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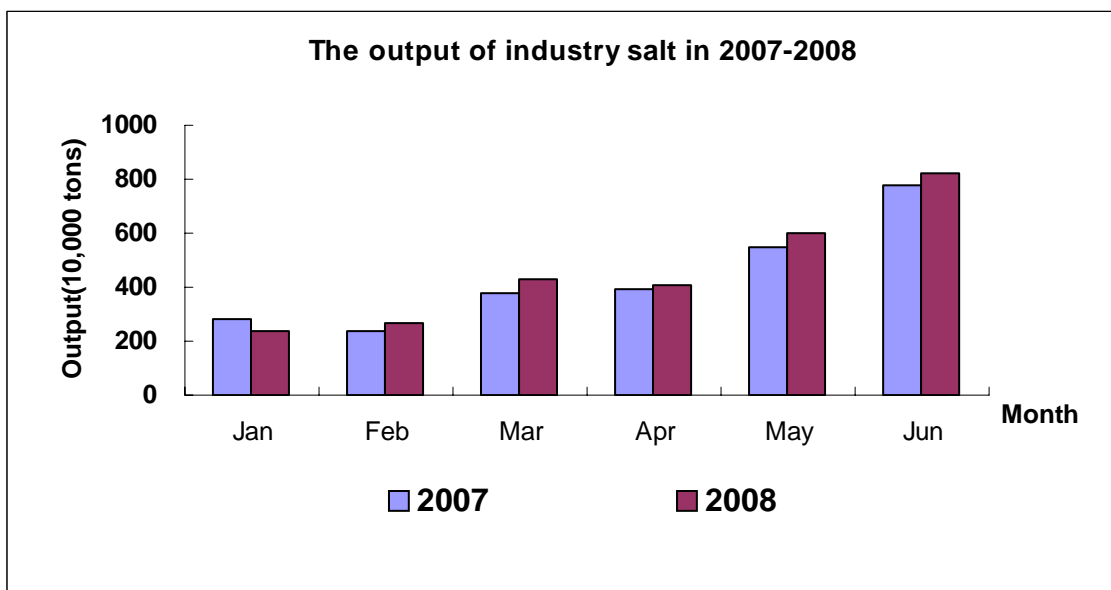
**8 August, 2008**

➤ **Salt market**

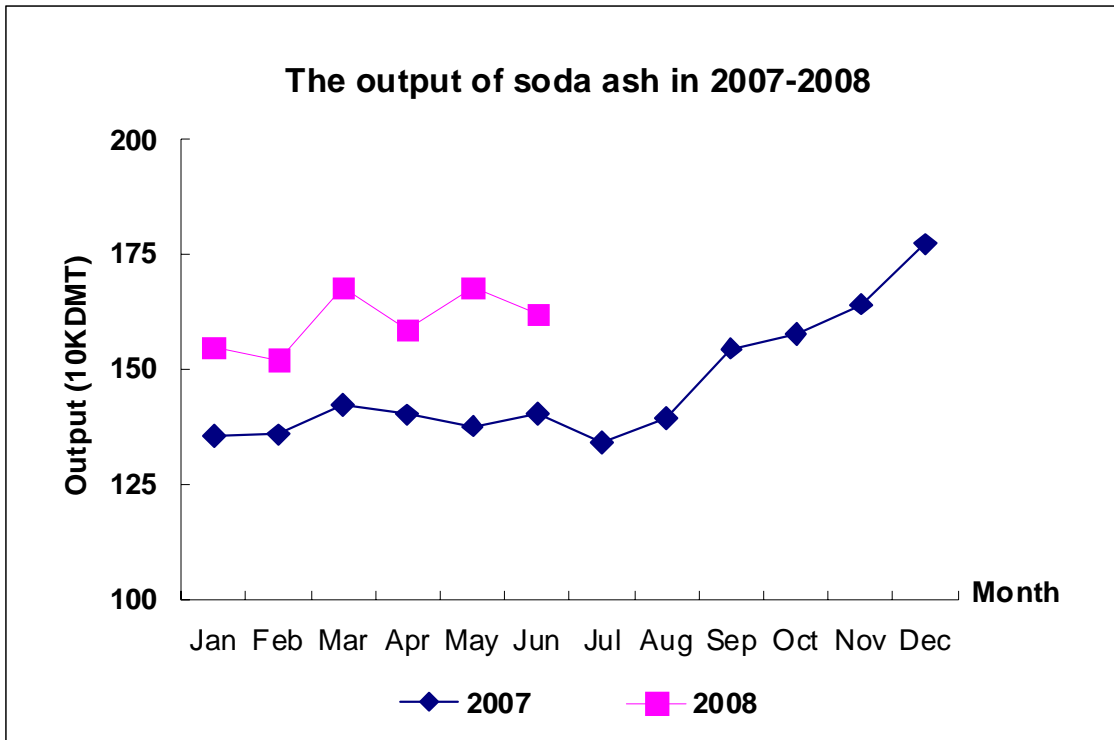
	Prevailing prices			Market movement
	Region	RMB/mt	USD/mt	
<b>Solar salt</b>	Shandong	ex-work	220-420	Price hiked last month due to the declined output, which was influenced by the rainy weather.
	Tianjin	ex-work	220-270	
	Jiangsu	FD	460-550	
	Hebei	ex-work	250-350	
	Liaoning	ex-work	240-380	
<b>Lake salt</b>	Inner Mongolia	ex-work	220-240	Ex-work price was almost stable due to the transport difficulty and the increased freight charge.
	Qinghai	spot	170-190	
<b>Well salt</b>	Sichuan	FD	370	Price climbed strongly due to the tight supply and the price hike of coal.
	Hunan & Hubei	ex-work	350-360	
	Yunnan	ex-work	370	
	Jiangsu	spot	360-400	

➤ **Supply & Demand**

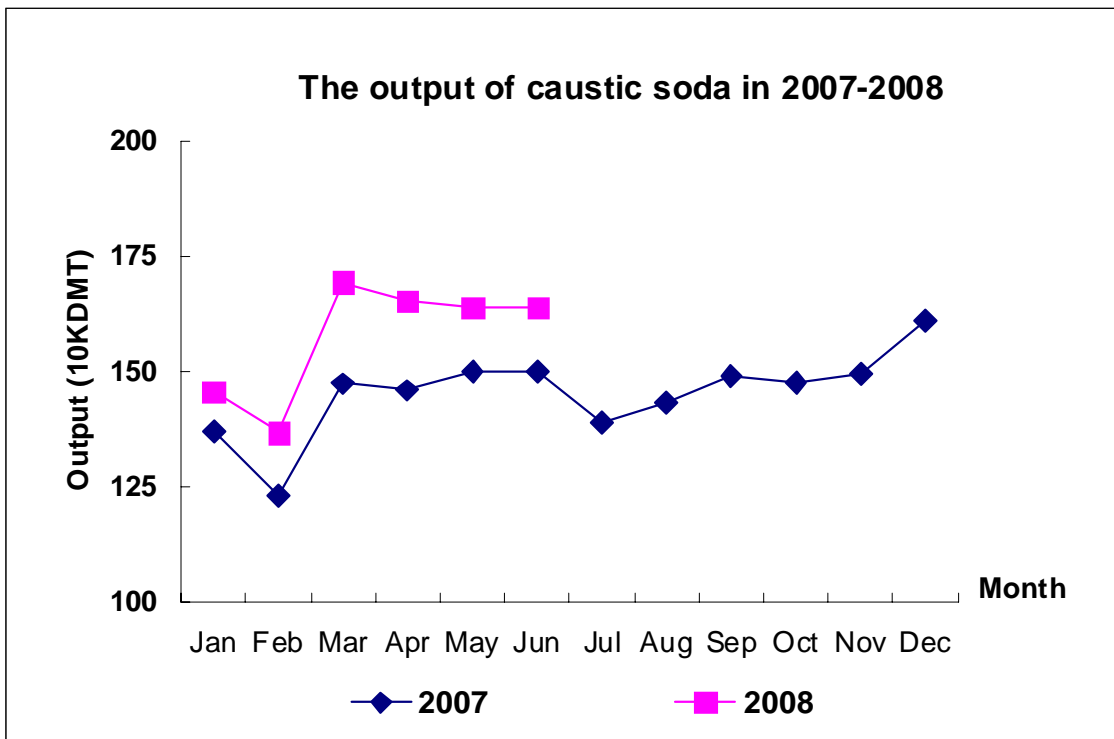
✧ The output of industry salt from Jan to June in 2007-2008



◇ The output of soda ash in 2007-2008



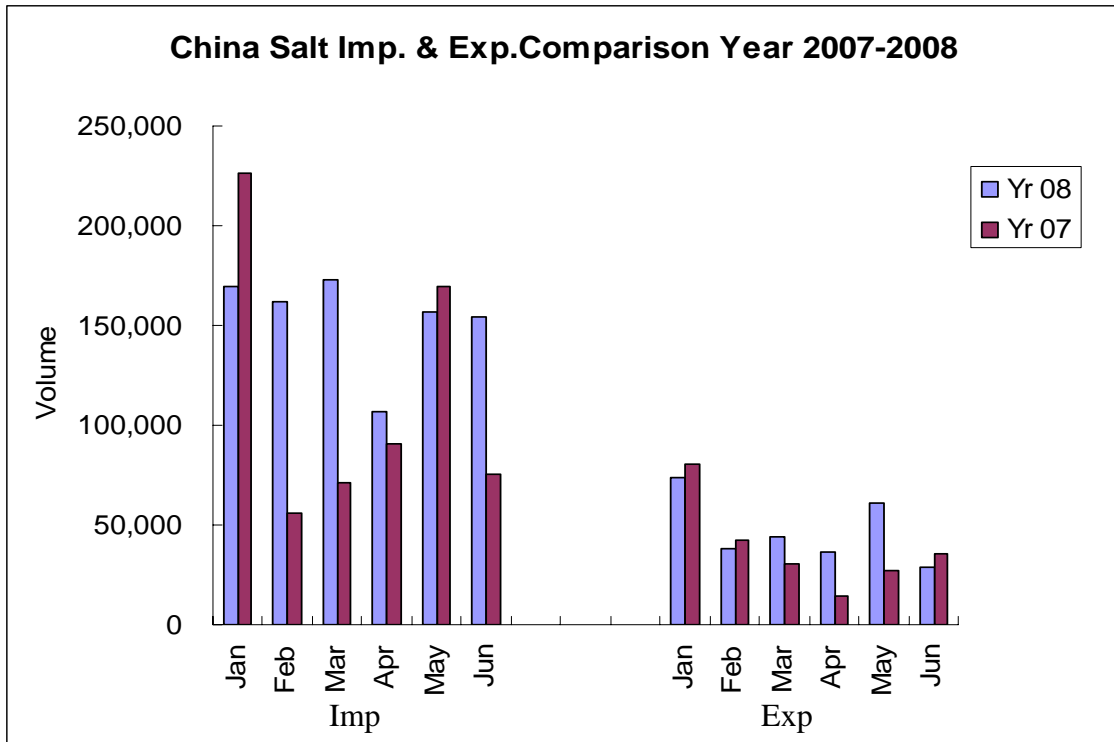
◇ The output of caustic soda in 2007-2008:

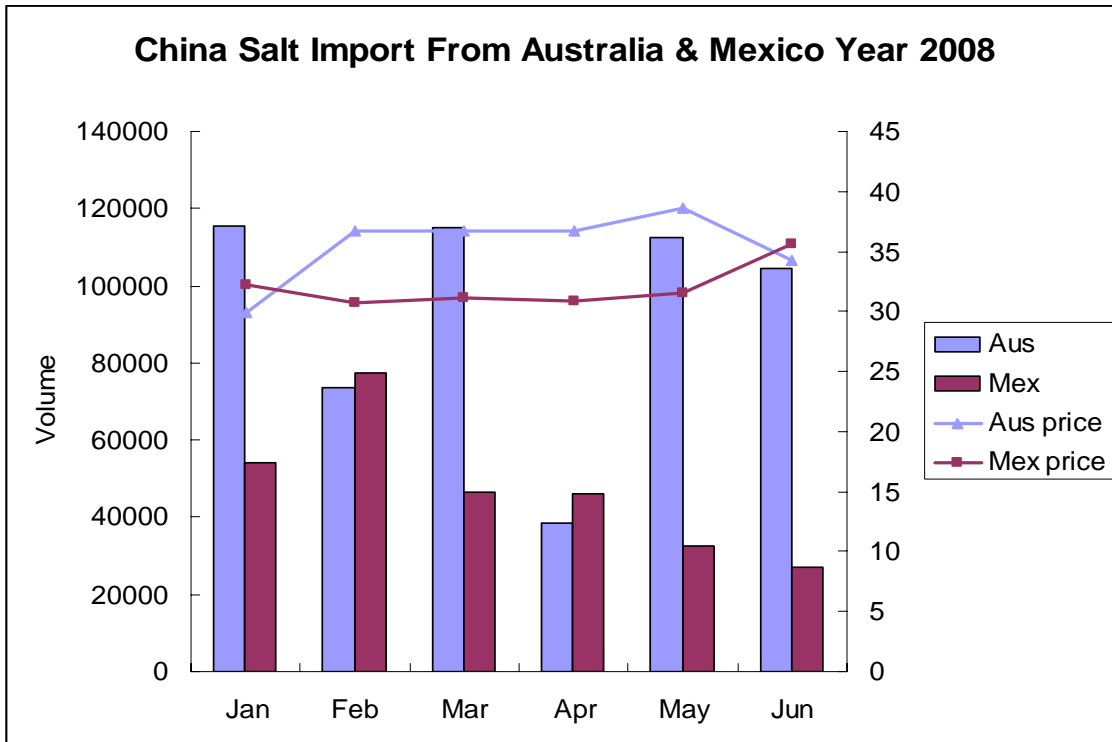


➤ **Import & Export Data**

CHINESE SALT IMPORTS			
From	June 08	May 08	Jan-Dec 07
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Mexico	26,930	32,700	395,415
Australia	104,476	112,609	1,041,508
Pakistan	75	259	807
Others	22,462	11,015	154,188
<b>Total</b>	<b>153,943</b>	<b>156,584</b>	<b>1,591,918</b>

CHINESE SALT EXPORTS			
To	June 08	May 08	Jan-Dec 07
	Tons	Tons	Tons
S.Korea	15,864	12,029	330,034
Malaysia	3,738	4,694	24,389
Hongkong	2,259	2,683	11,186
Vietnam	1,510	5,551	7,791
Japan	1,397	2,094	78,776
Philippine	1,210	1,250	17,796
Burma	1,000	320	58
Taiwan	-	26,172	7,265
N.Korea	-	2,663	81,373
Others	1,949	3,149	27,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,928</b>	<b>60,604</b>	<b>586,618</b>





### ➤ Forecast

It was anticipated that price of industry salt would consolidating at high level. Supply was tight and downstream demand from caustic soda and soda ash was strong, which would support the price rise in future market. However, there were some producers tried to import some cargoes from foreign countries. Considering for a long term, domestic salt producers would maintain the salt price stable in future market.

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