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Daily Base Metals Report

Positive sentiment continues to drive the stock market, with S&P 500 seen touching a record high, despite a weak economic backdrop. The US jobs data disappointed, as it increased by just 49,000 in January, with the jobless rate falling to 6.3%; weekly hours worked jumped. This data is likely to pressure Biden to push for additional stimulus checks soon. The 10yr US Treasury yield strengthened up to 1.1497%, while the 2yr yield touched the lows last seen in May 2020; the dollar softened. On the COVID-19 front, data shows that Chinese vaccine administration to population share falls considerably behind the US and Europe, delivering a little more than two doses for every 100 people. Meanwhile, Russia is in talks with China to test a combination trial of their shorts to better protect against the virus.

Prices on the LME were seen higher today as risk appetite prompted the market. Aluminium prices broke above \$2,015/t, with prices seen closing at \$2,015.50/t. Aluminium cash to 3-months tightened up to -\$3.25/t. Nickel saw the strongest gains today, breaking above \$18,000/t to close at the day's highs at \$18,029/t. Tin rallied, heading for a record weekly streak, as concerns over diminishing supply drive the market; the metals tested \$23,200/t before closing lower at \$23,123/t. Copper prices also strengthened today; prices closed near the day's high at \$7,912.50/t. SHF copper closed on the front foot at CNY57,900/mt. Zinc was supported in the first half of the day, testing \$2,670/t to close at \$2,665.50/t. Lead range-bound, closing marginally higher on the day at \$2,052.50/t.

Oil futures climbed today, with Brent falling short of \$60/bl, as global supply expectations continue to tighten. At the time of writing, WTI and Brent trade at \$56.79/bl and \$59.37/bl. Precious metals were higher on lacklustre US labour data boosting the need for a greater stimulus; gold and silver are seen at \$1,814.59/oz and \$27.03/oz respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	1996	2020	1995	2015.5	1995	10658	725187	-3.25	91.63
Copper	7838	7960	7823	7912.5	7815	12451	324390	14.50	360.77
Lead	2033	2055	2030	2052.5	2036	2780	109662	-13.95	93.08
Nickel	17645	18110	17640	18029	17610	6271	228106	-40.00	820.78
Tin	22920	23984	22830	23123	22980	300	16040	761.00	1047.13
Zinc	2641	2675	2629	2665.5	2639	7352	233212	-18.50	121.27
					Total:	39812	1636597		

Official Prices							Monthly Avg	
	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2007.5	2012	2089.15	2132	1989.4	1993.5	1980.70	1982.60
Copper	7936.5	7928.5	7728.5	7618.5	7825.5	7823	7837.00	7829.90
Lead	2030.5	2045.5	2087.5	2117	2027	2044	2016.30	2029.80
Nickel	17954	17995	18167	18257	17601	17646	17735.00	17782.00
Tin	23985	23035			23815	22825	24430.00	23006.80
Zinc	2636.5	2655.5	2693	2683	2607.5	2627	2581.80	2604.00

LME Stocks (tonnes)								Other Copper Markets	
	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Last	% Change
Aluminium	1415125	1600	10200	-8600	1406525	233125	1173400	Comex, USc/lb	
Copper	74500	2925	875	2050	76550	24275	52275	MAR 21	361.2 1.66
Lead	93775	0	125	-125	93650	33125	60525	MAY 21	361.3 1.63
Nickel	249030	438	24	414	249444	64938	184506	Shanghai, CNY/mt	
Tin	810	0	0	0	810	310	500	FEB 21	57630 1.03
Zinc	290800	0	450	-450	290350	44250	246100	Mar 21	57790 0.28

Global Markets			Currencies			Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix
Last	% Change		Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	14057	-0.03	GBP	1.37	0.40	Gold	1814.47	1.14	1811.55 1785.90
DJI	31149	0.30	JPY	105.40	0.13	Silver	27.01	2.52	2640
S&P500	3884	0.32	EUR	1.20	0.62	Gold Comex	1814.9	1.32	
SSE	3496	-0.16	CNY	6.47	0.10	Platinum	1129.26	2.52	
Hg Seng	29289	0.60	AUD	0.77	0.84	Palladium	2340.38	2.15	
Brent	59	0.92	RUB	74.60	1.22				

Source: Bloomberg
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