

Taiwan's TSRC to keep 80% December run rate at Kaohsiung SBR plant

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Taiwan's TSRC will continue running its 100,000 tonne/year styrene butadiene rubber (SBR) plant in Kaohsiung at 80% of capacity throughout December because of prevailing weak market conditions, a company source said on Wednesday. The plant operated at the same reduced rate last month, the source said. Abundant supply and weak demand have been depressing SBR prices in recent months. Non-oil grade 1502 SBR prices were assessed at \$2,200-2,300/tonne (€1,672-1,748/tonne) CIF (cost, insurance and freight) China in the week ended 28 November, down by \$200/tonne from 31 October levels, according to ICIS. Falling prices of feedstock butadiene (BD) have been aggravating the pressure on SBR values. BD prices shed about \$250/tonne since 2 November to \$1,450-1,490/tonne CFR (cost and freight) northeast (NE) Asia on 28 November, ICIS data showed.

Source ICIS News