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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks weakened as markets assessed another day of corporate earnings results, awaiting the next moves from the Fed's speakers. The Beige Book is being released today and should help guide sentiment in regard to the monetary policy outlook during the next meeting in May. The dollar remained unchanged, while the 10yr US Treasury yield edged higher. Elsewhere, UK inflation showed the price growth remained stubbornly high in the double digits, at 10.1% y/y, with grocery bills spiralling higher – food and non-alcoholic beverages saw prices increase by 19.1%, the highest since 1977. Markets quickly priced in another hike from the BOE, with forward swaps jumping to a 27bps increase, up from 19bps a couple of weeks ago.

Base metals offset some of the recent gains today, reaffirming that the longer-term support and resistance levels are remaining intact. With a lack of sustainable optimism coming out of China, we continue to see metals trading sideways, following the recent months' moves. While homebuilder confidence in both China and the West should improve in the coming weeks, given the nearing end of the tightening cycle, cautious optimism prevails in the market, and we will continue to pay attention to micro moves. Copper weakened back below \$9,000/t to close \$8,965.50/t. Aluminium remained capped by the \$2,440/t resistance level. Zinc weakened to close at \$2,790/t. Lead remained broadly unchanged. Cash to 3-month spreads eased, in particular for copper and nickel, easing some of the tightness expectations.

Oil futures weakened, with WTI falling below \$80/bl as Fed's path is once again coming to the forefront of market focus. Gold and silver also saw some moderate declines, falling below \$2,000/oz and \$25.50/oz, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2436	2450	2399	2445	2440	25059	601595	-17.60	110.90
Copper	9004	9012	8871	8965.5	9003	15435	253085	-17.75	406.67
Lead	2145	2159	2120	2156	2148	5767	101336	22.50	97.80
Nickel	25625	25710	24360	25551	25615	4239	131563	-131.00	1158.99
Tin	27725	27985	26400	27082	27525	907	13917	193.00	1228.43
Zinc	2859	2864	2765	2790	2850	10464	171819	-7.75	126.55
Total:						61871	1273315		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M	
Aluminium	2382	2402	2615.21	2707.21	2421	2437	2335.318182	2370.681818	
Copper	8875	8888	8911.5	8846.5	9004.4	9012.5	8914.727273	8917.818182	
Lead	2156	2134	2194.5	2214.25	2178	2145	2142.136364	2123.772727	
Nickel	24465	24700	26841	27776	25593	25633	23515.90909	23772.72727	
Tin	26750	26450			28108	27843	25506.36364	25385.90909	
Zinc	2767	2766	2734	2599	2880	2871	2838.5	2823.409091	

LME Stocks (tonnes)							Other Copper Markets			
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	573075	3775	3275	500	573575	70250	503325	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	53050	0	1875	-1875	51175	6800	44375	MAY 23	410.65 -0.42	
Lead	31350	0	0	0	31350	3875	27475	JUL 23	410.6 -0.35	
Nickel	41466	300	30	270	41736	4614	37122	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	1730	0	70	-70	1660	215	1445	23-Apr	69960 -0.34	
Zinc	44150	5000	75	4925	49075	2475	46600	23-May	70040 -0.03	

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix		
Last	% Change		Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	15895	0.08	GBP	1.2438	0.1046	Gold	1994.77	-0.5325	1999.3
DJI	33897	-0.23	JPY	134.8100	-0.5118	Silver	25.28	0.3648	2509
S&P500	4150	-0.12	EUR	1.0954	-0.1641	Gold Comex	2007.1	-0.624	
SSE	3370	-0.68	CNY	6.8847	-0.1235	Platinum	1092.77	0.8984	
Hg Seng	20368	-1.37	AUD	0.6714	-0.1636	Palladium	1610.41	-0.2181	
Brent	83	-2.05	CAD	1.3458	-0.5053				

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 19/04/2023 21:03

All price data is from 19.04.2023 as of 17:30

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