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Daily Base Metals Report

US stocks continued to perform strongly, with the Dow Jones opening higher today, nearing a record high once again. The CPI report from the world's largest economy, published yesterday, continued to influence investors' expectations regarding the timing of the first interest rate hikes, pushing the 10-year US Treasury yield up to 4.18%. Forward swaps are now pricing in a 75% chance of a 25bps interest rate cut in June, slightly lower than at the beginning of the week. The dollar index saw a slight decline, settling at 102.9.

Copper rallied more than 3% today to \$8,920/t, brought on by the news that Chinese smelters are considering cutting capacity in the face of declining processing fees. [In our yesterday's comment](#), we mentioned that the speculative positioning for copper on the LME has been building, with the net reaching the 3-year high. We expect that markets were building bullish positions but were hesitant about pushing prices above the robust \$8,700/t level. Today's news helped the market break out of the stagnant trading we have seen in recent months. While we expect today's rally to correct in the coming days, the trend support is likely to hold firm, prompting prices to strengthen in the coming months. The rest of the complex benefitted from the bullish narrative seen in copper, supported in part by a weaker dollar. Aluminium edged above the \$2,250/t level. Lead and tin also jumped higher to \$2,160/t and \$28,160/t.

Precious metals made a comeback after yesterday's downturns. Amid lingering uncertainty about the initiation of monetary easing, investors are increasingly attracted to the safe-haven qualities of gold. The price of gold soared to \$2,172/oz today, with silver also making a significant jump to \$24.75/oz. News of a Russian refinery targeted by Ukrainian drones led to a rise in oil prices today, with WTI and Brent reaching the upper bound of their recent range at \$79.1/bl and \$83.4/bl, respectively.

	Open	High	Low	5pm Close	PDC	Volume	Total O.I	Spreads	Conversion
								C-3M	USc/lb
Aluminium	2261	2275	2254	2264	2263	16584	690740	-46.11	102.69
Copper	8671	8950	8639	8927	8649	48035	289567	-93.54	404.93
Lead	2142	2172	2138	2169	2146	7595	150606	-6.26	98.39
Nickel	18475	18590	18225	18346	18520	5218	205938	-221.50	832.17
Tin	27395	28200	27390	28065	27345	771	19068	-105.00	1273.02
Zinc	2557	2583	2547	2576	2550	10331	233634	-38.75	116.85
				Total:		88534	1589553		

Official Prices	Cash	3m	Dec Yr 1	Dec Yr 2	PD Cash	PD 3M	Monthly Avg	Cash	3M
Aluminium	2224	2270	2473.89	2567.89	2218.56	2265	2200.388889	2244.611111	
Copper	8727	8824	9007.5	8971.5	8560.7	8657	8514.222222	8607.888889	
Lead	2164	2160	2220.25	2248.25	2137.7	2144	2089.611111	2094.833333	
Nickel	18165	18445	19675	20385	18324.5	18551	17726.66667	17984.44444	
Tin	27625	27700			27418	27520	27112.22222	27261.66667	
Zinc	2524	2565	2604.25	2624.25	2523.74	2561	2465.666667	2505.222222	

LME Stocks (tonnes)	Opening	In	Out	Net Change	Closing	C-warrants	Open Tonnage	Other Copper Markets	Last	% Change
Aluminium	575675	0	2750	-2750	572925	218225	354700	Comex, USc/lb		
Copper	110900	0	1975	-1975	108925	15625	93300	MAR 24	392.5	0.06
Lead	191875	0	0	0	191875	8750	183125	MAY 24	393.2	0.09
Nickel	73572	1062	90	972	74544	4980	69564	Shanghai, CNY/mt		
Tin	5315	0	60	-60	5255	1405	3850	23-Mar	69760	0.35
Zinc	269850	0	2100	-2100	267750	69200	198550	01-Apr	69930	0.39

Global Markets			Currencies		Precious Metals			Previous Day's Fix		
Last	% Change		Last	% Change		Last	% Change	AM	PM	
DAX	17961	-0.02	GBP	1.2800	0.0547	Gold	2175.38	0.7895	2176.4	2161.25
DJI	39113	0.28	JPY	147.6900	-0.0068	Silver	24.97	3.4219		2437.5
S&P500	5174	-0.03	EUR	1.0954	0.2471	Gold Comex	2180.7	0.674		
SSE	3044	-0.40	CNY	7.1866	-0.0557	Platinum	942	1.7927		
Hg Seng	17082	-0.07	AUD	0.6628	0.3330	Palladium	1066.41	2.4813		
Brent	84	2.51	CAD	1.3463	0.2080					

Source: Bloomberg
Updated: 13/03/2024 17:30

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All price data is from 13.03.2024 as of 17:30

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