

News and events that affect our industry

July 2025



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Week ending: 06-07-2025

SUPPLY:

- **Nigeria:** Ebonyi State Governor Francis Nwifuru has set up a 15-member committee to collaborate with investors and shareholders on reviving NIGERCEM in Nkalagu, with a mandate to submit a reactivation plan within two weeks.
- **Iraq:** Delta Cement Company and Suzhou Sinoma have celebrated the completion of a 6000t/day clinker production line.
- **Vietnam:** Vietnam's Ministry of Construction has directed VICEM to proceed with shutting down, relocating, and repurposing the Ha Long Cement plant in Ha Long City, as part of a broader restructuring plan. This move follows ongoing financial losses at VICEM and renewed government scrutiny, reviving earlier plans to close the plant alongside Thang Long.
- **South Africa:** South Africa's Simuma cement plant upgraded its kiln line No. 2 from 1500 to 4000 tpd

M&A:

- **Morocco:** Votorantim Cimentos has finalized the sale of its Moroccan partnership and assets to Heidelberg Materials following regulatory approval, with terms undisclosed. The deal includes, among others, a 1.4Mta cement plant near Rabat.
- **India:** The Adani Group has begun consolidating its cement businesses under the "Adani Cement" brand, starting with the merger of Sanghi Industries and Penna Cement into Ambuja Cements, and possibly merging Ambuja with ACC. Orient Cement, acquired in 2024, will operate

solely as a manufacturing arm, with most of its dealers already transitioning to Ambuja and ACC products.

DEMAND:

- **USA:** The American Cement Association reportedly expects demand for cement to rise by nearly 1Mt/yr over current levels within the next three years, largely due to the growth of AI and demand from data centres.
- **Pakistan:** Total cement dispatches in FY25 +2.1% YoY to 46.22Mt, local dispatches -3.1% YoY to 37.02Mt. All according to APCMA.

IMPORTS/EXPORTS:

- **Panama:** To protect Panama's cement industry, the country's government is extending the tariff of grey cement imports by two years.
- **Pakistan:** Exports in FY25 +29.4% YoY to 9.2Mt, according to APCMA.

Week ending: 13-07-2025

SUPPLY:

- **South Africa:** Natal Portland Cement (NPC) has reportedly completed an upgrade to its kiln at the Simuma plant in Port Shepstone, increasing cement production capacity from 1.5Mt/yr to 2.8Mt/yr.
- **Mozambique:** Moçambique Dugongo Cimentos will invest US\$35m in a third cement plant in Ancuabe, Cabo Delgado province, according to local press. The plant is presumed to be a grinding facility due to the value of the investment. The start date for construction was not disclosed.
- **India:** Ambuja Cements subsidiary ACC has commissioned a 1.5Mt/yr brownfield grinding unit at its Sindri plant in Jharkhand. The project takes the total installed cement production capacity across Ambuja and ACC to 104.45Mt/yr.
- **Russia:** CEMROS has suspended cement production at its Belgorod cement plant due to market deterioration, reduced profitability and a rising share of imports on the domestic market. The company said that the forced downtime will be used for equipment repairs, with operations expected to resume within a few months.
- **Turkey:** The Malatya Metropolitan Municipality and the Malatya Chamber of Commerce and Industry reportedly plan to jointly build a cement plant near local raw material sources. The City Council is considering authorising municipal subsidiary MESTON to begin feasibility, environmental, and legal studies for the project.

M&A:

- **Namibia:** The Namibian Competition Commission has started a public conference on the proposed acquisition of Schwenk Cement's shareholding in Ohorongo Cement by Whale Rock Cement, the owner of Cheetah Cement. This transaction would consolidate Namibia's only two cement manufacturers into a single integrated entity.

DEMAND:

- **Egypt:** The Egyptian government has frozen the implementation of an earlier decision to reduce cement production capacities following a two-month suspension that took place during May and June 2025. The move aims to increase local supply and curb prices, which have reportedly been rising since the start of 2025 due to a decline in demand.

CARBON:

- **UK:** Holcim UK has welcomed a €33.1m investment from the National Wealth Fund into the Peak Cluster CCS project, which aims to decarbonise 40% of the UK's cement and lime production. The project, led by Progressive Energy and involving major industry partners, will capture 3Mt of CO₂ annually from 2032 and store it in disused gas fields under the East Irish Sea. The funding will support engineering and design studies ahead of a final investment decision in 2028.
- **USA:** Despite recently withdrawing US\$3.7bn in green energy funding, the Trump administration has reaffirmed its support for carbon capture by preserving the 45Q tax credit through the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act." The law maintains tax credits of US\$85/t for point-source capture and US\$180/t for direct air capture, with key features like transferability and inflation adjustment intact. Importantly, it now grants equal tax credit value to CO₂ that is used or converted into products or stored via enhanced oil or gas recovery, not just geologically sequestered.

IMPORTS/EXPORTS:

- **Russia:** CEMROS expects that the total volume of imported cement will be around 4Mt by the end of 2025.
- **Bangladesh:** Cement export revenue in FY25 -22.2% YoY to US\$14.33m, according to EPB.

Week ending: 20-07-2025

SUPPLY:

- **Philippines:** Taiheiyō Cement Philippines (TCPI) has said it is on track to open its US\$64.9m cement terminal in Calaca, Batangas by early 2026 (around 2Q26). The facility will produce 0.7Mt/yr of blended cement, increasing the company's total capacity to 4Mt/yr. TCPI plans to expand its production capacity to 5Mt/yr by 2030.
- **Turkey:** Akros Çimento has submitted a new environmental impact assessment (EIA) application for a 2.5Mt/yr cement plant in Burcun Village, Yenişehir district, Bursa. A previous proposal to build a cement plant on the site was cancelled by court order in 2008.
- **Bangladesh:** Confidence Cement in Bangladesh has announced an investment of approximately BDT8.15bn (US\$6.1m) to construct a new cement factory near the capital, Dhaka. The plant, located in Narsingdi, is expected to commence operations in the first quarter of next year, with a production capacity of 1.8Mta.

DEMAND:

- **Brazil:** Cement consumption is expected to slow in the remainder of 2025. Current baseline projects from SNIC indicate a market expansion of 2.1% in 2025.

CARBON:

- **India:** Villagers from Talwandi Aklia and Karamgarh Autanwali in Punjab's Mansa district opposed JSW Cement's proposed 6Mt/yr cement plant during a public hearing, citing environmental concerns. The protest was organised by the Public Action Committee, with objections raised against the plant's potential impact on the local environment.

IMPORTS/EXPORTS:

- **Indonesia:** The government has urged cement producers to boost exports and develop sustainable products to address oversupply in the sector. With national production capacity at

122Mt/yr and demand at only 70Mt/yr, the Ministry of Industry highlighted concerns over low utilisation and inefficiency.

Week ending: 27-07-2025

SUPPLY:

- **Malaysia:** Cahya Mata Sarawak subsidiary Cahya Mata Cement has awarded a US\$159m contract to Sinoma Industry Engineering Malaysia to build a new 6000t/day clinker line at its Mambong integrated plant in Kuching. The company said the project will raise annual clinker capacity from 0.9Mt to 1.9Mt, improving cost efficiency and eliminating future clinker imports. Construction will begin in August 2025, with clinker production starting by April 2027 and full commissioning by June 2027.
- **Kenya:** Ndovu Cement will build a 600t/day greenfield clinker plant and a limestone quarry in Mukawa, Kajiado County, according to regulatory filings. The project has already secured approval from the National Environment Management Authority. The company said the limestone quarry will ensure a reliable supply of 900t/day of limestone.
- **Algeria:** The Minister of Industry Sifi Ghrieb has reportedly announced a project to build two new low-carbon cement plants in Djelfa and Relizane in central Algeria with a capacity of 1.5Mt/yr and 2Mt/yr respectively. An existing cement plant in Djelfa will also see its capacity expanded by 1.5Mt/yr.
- **Nigeria:** Nigeria's BUA Cement has announced plans to expand its production to 20Mta with the establishment of a 3Mt plant in Ososo, Edo state. The chairman of the board of directors made the disclosure in Abuja at the company's AGM.
- **India:** UltraTech Cement plans to add 29Mta of grey cement capacity across India by end-FY26-27, boosting total domestic capacity to 212.2Mta. The expansion spans greenfield and brownfield projects across five regions, with 14.1Mta set to be commissioned in FY25-26 and another 14.7Mta in FY26-27. Key projects include Visakhapatnam (3.3Mta), Patratu (2.5Mta), Shahjahanpur and Maihar (1.8Mta each).

M&A:

- **South Korea:** Hanil Cement has announced it will merge on 1st Nov25 with Hanil Hyundai Cement. The merger will reportedly see the combined company with pro-forma sales of KRW1.74trn in 2024 become the largest cement company in South Korea after Ssangyong Cement Industrial.
- **India:** JK Lakshmi Cement and Chettinad Cement are reportedly bidding to acquire Telangana-based Deccan Cements.

DEMAND:

- **Japan:** FY24 cement production, including clinker for export, -3% YoY to 45.7Mt, according to the Japan Cement Association.

CARBON:

- **India:** Tamil Nadu will host one of five national carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) testbeds aimed at lowering CO₂ emissions in the cement sector. The testbed will be located at UltraTech Cement's Reddipalayam plant in Ariyalur district. The project aims to capture up to 2t/day of CO₂. Full-scale implementation is reportedly expected in 2025.

IMPORTS/EXPORTS:

- **Taiwan:** The Customs Administration has reportedly imposed five-year anti-dumping duties on Portland cement and clinker imported from Vietnam. The Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economic Affairs confirmed that companies had dumped cement and 'caused substantial harm' to local producers in a statement. The Ministry also found no sufficient evidence that the duties would have a markedly negative effect on Vietnam's 'overall economic situation.'

Week ending: 03-08-2025

SUPPLY:

- **Vietnam:** Local authorities have stated that a US\$196m cement plant project in the northern Ninh Binh province has remained abandoned for 18 years. The 1.1Mt/yr Phu Son Cement Plant was launched in 2007 with plans to begin operations by 2011. Construction was halted in 2012 and never resumed. The investor, Phu Son Cement JSC, chaired by a Czech national of Vietnamese origin, has reportedly not responded to government efforts since promising to restart work in 2017.
- **France:** Teralta Ciments Réunion, the leading cement manufacturer in Réunion and a subsidiary of France's Audemard Group, has inaugurated the first cement blending plant in the French overseas territory Réunion. Located in Le Port, the industrial unit has an annual production capacity of over 0.2Mt/yr.
- **Ivory Coast:** Dangote Cement has announced the imminent commissioning of its 3Mt/yr grinding plant in Ivory Coast, which it says will take place in the third quarter of 2025. The company says that the investment is part of its drive to enhance its regional presence in West Africa.

M&A:

- **Argentina:** An investment group presided over by Argentina-based businessman Marcelo Mindlin has moved one step closer to becoming the new owner of the cement company Loma Negra. The local group is negotiating the acquisition of Loma Negra shares that are currently in the hands of InterCement, the cement company of the Brazil-based holding company Camargo Corrêa. If the deal goes through, Mindlin will control 52% of Loma Negra's shares, while the remaining shares are listed on the Buenos Aires and New York stock exchanges.
 - **Brazil:** Mover has reached a preliminary agreement to sell InterCement to a group of its creditors, who now collectively control 100% of the company's debt following acquisitions from Brazil's major banks. InterCement, which filed for bankruptcy protection in late 2024 with US\$2.6bn in debt, has faced resistance to its recovery plan, particularly from US bondholders citing conflicts of interest.
 - **Saudi Arabia:** City Cement has paused its plan to acquire Umm Al Qura Cement Co via a share swap after the Capital Market Authority rejected its offer document due to governance-related regulatory breaches. The company says it remains committed to regulatory compliance and may resubmit the offer once all requirements are met.
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