



Authors

Daria Efanova
Head of Research

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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks opened the week on the front foot, as Treasury yields settled, and markets have priced in most of the central bank moves in the coming weeks. Jerome Powell is speaking tomorrow at the Congress, but we do not expect his speech to have a big impact on the market sentiment, as the Fed will take a wait-and-see approach until more data is released in the next couple of weeks to reaffirm its rhetoric. The dollar weakened to 104.20, and the 10yr US Treasury yield settled at 3.96%. Factory data pointed to softening in new orders, falling by 1.6% in January, after a 1.8% growth a month before, highlighting continued weakness in the manufacturing and industrial sectors.

Sentiment soured across the base metals today, following China's NPC releases, pointing to a slower-than-expected growth projection for the year but also below-forecast stimulus support, as the government hopes to stimulate the economy through the consumer segment. Aluminium weakened, testing support at \$2,360/t before settling slightly higher at \$2,382/t. Copper moves were broadly unchanged as the metal bounced back from the lows of \$8,850/t back to \$8,920.50/t. Nickel continued to trade under \$25,000/t, settling at \$24,430/t. The overnight reopening trade on the LME on 20th March should provide more liquidity to the market, and reduce volatility, bringing some arb players back into the market. In the run-up to the event, markets could close their positions, creating some illiquid trading, but the impact of this is likely to be short-lived. Lead and zinc closed at \$2,122.50/t and \$3,032.50/t, respectively. Iron ore struggled to hold on to its losses, after the metal struggled below \$120/mt.

Oil futures struggled to gain momentum today, as WTI and Brent remained unchanged at \$79/bl and \$85/bl. Precious metals weakened slightly, with gold and silver at \$1,850/oz and \$21.10/oz, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2398	2409	2357	2382	2394	12857	603878	-47.00	108.11
Copper	8911	8969	8811	8920.5	8924	14149	250117	-28.00	404.84
Lead	2109	2140	2109	2122.5	2118	3635	101724	-6.85	95.91
Nickel	24485	24705	24245	24430	24570	1640	137468	-212.08	1107.68
Tin	24535	24795	24150	24555	24640	408	13519	-158.17	1109.04
Zinc	3053	3062	2990	3032.5	3043	4940	193076	21.50	137.71
Total:						37629	1299782		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg	
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2321.5	2368	2609	2704	2361	2405	2353.375	2397.375
Copper	8819	8845.5	8895	8878.25	8954.5	8983.5	8931.625	8956.875
Lead	2117	2123	2154.95	2154.95	2117.5	2119.5	2125.25	2126.5
Nickel	24450	24640	26127.42	27002.42	24384.92	24597	24510	24723.75
Tin	24350	24600			24620	24750	24743.75	24965
Zinc	3030	3007	2901.75	2741.75	3100.5	3077.5	3071.625	3049.875

LME Stocks (tonnes)							Other Copper Markets			
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	564700	700	3075	-2375	562325	106200	456125	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	70550	2600	750	1850	72400	21500	50900	MAR 23	408.4 -2.02	
Lead	24975	0	200	-200	24775	4825	19950	MAY 23	407.6 -2.02	
Nickel	44736	12	120	-108	44628	4530	40098	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	2930	15	5	10	2940	820	2120	23-Mar	69380 -0.67	
Zinc	35150	0	300	-300	34850	2925	31925	23-Apr	69390 -0.83	

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix			
Last	% Change	Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM			
DAX	15655	0.49	GBP	1.2042	0.0499	Gold	1850.88	-0.3016	1845.55	1841.15
DJI	33482	0.27	JPY	135.9400	-0.0515	Silver	21.12	-0.6467		2109
S&P500	4070	0.61	EUR	1.0689	0.5078	Gold Comex	1856.3	0.092		
SSE	3322	-0.19	CNY	6.9315	-0.3924	Platinum	977.5	-0.5251		
Hg Seng	20603	0.17	AUD	0.6732	-0.5613	Palladium	1435.94	-1.5434		
Brent	86	-0.07	RUB	118.6895	1.4433					

Source: Bloomberg
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All price data is from 06.03.2023 as of 17:30

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