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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks opened lower on Friday and remained near the lows throughout the day, with banks once again driving the decline. Stoxx Europe 600 fell for the second straight day following Deutsche Bank's turmoil. The dollar jumped above 103, but the 10yr US Treasury yield weakened again to 3.36%; 2yr yield lost as much as 29bps during the day, settling at 3.74%. The markets have almost priced out a 25bps hike in May from the Fed, with forward swaps now at 2bps. The BOE is still set to increase rates by 15bps during its next meeting in May after the central bank's Governor said that further tightening might be necessary if prices go up again; this was further backed by a robust retail sales performance of 1.2% m/m in February. On the economic front, eurozone growth gauges picked up in March, driven exclusively by the service sector, which expanded to 55.6. While manufacturing was a drag on the overall performance, the composite index managed to reach the highest level in 10 months.

The sentiment has been mixed across the base metals group today, following two days of positive gains. Still, the longer-term ranges remain intact. We remain hopeful about the slight rebound in activity in April, a trend that we have begun to see in recent weeks. Downstream consumption should improve then, and processing fees alongside TCs should rise as a result. Policies introduced by the government have not yet filtered through the real economy, and we will continue to pay attention to consumer trends to help gauge the economic outlook. Aluminium fluctuated around \$2,330/t, settling slightly higher at \$2,337/t. Upside momentum struggled to keep up in copper, as it fell after testing the highs around the \$9,100/t level; the metal closed at \$8,921.50/t. Lead and zinc closed marginally lower at \$2,125.50/t and \$2,891.50/t, respectively.

Oil futures weakened, with WTI and Brent falling o \$68/bl and \$74/bl. Both gold and silver edged higher but hit robust resistance levels at \$2,000/oz and \$23.50/oz, respectively, before giving up some of the gains.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2329	2365	2312	2337	2327	17591	622965	-46.84	106.05
Copper	9013	9095	8894	8921.5	8989	19730	246180	-7.40	405.67
Lead	2120	2129	2105	2125.5	2120	2657	104235	24.00	96.43
Nickel	22910	23695	22910	23468	22535	2221	136654	-200.00	1065.95
Tin	24405	25045	24220	24830	24300	438	13483	115.00	1128.55
Zinc	2903	2936	2873	2891.5	2896	5668	185404	31.75	131.25
Total:						48305	1308921		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M	
Aluminium	2265	2313	2530.75	2634.75	2278.75	2326	2278.5	2325.944444	
Copper	8927	8932	8971.25	8927.25	9033	9031	8799.222222	8811.138889	
Lead	2135	2116	2172.5	2192.25	2144.5	2126	2103.222222	2100.638889	
Nickel	22795	23100	24144	25149	22267	22517	23228.055556	23480.27778	
Tin	24375	24265			24370	24348	23476.66667	23603.05556	
Zinc	2900	2885	2760.75	2603.75	2936	2907	2956.75	2936.361111	

LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets		
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	538950	0	6225	-6225	532725	105750	426975	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	73475	0	800	-800	72675	32300	40375	MAR 23	406.85 1.24	
Lead	25725	0	25	-25	25700	4500	21200	MAY 23	404.45 1.26	
Nickel	43800	714	60	654	44454	5952	38502	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	2410	0	0	0	2410	370	2040	23-Apr	68590 0.65	
Zinc	39700	0	50	-50	39650	2450	37200	23-May	68500 0.66	

Global Markets			Currencies			Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix	
Last	% Change		Last	% Change		Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	14957	-1.66	GBP	1.2223	-0.5209	Gold	1985.93	-0.3747	1977.55	1977.95
DJI	32139	0.11	JPY	130.8000	0.0382	Silver	23.20	0.4077		2290
S&P500	3945	-0.10	EUR	1.0760	-0.6555	Gold Comex	2005.9	-0.368		
SSE	3266	-0.64	CNY	6.8673	-0.6422	Platinum	983.42	-0.6195		
Hg Seng	19916	-0.67	AUD	0.6644	-0.5984	Palladium	1420.56	-0.9807		
Brent	75	-1.21	RUB	118.6895	#N/A					

Source: Bloomberg
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All price data is from 24.03.2023 as of 17:30

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