

TOCOM rubber falls more than 3 pct

TOKYO/BANGKOK, Aug 29 (Reuters) – Key TOCOM rubber futures fell as much as 3.8 percent on Wednesday, extending declines after the Thai government rejected further moves to stabilise prices, while weaker oil prices also weighed, dealers said. The Tokyo Commodity Exchange rubber contract for February delivery was down 6.7 yen, or 3 percent, at 219.4 yen per kg as of 0351 GMT. The contract earlier fell to as low as 217.5 yen, down 3.8 percent. The Thai government on Tuesday turned down a plan to spend another 15 billion baht on rubber purchases to support prices, saying it would monitor the situation to appraise whether further intervention is necessary. “Falling oil prices and the Thai government rejection encouraged players to liquidate contracts to avoid losses,” said a Bangkok-based trader. Brent crude futures slipped towards \$112 per barrel on Wednesday on expectations Hurricane Isaac would spare Gulf Coast oil production facilities from significant damage. Rubber futures prices in the Shanghai commodity exchange also fell, dealers said. At 0511 GMT, the most-active rubber contract for January delivery was at 21,565 yuan per tonne, down 800 yuan from the previous close of 22,365 yuan. (Reporting by Aaron Sheldrick and Apornrath Phoonphongphiphat; Editing by Robert Birsell)