Caustic Soda

Solid Caustic Soda

Downstream

Liquid Chlorine

ADC Blowing Agent

Hydrazine Hydrate

Chloroacetic Acid

Trichlorosilane

ECH

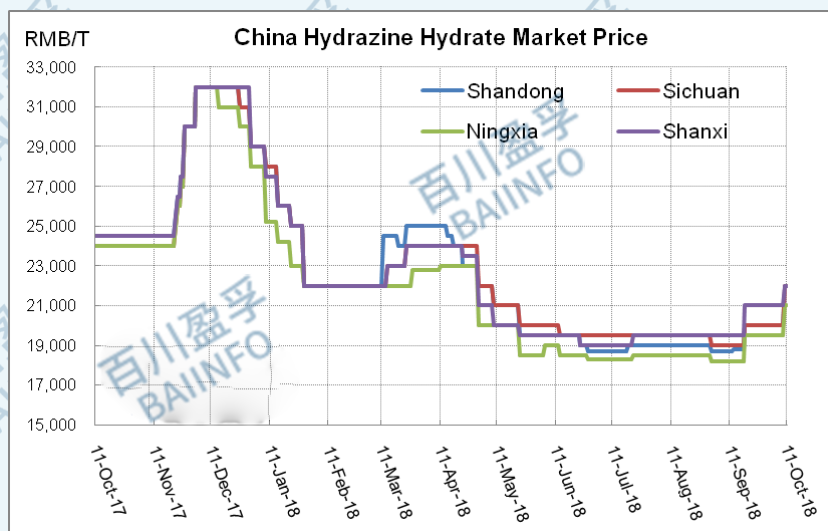
Chlorobenzene

Chlorinated Paraffin

CPE

Propylene Epoxide

Methane Chloride



[Back to the Top](#)

Chloroacetic Acid

➤ Review & Analysis

Chloroacetic acid new orders' price came out after National Day holiday. Liquid chlorine and acetic acid prices may still rise. Acetic acid price kept at high level. Liquid chlorine price rose. Thus, some plants that purchased liquid chlorine from other places were faced with cost pressure.

Delivery price for new orders: In Shandong, offers of new orders were at RMB 5,000/T and in Henan, offers of new orders were at RMB 4,800/T, with lower price at RMB 4,200/T. In Hebei, offers of new orders were at RMB 5,000-5,300/T. In Northwest China, price was at RMB 4,000/T.

[Back to the Top](#)

Trichlorosilane

➤ Review & Analysis

Trichlorosilane price rose constantly, mainly caused by the rising hydrogen chloride and liquid chlorine prices. Offers of oxygen free 553# silicon metal were at RMB 12,000-12,100/T at Huangpu port. In Yunnan and Sichuan, actual trading price of 553# silicon metal was at RMB 11,700-11,800/T, and trading price went up by RMB 150/T. Currently, delivery price mainly took cost and distance into consideration. New orders were offered at RMB 4,800-4,900/T. Trading price may continue to go up later.

[Caustic Soda](#)

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

[Downstream](#)

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

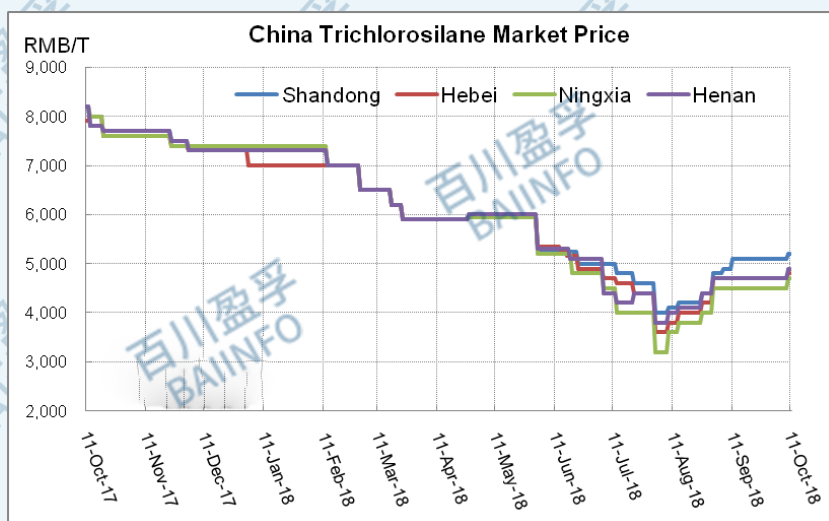
[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

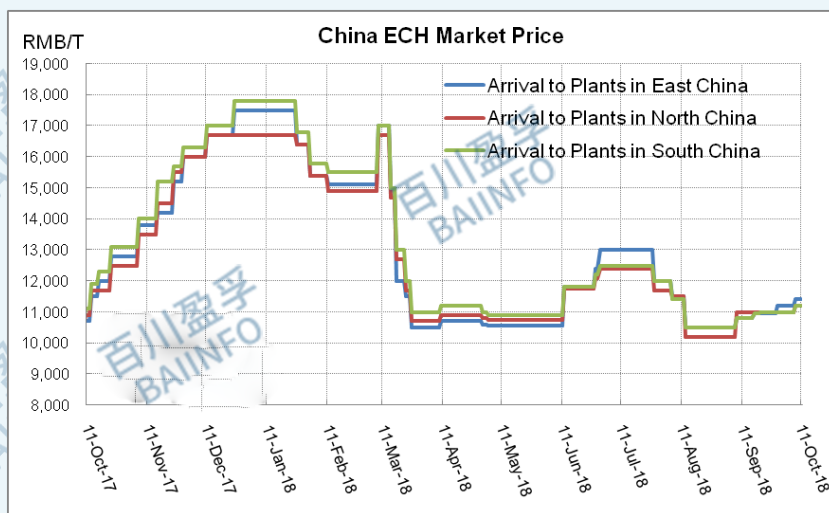


[Back to the Top](#)

ECH

➤ **Review & Analysis**

ECH market ran ordinary. Though trading rose after National Day holiday, new prices in mainstream plants only kept stable and did not rise as expected. Propylene and liquid chlorine prices rose, leading to cost with propylene method rising. Thus, actual profit narrowed down for producers. In East China, delivery price was at RMB 11,300-11,500/T by acceptance. In Shandong, mainstream trading price was at RMB 11,000-13,000/T. In Huangshan, delivery price was at RMB 11,100-11,400/T by acceptance.



[Back to the Top](#)

[Caustic Soda](#)

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

[Downstream](#)

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

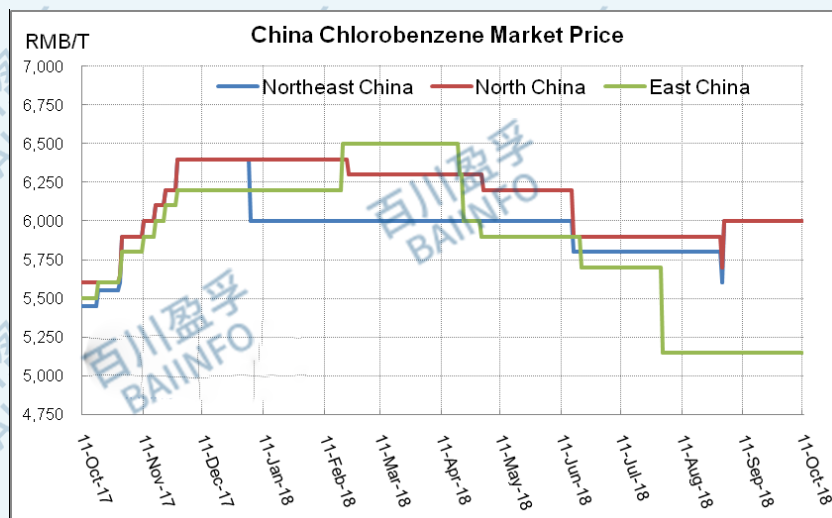
[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

Chlorobenzene

➤ Review & Analysis

Chlorobenzene market did not improve. In East China, supply was excessive and price kept at the lowest level. Overall demand did not increase. In Northwest China, price was at RMB 5,500/T for reference. In the north, price was at RMB 5,000-5,700/T for reference. Price will be hard to rise shortly.



[Back to the Top](#)

Chlorinated Paraffin

➤ Review & Analysis

Chlorinated paraffin prices edged down in North China. On Oct. 11, mainstream merchants decreased shipping prices in North China. Due to increased chlorinated paraffin enterprises, pressure of competition became bigger, so prices moved down accordingly.

Chlorinated paraffin prices: Deals of high or low-priced goods all were existed. Enterprises in Henan produced normally. At Xingyang areas, few traditional manufactories operated, for cost was too high.

Operation rate at chlorinated paraffin enterprises in East China was flat.

Domestic chlorinated paraffin-70# market prices went up to RMB 7,500/T.

By-product acid prices: In Henan and Hebei, it fell by RMB 50-170/T. In Shandong, it dropped by RMB 50-80/T. In Jiangsu, it decreased by RMB 80-100/T and in Jiangxi, it moved down by RMB 30/T. In Hunan, it went down by RMB 20-30/T.

[Back to the Top](#)

Caustic Soda

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

Downstream

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

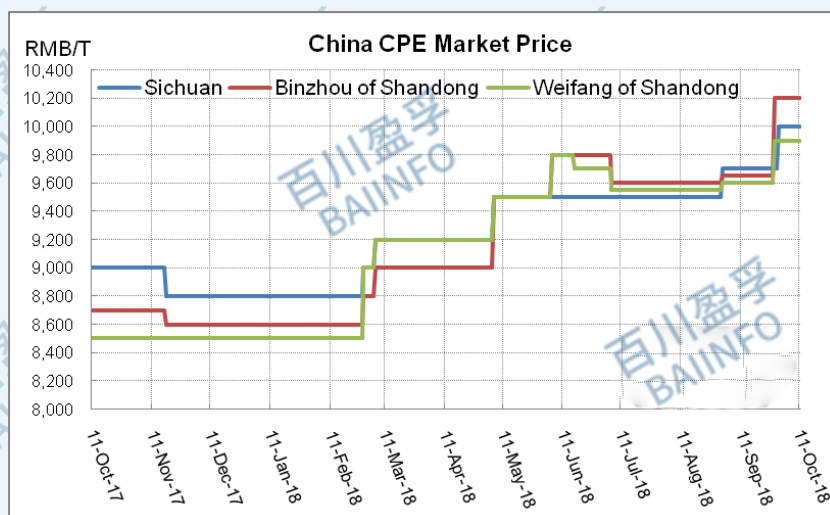
[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

CPE

➤ Review & Analysis

After the National Day holidays, CPE manufacturers issued their new orders' prices. Liquid chlorine market was stable relatively and enterprises provided new orders' prices to outside. Operation load was stable in Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang and Sichuan.



[Back to the Top](#)

Propylene Epoxide

➤ Review & Analysis

This week, domestic propylene epoxide market prices were pushed up narrowly. In addition, propylene and liquid chlorine prices all were pushed up, so with increased cost pressure, offers at plants tried to increase by RMB 100/T. However, with high cost, downstream market purchased goods on rigid demand. Besides, some polyether large plants overhauled, so inquiries became fewer, suppressing propylene epoxide prices increasing. Overall demand still needed to be eased. Players still saw the market bearish. Up to now, mainstream arrival prices in East China were at RMB 13,200-13,300/T by cash. Mainstream negotiation prices (by cash) were at 12,900-13,000/T and RMB 12,800-12,900/T in Shandong and South China respectively.

[Back to the Top](#)

Methane Chloride

➤ Review & Analysis

On Tuesday, methane chloride prices showed ups and downs. Prices in East China moved down on the basis of steady. Local operation rate of manufacturers was at high level. Downstream market was cautious and purchased few goods on demand. Actual trading market performed flat. Prices in Shandong went down. It was heard that many plants' inventories were accumulated, so they mainly consumed it

Caustic Soda

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

Downstream

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

after the National Day holidays. Up to Thursday this week, dichloromethane prices were at RMB 3,700-4,650/T and RMB 3,700/T in East China and Shandong respectively (package prices excluded).

On Wednesday, trichloromethane market prices went down. During the National Day holidays, mainstream plants in Shandong accumulated some inventories. After the holiday, they started to move prices down, causing players become cautious. Some middlemen and downstream clients held watching mood. And they thought that plants would decrease prices to sell goods, for inventory increased. Transactions were few. Till Thursday this week, trichloromethane market prices were at RMB 3,250-4,150/T and RMB 3,250-3,300/T in East China and Shandong respectively (package prices excluded).

[Back to the Top](#)

[Caustic Soda](#)

[Liquid Caustic Soda](#)

[Solid Caustic Soda](#)

[Downstream](#)

[Liquid Chlorine](#)

[ADC Blowing Agent](#)

[Hydrazine Hydrate](#)

[Chloroacetic Acid](#)

[Trichlorosilane](#)

[ECH](#)

[Chlorobenzene](#)

[Chlorinated Paraffin](#)

[CPE](#)

[Propylene Epoxide](#)

[Methane Chloride](#)

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