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around the desk

From Around the Desk 7/13/22

... This week we circled around the world's biggest issuer of power and environmental contracts to get a sense of their recent releases, and what's ahead. Nodal Exchange chief Paul Cusenza tells us that the bottom line is this: Business is brisk and can only get better. The war in Ukraine may be shifting priori-ties on fuel use out of necessity right now, but that's not stopping corporations and others from making big investments to fix this lovely blue orb we call home. Last month the exchange (part of the EEX/Deutche Börse Group) also announced it would soon be moving to expanded HQ space in the DC area. "It's been a great year for us, lots of expansion. We have launched the world's larg¬est set of environmental contracts, RECs across the major ISOs, renewable fuel credits, various emissions offsets and allowances, all physically settled, it's a long list and getting longer." Last week the company announced new trading records in power and environ-mental futures as of end of June. The company achieved record half-year power volume for the first half of 2022 with 1.489 billion MWh traded, up 39% from H1 2021. Nodal currently hosts the majority of US power futures open interest. On the environmental side, the company reported total volume in Q2 2022 was 72,205 lots, up 49% from 48,578 lots in Q2 2021. And in H1 2022, volume totaled 136,435 lots, up 28% from 106,643 lots for the same period a year earlier. The expansion into voluntary markets, globally, will be a big focus going forward, he tells us. Chaos or not, it seems liquidity isn't an issue in environmental markets. It's one upside to a whole lot of otherwise downside stuff, eh? - the editor