

What will actually run

Forecasts in this sector are mostly capacity announcements added together. Plants slip, projects are shelved, and debottlenecking arrives unannounced.

For producers who need to know who else is about to make their product, and when. You get the new plants in your product lines, how firm each start date is, and the balance year by year to 2030-31.

1 Why announced capacity is not capacity

An announcement is a press release. Between it and a running plant lie capital approval, basic and detailed engineering, contracting, commissioning — and at every one of those stages projects slip, shrink or stop. A forecast that adds announcements together is a forecast of press releases.

Unit by unit	6–24 months	2030-31
capacity tracked in our project monitoring software, not added up from announcements	the warning a supplier gets before new demand arrives	how far the balance runs, year by year

If you make a product, one question matters more than the rest. Who else is about to make it, and when will their tonnes reach your customers?

We follow the projects the way reporters do. Who has taken financial close. Whose equipment has shipped. Whose commissioning has quietly moved a year. Our engineers keep the project monitoring software up to date through research and regular calls to the companies, revising each project as it moves. That is why the date attached to a tonne means something.

And the other half. Demand is built from the converters up — by end use, in the regions where the material is actually consumed — rather than extrapolated from GDP. The balance between the two is the number a board needs, and it is only as good as both halves.

How the work runs

1	A first conversation	The product, the grades and the region you are interested in.
2	The plants	New plants and expansions pulled from our project monitoring software, each start date marked for how certain it is.
3	Demand	Built from end use, by region.
4	The balance	When the extra tonnes reach the market, where they go, and what happens to imports.
5	Updates	Quarterly as projects move, if you want them.

Time Eight to ten weeks; quarterly updates by subscription.

2 What is stated, and what is marked uncertain

Where the evidence is thin we say so. A forecast that hides its own uncertainty is worth less than one that marks it, and a client who is told which part is soft can plan around it.

The projects	New plants and expansions in your product lines, from our project monitoring software: owner, location, size, stage and expected start-up, with a confidence against each date.
The arrivals	Imports due at Indian ports, from our daily vessel line-ups, show what is coming before it lands.
The people	Key contacts at the companies building the new plants.
Demand by end use	Built from consumption, by region, with the assumptions named.
The balance	Year by year to 2030-31, and the import requirement that follows from it.
The three assumptions	The ones the whole picture turns on, stated plainly at the front, so a reader can disagree with the forecast without having to reverse-engineer it.

About the key contacts. They come from our project monitoring software: names, designations and phone numbers of the people who handle purchase at each facility, by sector, state and company, down to district and PIN code. For upcoming projects, the decision makers at the promoter company, the EPC contractor and the subcontractors who place many of the orders. The list is drawn up by our project monitoring team.

About the vessel line-ups. Every morning we publish the line-up of ships due at India's major ports, from Kandla, Mundra and Sikka on the west coast to Paradip, Dhamra and Haldia on the east. For each ship: cargo and quantity, load port, shipper and receiver, and expected arrival. They cover tanker and bulk cargoes; polymers come in containers and are not in them.

How we handle the work

- A named analyst on every study, from the same desk that assesses our daily prices
- Scope, time and fee agreed in writing before work starts
- Your data is used only for your study. It is not kept afterwards and does not go into our published prices.
- Anything a source tells the price desk in confidence is not passed on to you

3 What lands on your desk

- New plants and expansions in your product lines, with expected start dates and how certain each one is
- Who owns them, where they are, and how big they are
- Key contacts at the companies building the new plants
- Demand built from end use, by region, not extrapolated from GDP
- When the extra supply is likely to hit the market, and where it will go
- What it means for supply, demand and imports, year by year to 2030-31
- The three assumptions the whole picture turns on, stated plainly
- Quarterly updates as projects move, if you want them

What we need from you

The product and grades to be covered, and the region you are interested in.

How long it takes

Eight to ten weeks, updated quarterly by subscription.

Already have a plan or a project report? Our Independent market check tests its assumptions in two to three weeks.

How it starts

A conversation, usually twenty minutes, about what decision the work has to support.

Talk to the desk

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About the figures in this document. Coverage figures are our own: 376 products, 7,601 grades and 200 locations, assessed and published every working day by 6.30 pm since 2016. No market figure is quoted here that we did not assess ourselves. This document describes the position as at September 2026 and is written to inform a commercial decision; it is not legal, tax or customs advice.