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# Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks started the day steady, showing little change in overall performance. Investors are recalibrating their expectations regarding the start of monetary easing, with forward swaps now indicating just a 40% probability of an interest rate cut in March. The dollar jumped to 103.69, while the 10-year US Treasury yield rebounded from yesterday's losses, climbing to 4.14%. Elsewhere, in line with expectations, the Bank of Japan maintained its benchmark rate at -0.1%. The central bank hinted that it was getting ready to reduce its large stimulus program, suggesting that negative interest rates might soon come to an end. Investors repriced their expectations, increasingly anticipating the possibility of an end to negative rates in March or April.

Base metals jumped higher today following the news that the Chinese government is working on a package to stabilise funds. Policymakers have launched a series of stimulus measures to revive the economy in recent months. However, consumer confidence remains low, which could undermine the effectiveness of the policies. If today's sentiment fails to hold in the coming days, it could once again jeopardise the policies' effectiveness and send base metals lower on weakened sentiment. Copper bounced back above \$8,400/t to \$8,414/t, while nickel held firm above \$16,000/t. Aluminium saw the biggest increase today, with additional gains supported by the news that the EU might ban Russian aluminium, according to Politico. This caused the metal to jump to \$2,235/t. This could potentially prompt further restocking on exchanges. Lead and zinc jumped higher to close at \$2,167.5/t and \$2,519.5/t respectively.

We continue to see gold trading rangebound as any upside momentum is capped by elevated Treasury yields. The yellow metal fluctuated today and stood at \$2026/oz., while silver edged slightly higher to \$22.37/oz. Oil maintained its upward trajectory, with WTI and Brent rising to \$75.22/bl and \$80.35/bl, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2159	2237	2156	2228	2155	31531	705978	-35.00	101.15
Copper	8328	8428	8321	8405	8329	20005	278341	-93.00	380.43
Lead	2124	2172	2123	2167.5	2123	10806	137618	-0.88	98.11
Nickel	15980	16370	15980	16306	16000	4873	193076	-236.00	737.32
Tin	25745	26345	25745	26239	25710	887	16946	-175.00	1187.74
Zinc	2456	2533	2456	2519.5	2454	10596	218226	-7.51	114.44
					<b>Total:</b>	<b>78698</b>	<b>1550185</b>		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg		
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M	
Aluminium	2145	2185.5	2466.97	2581.97	2115.63	2159	2186.96875	2232.875	
Copper	8283.5	8382	8520.25	8549.25	8254.5	8345.5	8299.09375	8396.9375	
Lead	2162	2153	2215.42	2248.42	2115.59	2124.5	2057.09375	2082.4375	
Nickel	16010	16270	17775.75	18540.75	15764.74	16007	16023.125	16264.375	
Tin	26000	26165			25415	25617	24806.25	25058.125	
Zinc	2496	2506	2562.94	2561.94	2445	2456.5	2504.21875	2524.375	

LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets		
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change	
Aluminium	550825	425	2925	-2500	548325	209450	338875	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	156750	4325	1500	2825	159575	34275	125300	MAR 24	376.35 -0.61	
Lead	111325	275	1250	-975	110350	26775	83575	MAY 24	378.95 -0.58	
Nickel	69492	0	54	-54	69438	3768	65670	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	6900	100	355	-255	6645	880	5765	23-Jan	0 0.00	
Zinc	199125	0	1525	-1525	197600	37400	160200	24-Feb	67880 -0.18	

Global Markets		Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix			
Last	% Change	Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM			
DAX	16627	-0.34	GBP	1.2653	-0.4406	Gold	2023.07	0.0678	2023.9	2021.60
DJI	37831	-0.45	JPY	148.6800	-0.3901	Silver	22.29	0.878		2220
S&P500	4848	-0.06	EUR	1.0831	-0.4778	Gold Comex	2043.5	0.093		
SSE	2771	0.53	CNY	7.1730	0.2495	Platinum	898.49	0.1762		
Hg Seng	15354	2.63	AUD	0.6556	-0.2131	Palladium	943.13	0.3639		
Brent	79	-0.79	CAD	1.3489	-0.0741					

All price data is from 23.01.2024 as of 17:30

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