

Tokyo futures flat ahead of New Year holidays (Dec 27)

TOKYO, Dec 27 (Reuters) – Key Tokyo rubber futures were almost flat early on Tuesday bucking gains in oil prices as a decline in the Shanghai market the previous day and a fall in share prices in Tokyo on Tuesday made investors cautious ahead of New Year holidays.

FUNDAMENTALS * The key Tokyo Commodity Exchange rubber contract for June delivery was down 1.3 yen, or 0.5 percent, at 275.1 yen as of 0025GMT. * The most active Shanghai rubber contract for May delivery fell 2.1 percent to close at 25,575 yuan per tonne on

Monday. * New York futures rose on Tuesday, supported by concerns about potential supply disruptions in Iran and Iraq and by recent signs

of a strengthening U.S. economy. * The yen was steady against the dollar at 78.00. MARKET NEWS * Japan's top share index fell in

early trade on Tuesday, failing to hold above its 25-day moving average, though trading was expected to be light with many global markets

closed overnight for extended Christmas breaks. * China's industrial output is expected to grow 11 percent for 2012, easing from an

estimated 13.9 percent in 2011, China's industry minister said on Monday. * India's Tata Motors is upgrading the starter motor of all old

Nano models to the one installed in its new 2012 edition, launched in November, a spokesman said on Monday. * The automotive industry

faces a tougher year in 2012 than it has done this year, Audi Chief Executive Rupert Stadler told Reuters in an interview released on Sunday.

DATA EVENTS * The following data is expected on Tuesday: – 0500 Japan Construction orders yy Nov 2011 – 1400 U.S. CaseShiller 20

mm nsa Oct – 1400 U.S. CaseShiller 20 yy Oct – 1500 U.S. Consumer confidence Dec – 2130 U.S. API weekly crude stocks Weekly – 2130

U.S. API weekly dist. stocks Weekly – 2130 U.S. API weekly gasoline stk Weekly – 2315 Japan Manufacturing PMI Dec 2011 – 2330 Japan

CPI, core nationwide yy Nov 2011 – 2350 Japan Industrial output prelim mm Nov 2011 – 2350 Japan IP forecast 1 mth ahead Nov 2011