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TUE 09 FEBRUARY 2021 17:30

Daily Base Metals Report

US stock markets came to a halt today after sessions of positive growth as investment sentiment soured. The Fed promised to keep the interest rates pinned to zero, and the Biden administration continues to have talks with Republican senators. Inflation concerns continue to rise as the spread between the 30yr US Treasury yield and the German equivalent reached its widest since 2011. The dollar slipped, and the 10yr yield fell down to 1.1447%. On the virus front, the WHO rejected the theory that the virus came from a Chinese lab, instead claiming it to be coming from an animal source. Elsewhere, the Lunar New Year public holidays commence in Asian countries, with China breaking for a week.

LME metal prices were well bid today as risk appetite re-emerged. Copper prices were firmer, heading for the third straight gain, however lack of appetite for prices above \$8,170/t triggered a close at \$8,147.50/t. Nickel prices broke through the resistance of \$18,350/t and closed higher at \$18,370/t. Aluminium prices were also higher and closed at \$2,054/t; cash to 3m spreads widened out to -\$6.50/t. Zinc prices opened on the front foot today, breaking through the key resistance level of \$2,690/t to close at \$2,695.50/t. Lead prices higher down on the day, closing at \$2,078.50/t. According to SMM, China's refined output of zinc, tin and copper fell in January, only with aluminium output seen higher.

Oil futures remained on the front foot, with WTI and Brent trading at \$58.13/bl and \$60.96/bl. Precious metals were mixed, but silver and gold were seen higher at \$27.34/oz and \$1,837.50/oz, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2029	2062	2029	2054	2027	13017	724841	-4.25	93.40
Copper	8084	8173	8061	8147.5	8074	17897	331284	10.25	370.70
Lead	2075	2099	2065	2078.5	2074	3949	110437	-11.25	94.30
Nickel	18200	18425	18120	18370	18185	5677	233199	-46.50	833.26
Tin	22970	23200	22860	23195	22970	263	15983	1250.00	1051.89
Zinc	2653	2706	2642	2695.5	2644	6851	231415	-18.25	122.38
					Total:	47654	1647159		

Official Prices

	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Monthly Avg	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2045.5	2052	2114.75	2154	2022.1	2028		1996.36	1998.93
Copper	8146.5	8132	7897.5	7727.5	8050.75	8037		7905.50	7896.21
Lead	2080.5	2089	2130	2159.5	2061	2073.5		2030.64	2043.14
Nickel	18338	18388	18520	18620	18121.25	18167		17868.57	17914.29
Tin	24300	23045			24069	23069		24364.29	23025.57
Zinc	2662.5	2683	2711.5	2701.5	2631.5	2651		2601.71	2623.50

LME Stocks (tonnes)

	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Other Copper Markets	Last	% Change
Aluminium	1402625	1725	9075	-7350	1395275	224425	1170850	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	74575	2725	1250	1475	76050	21625	54425	MAR 21	372.3	1.55
Lead	93250	0	400	-400	92850	32075	60775	MAY 21	372	1.45
Nickel	249444	600	96	504	249948	66510	183438	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	785	0	10	-10	775	295	480	FEB 21	0	0.00
Zinc	289725	0	400	-400	289325	44825	244500	Mar 21	0	0.00

Global Markets

Global Markets			Currencies			Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix	
Last	% Change		Last	% Change		Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	14012	-0.34	GBP	1.38	0.41	Gold	1836.59	0.32	1811.65	1835.25
DJI	31388	0.01	JPY	104.59	0.61	Silver	27.35	0.28		2718
S&P500	3913	-0.07	EUR	1.21	0.48	Gold Comex	1839.1	0.27		
SSE	3603	2.01	CNY	6.44	0.20	Platinum	1186.05	2.09		
Hg Seng	29476	0.53	AUD	0.77	0.35	Palladium	2332.63	-0.36		
Brent	61	1.01	RUB	74.04	0.36					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 09/02/2021 17:23

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