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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks fluctuated. Data from the world's biggest economy showed last week that the 30-year mortgage rate dropped to its lowest since June. Market expectations of interest rate cuts and decreased borrowing costs in 2024 impacted consumers' confidence, with the Conference Board Consumer Confidence index increasing in December by much more than expected, from 101.0 to 110.7. Elsewhere, the UK CPI reading surprised the markets with softer-than-expected inflation at 3.9% YoY in November, driven by transportation and food. The positive data led the markets to believe monetary policy easing would start in the first half of 2024, with forward swaps pricing in a 25bps cut by May. The pound depreciated against the dollar, with the GBPUSD pair at 1.267. The dollar remained mostly flat and stood at 102.22, while the US 10-year Treasury yield hovered around the 3.91% level.

A lacklustre day of trading was seen across the LME exchange. Aluminium softness was more protracted as the metal continued to erase the previous days' gains, falling below the support level of \$2,250/t to \$2,241/t. Copper remained elevated but once again struggled above the \$8,600/t resistance level to close at \$8,582.50/t. Elsewhere moves were marginal; lead and nickel remained rangebound, while zinc's upside paused as the lack of appetite above \$2,600/t prompted a close at \$2,573/t.

Gold depreciated and stood at \$2032.47/oz., while silver jumped higher and stood at \$24.28/oz. Both WTI and Brent rose today, trading at \$74.67/bl and \$79.88/bl, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2272	2279	2238	2241	2265	20003	669702	-54.49	101.72
Copper	8581	8665	8550	8582.5	8586	15429	282282	-95.00	389.32
Lead	2068	2088	2066	2082.5	2068	3555	141642	-34.50	94.35
Nickel	16685	16935	16600	16854	16655	2343	176414	-230.00	763.18
Tin	25045	25385	24950	25203	25155	490	16366	-235.00	1143.20
Zinc	2577	2611	2569	2573	2578	9852	196962	-14.00	116.57
Total:						51672	1483368		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M	
Aluminium	2192	2243.5	2381.25	2499.25	2207.8	2262.5	2139.607143	2184.214286	
Copper	8466.5	8568	8692	8725	8500.5	8593.5	8357.964286	8445.678571	
Lead	2045	2084	2101.25	2126	2029.25	2064.5	2033.857143	2068.071429	
Nickel	16355	16650	17505	18400	16517	16747	16378.21429	16636.78571	
Tin	24875	25055			24895	25137	24435.71429	24665.71429	
Zinc	2561.5	2576	2612.75	2633.75	2584.75	2581.5	2466.928571	2473.035714	

LME Stocks (tonnes)							Other Copper Markets			
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	511450	2275	3925	-1650	509800	226425	283375	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	168650	0	1975	-1975	166675	34600	132075	DEC 23	389.6 1.25	
Lead	128600	2125	4425	-2300	126300	56875	69425	MAR 24	389.8 1.19	
Nickel	52698	1074	48	1026	53724	4824	48900	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	8190	0	150	-150	8040	1375	6665	23-Jan	68930 0.66	
Zinc	207150	25675	2225	23450	230600	44250	186350	24-Feb	68850 0.72	

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix			
Last	% Change	Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM			
DAX	16742	-0.01	GBP	1.2672	-0.4713	Gold	2034.05	-0.3088	2026	2041.35
DJI	37585	0.07	JPY	143.8400	0.0000	Silver	24.32	1.1222		2391
S&P500	4773	0.10	EUR	1.0965	-0.1457	Gold Comex	2047.3	-0.234		
SSE	2902	-1.03	CNY	7.1365	-0.2522	Platinum	966.47	0.96		
Hg Seng	16614	0.66	AUD	0.6766	0.0444	Palladium	1211.16	-1.5509		
Brent	80	1.35	CAD	1.3326	0.0525					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 20/12/2023 17:30

All price data is from 20.12.2023 as of 17:30

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