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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks opened lower today amidst a packed economic calendar this week, which could introduce further volatility into macro-sensitive assets. Last week saw growing optimism among investors, with increased focus on the potential onset of monetary easing in June. In his testimony before the House of Representatives last Wednesday, Jerome Powell maintained a cautious tone, emphasising the need for sufficient data to confirm a decline in inflation before considering the start of monetary easing. Despite the consistent message from the most recent Federal Reserve meeting, investors interpreted Powell's remarks as suggesting that the beginning of monetary easing might be approaching. It appears that market interpretations of macro events are driving the narrative more than the actual announcements of economic releases and statements. After depreciating last week, the dollar index made a slight rebound, trading just below 103, while the 10-year US Treasury yield increased, testing the 4.1% level.

China National People's Congress was held over the weekend to set the country's growth goals and stimulus plans in hopes of stabilising the economy this year. One of the primary plans involves issuing 1tr yuan of ultra-long special government bonds. This measure is considered as the largest fiscal support scheme since the start of the pandemic. However, the scale of the overall support was not as impressive as the market expected. Iron ore prices collapsed as a result, falling below the robust support level of \$110/mt to \$106.80/mt. However, the news did not seem to impact the base metals prices, suggesting that the complex is becoming more detached from macroeconomic sentiment. Aluminium and copper edged higher above the robust resistance levels of \$2,250/t and \$8,600/t, respectively. Meanwhile, nickel jumped higher, breaching the psychological \$18,000/t level to close at \$18,377/t. At the same time, lead and zinc jumped higher to \$2,126/t and \$2,567/t.

Gold continued trading at record levels today, standing at \$2,185/oz. Silver followed through, climbing to \$24.5/oz. Meanwhile, oil prices remained stable within their current range, with WTI and Brent crude priced at \$78.2/bl and \$82.4/bl, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2236	2261	2232	2259	2236	15901	696463	-45.49	102.40
Copper	8586	8656	8556	8653	8568	12388	286673	-94.24	392.59
Lead	2100	2146	2100	2126	2100	6679	147499	-7.56	97.05
Nickel	17900	18480	17865	18377	17990	5872	207019	-205.00	831.90
Tin	27505	27720	27425	27634	27625	455	19217	-96.00	1250.34
Zinc	2520	2569	2513	2567	2523	10538	227836	-35.25	116.39
Total:						51833	1584707		

Official Prices	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Monthly Avg	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2202	2243	2452.15	2544.15	2195.4	2240	2195.142857	2238.357143	
Copper	8522	8620	8676.25	8653.25	8487.27	8579.5	8476.428571	8569	
Lead	2113	2125	2158.95	2186.95	2096.94	2104.5	2072.642857	2078.642857	
Nickel	17910	18150	19329	20039	17803	18011	17605.71429	17859.28571	
Tin	27450	27650			27524	27630	26969.28571	27142.14286	
Zinc	2516	2553	2575	2595	2492.25	2527.5	2447.428571	2487.071429	

LME Stocks (tonnes)	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Other Copper Markets	Last	% Change
Aluminium	580050	475	2850	-2375	577675	228700	348975	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	112800	0	1950	-1950	110850	8900	101950	MAR 24	388.5	-0.88
Lead	191575	0	0	0	191575	8750	182825	MAY 24	389.15	-0.88
Nickel	73590	0	18	-18	73572	4632	68940	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	5335	0	35	-35	5300	1110	4190	23-Mar	69360	-0.50
Zinc	272275	0	325	-325	271950	62025	209925	01-Apr	69530	-0.53

Global Markets	Currencies		Precious Metals		Previous Day's Fix					
Last	% Change		Last	% Change	Last	% Change	AM	PM		
DAX	17745	-0.39	GBP	1.2810	-0.3733	Gold	2180.32	0.0629	2168.65	2171.20
DJI	38686	-0.09	JPY	146.8600	0.1362	Silver	24.46	0.6264		2449.5
S&P500	5114	-0.20	EUR	1.0927	-0.1097	Gold Comex	2186.6	0.050		
SSE	3068	0.74	CNY	7.1825	0.0668	Platinum	937.58	2.5249		
Hg Seng	16588	1.43	AUD	0.6610	-0.2114	Palladium	1033.94	1.0072		
Brent	82	0.43	CAD	1.3481	0.0148					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 11/03/2024 17:30

All price data is from 11.03.2024 as of 17:30

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